

Easy Evangelism

Part 5

Tonight, we continue our series on evangelism. Previously, we examined the relational approach. While many of us remember the campaigns & programs of yesteryear, we can look back and see that those events didn't exactly have the intended effects. Many churches became filled with people with knowledge, but little application. We noted that relationships & prayer are essential when sharing our faith, for we are engaged in a spiritual battle for eternity. Tonight, we turn our attention towards how we should act & what words to speak when evangelizing.

Part 5: What to say.

1. Take off the mask

- Many churchgoers are guilty of putting on a mask while at church.
- We often present ourselves as something akin to a "holy façade".
- Anyone ever accused you of being 'holier than thou'?
- We have the most <u>authentic</u> message ever, the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- We must be <u>real</u> & <u>humble</u>, & allow God to work through us, warts & all.
- Don't attempt a personality change, just be who you are.

2. <u>Two</u> are better than <u>one</u>

- Turn to Mark 6:7-13. Jesus sends the disciples out two-by-two.
- Solo evangelism is great, but you might find it easier to go together.
- Ecclesiastes 4:12; "Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."
- You can present a united front, which eases fear & intimidation.
- You can also *roleplay* with one another to prepare.
- One may have a response when the other gets stuck.

3. Ready with your story

- Stories have <u>power</u>. Jesus was a master storyteller. He used everyday things as spiritual illustrations. He famously spoke in parables. Stories <u>stick</u>.
- Your story carries <u>depth</u> & <u>meaning</u>. Your story is your story.
- Practice sharing it in a <u>concise</u> form. Never <u>sensationalize</u> your story.
- Never think your testimony is boring or predictable, or of little worth.

4. Ask questions & listen

- It's quite normal to get nervous when sharing your faith.
- Turn to Acts 8:26-40. Sometimes, asking simple questions is an effective tool that helps ensure that you're not doing all the talking. Suggestions:
 - What do you believe about God?
 - I've shared my story with you. What's your background or story?
 - Do you believe that all roads lead to heaven?
 - Do you understand what I've just shared with you?
 - Do you have any questions for me?
- When you ask a question, listen to their response, & make them feel heard.

5. ABC- Always be closing (Get to the Gospel)

- When you do sales training, they teach you to always be closing.
- You're always thinking about how to end up where you want to go.
- You're leading the conversation to its intended conclusion.
- You do this by asking a final question: "Do you want to buy this today?"
- However, we cannot forget the most important thing in an evangelistic presentation: we must ALWAYS get to the Gospel.
- Your story is great, but remember, others have their stories too.
- A <u>simple</u> & <u>concise</u> presentation of the Gospel is necessary.
- Romans 10:17; "Consequently, faith comes by hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word of Christ."

6. Pray throughout

- You can never pray <u>enough</u>. Pray <u>beforehand</u>. Pray for eyes to see & ears to hear the needs that are there. Pray <u>throughout</u> as well.
- Pray that God will give you the words to speak & the boldness to do so.
- <u>Luke 12:11-12</u>; "When you are brought before synagogues, rulers and authorities do not worry about how you will defend yourselves or what you will say, for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what you should say."



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