

Easy Evangelism

Part 1

Tonight, we begin a series that will be different than those that came before. After this evangelistic series, I will challenge each of you to go out and practice what you have learned. We will provide a corporate opportunity for you to proclaim the Gospel.

Part 1: The Best News Ever!

1. The <u>religion</u> of <u>sports</u> & <u>politics</u>

- Who's your favorite sports team? Your favorite political party/politician?
- We rarely have any trouble striking up a conversation.
- We can speak intelligently because we have done our homework.
- We are passionate. We want to persuade others by our opinions & passions.
- We would never change our minds about our team or our party.

2. We aren't selling Jesus!

- The pushy salesman. The results aren't up to you!
- Evangelism is not a human-centered effort; it's a spiritual battle.
- Evangelism <u>requires</u> intentionality; the <u>power</u> comes from the Holy Spirit.
- Evangelism by the <u>numbers</u>:
 - a. 65% of Christians say they don't know how to share their faith.
 - b. <u>64</u>% of Christians agree that they should share their faith.
 - c. <u>68</u>% of Christians say that it's the church's responsibility to equip believers to share their faith.
 - d. Less than 47% of churches offer any evangelism training.
 - e. Less than <u>10</u>% of Christians have ever shared their faith.
 - f. Only 2% of Christians have shared their faith in the last year.
 - g. 79% of Americans say that they are open to a discussion about faith.
 - h. 44% of Christians say they don't share their faith because of fear.

3. Are we really that excited?

- Turn to Matthew 2:18-20. The Great Commission or Great Commandment?
- Turn to Acts 1:8, 2:1-4, & 2:36-41. The Holy Spirit makes all the difference!
- Here's the problem: "We need training!" becomes an excuse for inactivity.
- Many churches are filled with believers who have been under the preaching & teaching of the Word of God for decades & should have more than enough basic knowledge to give a basic Gospel presentation.
- If we can fervently talk about sports, politics, or our families, we should be able to talk about the <u>Good</u> News, the <u>Best</u> News Ever!
- Our silence is <u>Satan's</u> goal. He loves <u>comfortable</u>, <u>silent</u>, self-<u>absorbed</u>, & <u>complacent</u> churches.
- Evangelism is the <u>responsibility</u> of <u>every</u> Christian! Not just the <u>gifted</u>, not just the <u>professional</u> preacher, not just the <u>theologian</u>, & not just the church <u>staff</u>.
- Evangelism must become a comfortable part of our <u>lifestyles</u>, not just a <u>one</u>-time thing to be marked off a spiritual <u>checklist</u>.
- Turn to Acts 8:2-8. The Gospel always spreads during persecution.
- Will you commit to becoming a bearer of the best news ever?



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