

## What is Evangelism?

### Introduction

I. Evangelism is opening our \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ the Gospel to others.

- A. Romans 10:14-15, 17 – How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not *heard*? And how will they *hear* without a *preacher*? How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, “HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!” So faith comes from *hearing*, and hearing by the *word* of Christ.
- B. If we have not told someone about at least one of the Gospel \_\_\_\_\_, then we have not evangelized at all.

II. What about “\_\_\_\_\_” evangelism?

- A. Matthew 5:16 – Let your light so shine before men that they see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven.
1. Letting our light shine is \_\_\_\_\_-evangelism.
  2. Letting our light shine is an essential complement to evangelism.
  3. Letting our light shine is not \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. The only way the Good News is ever communicated is with \_\_\_\_\_ – *never* by our \_\_\_\_\_.

III. What about sharing our \_\_\_\_\_?

- A. We must be careful about trying to recommend or prove Christianity because of the \_\_\_\_\_ it has made in our lives.
- B. Our personal testimony is evangelistic only when we use it as a means for communicating the \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. Questions to ask ourselves:
- D. 1 Peter 3:15 (NIV) – 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.

- E. Let's all be *ready* with our personal testimony to communicate each of the Gospel teachings and lead people to an encounter *not* with us, but with \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

IV. What about \_\_\_\_\_?

- A. 2 Corinthians 2:15-16 – For we are a fragrance of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing; to the one an aroma from death to death, to the other an aroma from life to life.
1. For many people, the message of the Gospel will be an aroma from death to death, but they have still been \_\_\_\_\_.
  2. We are not \_\_\_\_\_ for the results of our evangelism.
- B. We should have a “holy \_\_\_\_\_” with non-results (Romans 9:1-3; 10:1; Will Metzger).
- C. We shouldn't feel like we're \_\_\_\_\_ in our evangelism when we don't see results.
- ✓ Acts 18:5-6 – Paul began devoting himself completely to the word, solemnly testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Christ. But when they resisted and blasphemed, he shook out his garments and said to them, “Your blood be on your own heads! I am clean. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.”

V. What about \_\_\_\_\_?

- A. Our job in evangelism is not to \_\_\_\_\_ anything.
- B. 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 – And when I came to you, brethren, I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of God. For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling, and my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God.
- C. Always remember that there is nothing in all the world that is more \_\_\_\_\_ true than the Gospel.
1. This means that the problem for every unbeliever is not ultimately intellectual, but \_\_\_\_\_.
  2. Romans 1:18-32
  3. Acts 17:31-33 – “[God] has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished *proof* to all men by raising Him from the dead.” Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some began to sneer, but others said, “We shall hear you again concerning this.” So Paul went out of their midst.

4. Acts 26:8 – Why is it considered incredible among you people if God does raise the dead?
- D. Always remember that the work of the \_\_\_\_\_ is already written on the hearts of the unsaved (Rom. 2:14-16).
- E. We must not let apologetics sidetrack us from \_\_\_\_\_.

VI. In evangelism we must communicate to the \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. We need to work to help people really \_\_\_\_\_ the Gospel.
1. Acts 18:4 (cf. 17:17; 18:19) – And he was **reasoning** in the synagogue every Sabbath and **trying to persuade** Jews and Greeks.
  2. Acts 19:8-10 – And he entered the synagogue and continued speaking out boldly for three months, **reasoning and persuading** them about the kingdom of God. But when some were becoming hardened and disobedient, speaking evil of the Way before the people, he withdrew from them and took away the disciples, **reasoning** daily in the school of Tyrannus. This took place for two years, so that all who lived in Asia **heard the word of the Lord**, both Jews and Greeks.
  3. Acts 17:2-3 – And according to Paul’s custom, he went to them, and for three Sabbaths **reasoned** with them **from the Scriptures, explaining and giving evidence** that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and saying, “This Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you is the Christ.”
- B. An essential part of evangelism is showing people how the Gospel makes \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. KEY: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ on the Gospel teachings.

VII. In evangelism, we must communicate with the \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. We need to be \_\_\_\_\_ and sincere.
1. Romans 9:1-3; 10:1 – I am telling the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience testifies with me in the Holy Spirit, that I have great sorrow and unceasing grief in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed, separated from Christ for the sake of my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh... Brethren, my heart’s desire and my prayer to God for them is for their salvation.
  2. Acts 26:25-29 – But Paul said, “I am not out of my mind, most excellent Festus, but I utter words of sober truth. For the king knows about these matters, and I speak to him also with confidence, since I am persuaded that none of these things escape his notice; for this has not been done in a corner. King Agrippa, do you believe the Prophets? I know that you do.” Agrippa replied to Paul, “In a short time you will persuade me to become a Christian.” And Paul said, “I would wish to God, that whether in a short or long time, not only you, but also all who hear me this day, might become such as I am, except for these chains.”
- B. KEY: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ on the Gospel teachings.

VIII. In our evangelism, we must communicate to the mind and the heart with the *goal* of confronting the \_\_\_\_\_ (cf. Acts 17:17; 19:8).

- ✓ Evangelism is not just teaching, it's \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1. Acts 2:40 – And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, “Be saved from this perverse generation!”
- 2. Acts 3:19 – Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.

**Summary** – Evangelism is opening our mouths and *earnestly, sincerely* telling the Gospel to others – *reasoning* with them, and *exhorting* them to repent and believe.

## **Conclusion**

### **Teaching our Children**

- Q.** What are the five teachings of the Gospel?
- A. God / Sin / Jesus Christ / Repentance and Faith / Assurance
- Q.** What is evangelism?
- A. Evangelism is telling the Gospel to others with a caring heart, helping people see how the Gospel makes sense, and encouraging people to repent and believe. (See Scriptures under I. A., VI. A., VII. A., and VIII.)
- Q.** Why is it so important that we live an obedient and righteous life in front of people who aren't Christians?
- A. People won't listen to us tell them the good news if we aren't acting any different from everyone else! (See Philippians 2:14-15 and Matthew 5:16)
- Q.** How can we use our personal testimony to evangelize?
- A. We can tell people how *we* came to understand the truth about **God**, about our own **sin**, about **Jesus Christ**, and about what we must **do** to be saved. We can tell people how we have come to have a wonderful **assurance** of our salvation.
- Q.** If we tell the Gospel to someone, and they don't believe, does that mean that we have failed? Why not?
- A. NO! We cannot change people's hearts so that they will believe. Only God can do this.
- Q.** Do we have to try and prove to people with fancy arguments that the Gospel is true?
- A. NO! Our job is just to help people clearly understand the Gospel teachings. (See Scripture under V. B.)
- Q.** Remember: What is evangelism?
- A. See the second Q. and A. above.
- Q.** Do you want God to use you to evangelize others?