



Easy Evangelism

Part 3

Tonight, we continue our evangelism series as we ensure that we have a sure and foundational understanding of what the life-saving Gospel truly is. Last time, we understood that fear is holding us back! That fear manifests itself in silence or the assumption that we do not know enough to share our faith. A firm grasp of the basic tenets of our faith will ease these fears and encourage us to speak the truth in love.

Part 3: Understanding the Gospel.

1. Preparation is key! (1 Peter 3:15)

- We need to be ready both physically & spiritually.
- Practice makes perfect and lessens fear.
- *"But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect."*

2. God created everything! (Gen. 1:1)

- Begin where the bible begins: nature originates & belongs to God.
- *"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."*
- If Genesis 1:1 is true, then the bible, miracles, & anything else are possible.
- What's the first way God is portrayed in the bible? He is Creator God!
- If God is all-powerful & has unlimited resources, He can do anything He wants. Why? Because He makes the rules. We are under His dominion.
- Why do you suppose the fight over the theory of Evolution & Creationism is so intense? If God made it all, He has the right to rule & reign over it.
- When we break God's rules, He has the right to punish disobedience as an assault against His holy, righteous, & just character.

3. Everyone is a sinner! (Rom 3:23)

- Did you know that no one comes close to God's standard?
- Sin means to miss the mark. Whose mark? God's mark.
- We are all lawbreakers. We break human laws & God's laws.
- *"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."*
- We tend to excuse & lessen the seriousness of our sins while elevating & demanding just punishment for the sins of others.
- Sin breaks our relationship with God. Sin is a barrier. It chips away.
- Sin claims my way is better than God's way.
- Sin declares that we are in control of our own lives.
- God even shared with us: His creative ability & His dominion.
- Gen. 1:28; *"God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground.'"*
- Even with such grace, we still rebelled and are under the curse of sin.

4. Jesus is both Savior & Lord (John 3:16, Luke 19:10, 2 Cor. 5:21)

- Jesus loved us despite our rejection of Him.
- *"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."*
- Jesus paid the price. Jesus redeemed what walked away. What was lost.
- Luke 19:10; *"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."*
- To save us, Jesus became fully man while remaining fully God.
- Jesus was tempted and tried, just as we are, but without sin. A perfect life.
- 2 Cor. 5:21; *"God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God."*
- Jesus became our sin offering. His substitutionary atonement saved us from the penalty of sin & its wages.

5. We respond in repentance & belief! (Mark 1:15, Acts 26:20b)

- What then should be our response to such a clear picture of who God is & who we are?
- The same message given by John the Baptist, repeated by Jesus during His ministry, repeated by Peter after Pentecost, & the consistent message of the Apostles in the Church Age must be our same message: repent & believe.

- *"The time has come," He said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the Good News."*
- Repentance is more than saying you're sorry & more than an apology.
- Repentance is turning and going a different direction.
- Repentance recognizes our sin as rebellion against Christ's Lordship.
- Acts 26:20b; *"I preached that they should repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds."*

6. The transforming power of the Gospel (2 Cor. 5:17)

- The Gospel transforms redeemed people's lives 100% of the time.
- You get a new nature 100% of the time.
- *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"*
- Once we have turned to Christ in faith, we are justified before a holy God.
- Justification: "just-as-if-I-never-sinned".
- Then, a transformative work begins in us through the Holy Spirit: sanctification. Being remade in the image of Christ.
- One of the byproducts of this change is that you begin to care about other people. Not just your family & friends, but people you don't even know. You start to be burdened for their salvation, too. This is the basis for our evangelism.

7. We have a new home! (Col. 1:13-14, Heb. 13:14)

- Our destination has changed. From outside of grace, from an enemy of God, from a child of wrath, to a child of God, & joint heir with Christ.
- We are destined for the eternal Kingdom of God that is to come!
- However, we are also a part of His kingdom now!
- *"For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves. In whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."*
- Therefore, the Kingdom of God on earth is found wherever His children reside, while we await the culmination & completion of His final Kingdom.
- When we evangelize, we are offering people a new place of residency, an upgrade of any earthly kingdom or country.
- Heb. 13:14; *"For here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come."*



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- Sin _____ our relationship with God. Sin is a _____. It chips away.
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- *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"*
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