



God Centered Evangelism

Effectiveness in Evangelism

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1. Communication of the Evangel
2. Bestowal of Conversion



Communication of the Evangel

1. Communication can involve many things – the science of conveying a message by the spoken word, in writing, or by acting.
2. It can be a matter of personality rather than technique
 - A. Certain personalities can be more effective at communicating a message
3. Scripture accounts for this by emphasizing that the primary means of salvation is through the preaching of the Word.
 - A. Phillip and the Ethiopian (Acts 8:26-39)
 - B. Paul stresses the importance of preaching the Word
 - 1) Rom 10:14
 - 2) 1 Cor 1:18, 21

The Evangelist

1. Must have a clear understanding of the gospel.
2. Have a strong conviction as the truth of the gospel.
 - A. Paul shows this in his words in 2 Cor 4:13 and 1 Cor 15:3-4
3. Have a lively sense of the supreme importance of the gospel.
(our eternal destiny depends upon belief of the message)
4. He must himself experienced the saving power of the gospel (2 Tim 1:12).
5. He must be compelled by a passion for lost souls (2 Cor 5:20)
6. Have an overwhelming love for the Savior (When I survey the Wondrous cross)
7. “Such communication the Lord is wont to bless and use” Kuiper

Bestowal of conversion

1. The task of the evangelist is to communicate the ***gospel*** to men
2. To impart to man ***faith in the gospel*** is God's prerogative.
3. Saving faith is not a gift of the evangelist, it is a gift of God (Eph 2:8)
4. Faith is wrought in the human heart by the Holy Spirit (1 Cor 12:3)
5. Lydia – Acts 16:14
6. The Evangelist is completely dependent upon God for the effectiveness of his labors (1 Cor 3:5-7)

Chosen by God

1. The ultimate explanation for a person coming to faith lies in God's sovereign election
2. Matt 22:14 "Many are called, but few are chosen"
 - A. Of the many called by the gospel, the few who believe do so because they were divinely chosen to that end from eternity.
 - B. "As many who were ordained to eternal life believed" Acts 13:48
 - C. God did the ordaining
 - D. God made good the ordaining by imparting of saving faith
3. Spurgeon story of meeting a drunkard on the streets
4. Ezk 37:5-6 God breaths life into the spiritually dead as we preach the word
5. The unconverted must receive a new heart Ezk 11:19
6. Rebirth needed to embrace the gospel in faith (1 Cor 2:14)
7. Man's boasting excluded (Esp 2:8-9, 1 Cor 1:31)
8. **All the glory of conversion is God's** (Rom 11:36)

Accurately appraising the results of evangelism

1. Only God can count converts.
2. Don't become frustrated with your efforts.
 - A. Robert Morrison – 10 converts in 28 years of missionary work in China
 - B. Hudson Taylor
3. Be faithful to preach the good news and let God “show out”
4. Examples of God's sovereign works (John 4:31-38, the sower & reaper)
5. Pg 221 example from Baxter to Chalmers
6. Paul
7. Jesus (John 12:32)
8. Our role is to be obedient in proclaiming the gospel – Taylor quote



When asked by the press, before going as a missionary to China, 'Do you really expect you can make an impression on the great Chinese empire?' Morrison answered, 'No sir, I expect God will!'

Robert Morrison (1782-1834)

God's promises

1. God promises for those who labor
 - A. Ps 126:6
 - B. Isa 55:10, 11
 - C. 1 Cor 15:58
 - D. Isa 46:10
 - E. Acts 13:48
2. "With God as leader there is no room for despair. There is only room for strong faith, firm hope, and ardent love."
RB Kuiper
3. God Centered doctrines make evangelism effective – JC Ryle pg 345 "Holiness"

Discussion/Questions

