

Leadership Training 04.19.26

Current Season:
Alignment

1 Group

Mission:
Making fully devoted followers of
Jesus

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Values

1. Biblical truth
2. Authentic communities
3. Innovation
4. Beauty
5. Service & Participation
6. Generosity

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Evangelism:
Moving Beyond Just
a Church Invite

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Gospel Elements

1. God: creator of everything
2. Humans: made in God's image
3. Bad news: sin & corruption
4. Jesus: life, death, resurrection, ascension, return

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Gospel Vantage Points

1. The gospel "on the ground" (personal)
2. The gospel "in the air" (cosmic)

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Romans 10:8-13

But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him.

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Romans 10:8-13 cont.

For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

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Essential Responses

1. Repentance
2. Faith / belief / trust
3. Allegiance
4. Baptism
5. Ongoing sanctification
6. Perseverance

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1 John 5:10-12

Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son. And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

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1 Peter 3:13-17

Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.

1 Peter 3:13-17 cont.

For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

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Fruitful and Effective

1. Be prepared
2. Be respectful
3. Be specific
4. Be prayerful
5. Be persistent

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The enormous numerical growth of the church in its first centuries leads us to the question of what methods it used to achieve such growth. The answer may surprise some modern Christians, for the ancient church knew nothing of “evangelistic services” or “revivals.” On the contrary, in the early church worship centered on communion, and only baptized Christians were admitted to its celebration.

Therefore, evangelism did not take place in church services, but rather, as Celsus said, in kitchens, shops, and markets.

-Justo Gonzalez

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A few famous teachers, such as Justin and Origen, held debates in their schools, and thus won some converts among the intelligentsia. But the fact remains that most converts were made by anonymous Christians whose witness led others to their faith...Another surprising fact about the early expansion of Christianity is that, after the New Testament, very little is said of any missionaries going from place to place, like Paul and Barnabas had done.

-Justo Gonzalez (cont.)

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It is clear that the enormous spread of the Gospel in those first few centuries was not due to full-time missionaries, but rather to the many Christians who traveled for other reasons—slaves, merchants, exiles condemned to work in the mines, and the like. Finally, one should note that Christianity spread mainly in the cities, and that it penetrated the rural areas slowly and with much difficulty. It was long after Constantine that Christianity could claim most of the rural population of the Empire.

-Justo Gonzalez (cont.)