

Covenant Life Together Series:

Evangelism – Communicating God’s Good News to Those Who Don’t Know

We commit to practice personal and family worship, to train our children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord, **and to seek the salvation of our family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, acquaintances, and all peoples of the world.**

Text: Matt 28:19-20

Introduction:

1. What Evangelism is:

- **God centered Biblically based proclaiming of the Gospel**
 - **IX Marks.com:** Evangelism is teaching the gospel with the aim to persuade.
 - **Ligonier.org:** The promulgation of the evangel (the proclamation of the gospel)
 - Acknowledgement and reliance of God that He will use His word to impact the heart and mind of men and women.
 - Acknowledgement that God can draw all men to himself and chooses those who He will draw according to His own sovereign purpose.
 - We participate in God’s plan through obedience to His great commission.
 - Only the Holy Spirit can regenerate the soul (1Cor 2:14)
 - No amount of reasoning, no matter how persuasive can bring life to the dead (Luke 16:29 / Mark 4:9)

2. What Evangelism isn’t:

- **Man-centered means and methods designed to persuade the lost to understand and receive the Gospel. Doesn’t rely on the Word of God, but on methods where the Bible is applied to those methods.**
 - This is a Flawed and un-Biblical approach
 - Makes man an agent in salvation (becomes works based-subtly)
 - Makes man responsible for the results of evangelizing (guilt ridden motivation)
 - Illustration: Counting those you won to Christ
 - Man is guilty for the condition of the lost due to his lack of evangelization.
 - Lessens the role of Jesus as the author and finisher of our salvation (Acts 4:12)
- **False/Fatalistic Calvinistic View of Evangelism (Que sera’ sera’ evangelism)**
 - Don’t worry because God is going to save who He is going to save
 - Takes no responsibility in telling others about Christ
 - We are not God and don’t know who He has elected
 - We do know we are commanded to evangelize

- Let God deal with who He will regenerate and let us commit to obeying the command to GO!

Key Idea:

Your Biblical worldview should shape your evangelistic approach

- I. **All souls live forever** (Even the Sadducees in Jesus' day didn't believe in the resurrection Matt: 22:23).
 - Illustration: Orthodox Jewish Testimony of Ben Shapiro
 - OT Dan 12:1-2 / Jesus in John 5:39
 - NT: John 3:36
 - All souls live forever in either heaven or hell
 - There is only one way, and that way is Jesus
 - **Application:**
 - How do you view those around you?
 - Do you view those who are without Christ as "Dead men (and women) walking"?
 - Do you ask yourself where will they be spending eternity?
 - Are you looking for opportunities to share the Gospel?
- II. **Evangelism has two forms (Matt 28:19-20):**
 - **To tell those who don't know the Gospel**
 - Making Disciples
 - Brining the Gospel to the lost using God's Word.
 - Man's sinful state
 - Christ's substitutionary sacrifice on the cross (His righteousness exchanged for our unrighteousness)
 - Need for repentance (abhorrence of sin, and turning from sin to Christ)
 - Need for placing faith in the resurrected Christ
 - **To disciple those who do know the Gospel**
 - Teaching to observe
 - Need for Baptism (Matt 28:19)
 - Need for participation in a local assembly (church)
 - Heb, 10:25, Heb 13:17, Acts: 2:37-47, 6:1-6, Rom 16:1-6, 1 Tim 5:3-16
 - Need to grow, and to tell others (2 Tim 2:2)
- III. **Practical application of a Biblical Worldview of Evangelism**
 - How do I become an effective evangelist/soul winner (Mark 1:17)
 - Evangelism starts with you (2 Pet 1:10, Matt 7:22-23)
 - Are you kidding yourself?
 - **Evangelism continues in the home**
 - Husbands shepherding their wives
 - Husbands and wives evangelizing their children

- Family devotions
 - Bible and church are central to family life
- Living by example
 - Hypocrisy is very visible to your spouse and children.
- **Evangelism grows to your extended family**
 - Prayer, and persistence
 - Looking for every opportunity
- **Evangelism grows to those at Church**
 - Looking out for your brother's and sisters in Christ
 - Welcoming visitors and engaging with them
- **Evangelism grows to your neighbor... Who is your neighbor?**
 - Evangelism grows to those at Work
 - Neighbors
 - Those God brings in your life
- **Evangelism extends to all the world**
 - Missionary outreach

IV. **Some Final Questions to Ponder**

- **Are you a drive-by evangelist?**
 - Airplane evangelism
- **Are you a lifelong evangelist?**
 - Patiently praying for and giving the gospel to the lost
 - Patiently praying for and participating in the growth of the youth in our church
 - Patiently praying for and waiting for the Lord to grow His church and give us fruit that remains
- **Do you know your Bible well enough to share the Gospel?**
 - Deliberate study of and accurate handling of the Word of God
 - Are you open to the Holy Spirit giving you insight in speaking to someone, or do you stick to the script?
 - Illustration: Luke 18:18-27 (How would you answer the question which was posed to Jesus?)