

Subject: Evangelism

Date: 3rd April 2018

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Lesson 3.

Memory verse: Galatians 6:9-10

Introduction

What is Evangelism?

1. Evangelism is carrying the good news of Salvation to souls that need the Gospel.
2. Evangelism is simply the fulfillment of the G_____ C_____

C. Reason Christians should Evangelize

Why scheduling times for gospel outreach is important

As saved Bible-believing Christians, we know it is important to be a witness for Christ, and to reach out to others with the gospel at all times. However, it is good to be able to commit to a scheduled time with the Church. Here are some reasons why scheduled times for gospel outreach are important.

1. It is Biblical

- a. Jesus sent out the 12 disciples

(Mark 6:7) "And he called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two; and gave them power over unclean spirits;"

(Mark 6:12) "And they went out, and preached that men should repent."

- b. Jesus sent out 70 disciples

(Luke 10:1-2) "After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come. (2) Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest."

c. Jesus sent all the disciples

(John 17:14) "I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world."

(John 17:20) "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; (not their own, but the Word of the Gospel)"

(Philippians 4:3) "And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellowlabourers, whose names are in the book of life."

2. Keeps us accountable to the Great Commission

(Philippians 1:27) "Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;"

3. Helps us to redeem the time

(Ephesians 5:15-17) "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, vs 16 redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Vs 17 Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is."

(Psalm 90:12) "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

4. Strengthens our burden for the lost

Note: When you trace the life of Christ in the Gospels, you will notice a pattern – Jesus noticed people, and was moved with compassion for them.

(Matthew 9:36) "But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd."

(Lamentation 3:51) "Mine eye affecteth mine heart because of all the daughters of my city."

❖ *Charles Spurgeon once said "If sinners will be damned, at least let them leap to Hell over our bodies. And if they will perish, let them perish with our arms about their knees, imploring them to stay. If Hell must be filled, at least let it be filled in the teeth of our exertions, and let not one go there unwarned and unprayed for."*

5. Establishes divine appointments.

- a. When you go out with a burdened heart for souls, you will soon notice that life is not filled with a bunch of coincidences, but instead God's providence. God is always at work trying to get people's attention.

Psalm 121:4 "Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep."

- b. It is an exciting thing to be a part of God's divine plan. Imagine meeting people like Lydia.

(Acts 16:13-14) "And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted thither. (14) And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul."

6. Creates great opportunities we never would have

Note: When we commit to scheduled times of outreach, we will have more opportunities to see God move in the hearts of people. It is amazing how many opportunities we can get to share the gospel by sowing Gospel seeds.

Galatians 6:9-10 "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. (10) As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

- ❖ *Spurgeon said: "I well remember distributing them in a town in England where tracts had never been distributed before, and going from house to house, and telling in humble language the things of the kingdom of God. I might have done nothing, if I had not been encouraged by finding myself able to do something ... [Tracts are] adapted to those persons who have but little power and little ability, but nevertheless, wish to do something for Christ. They have not the tongue of the eloquent, but they may have the hand of the diligent. They cannot stand and preach, but they can stand and distribute here and there these silent preachers ... They may buy their thousand tracts, and these they can broadcast. I look upon the giving away of a tract as only the first step for action not to be compared with many another deed done for Christ; but were it not for the first step we might never reach to the second, but that first attained, we are encouraged to take another, and so at the last ... There is a real service of Christ in the distribution of the gospel in its printed form, a service the result of which heaven alone shall disclose, and the judgment day alone discover. How many thousands have been carried to heaven instrumentally upon the wings of these tracts, none can tell ..."*
- ❖ *"Let each one of us, if we have done nothing for Christ, begin to do something now. The distribution of tracts is the first thing." – Charles Spurgeon*

D. Reasons Christians do not Evangelize

1. Fear of M_____

- a. The fear of man will hinder Christians from fulfilling their God-given commission.

Proverbs 29:25 "The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe."

Nehemiah 6:9, John 7:11-13, John 20:19

- b. The "what if's" grip the heart of the Christian

The "What if's"

- What if _____
- What if _____
- What if _____
- What if people start thinking I'm a " _____"?

Philippians 1:12-14, 2 Timothy 1:7, Hebrews 13:6, and Revelation 2:10

2. Fear of P_____

- a. Most new believers try to keep the peace with unsaved family and friends by being a secret witness. At times this is done because of the fear of persecution.
- b. Jesus encourages His disciples about being persecuted for the Gospel sake.

Matthew 5:10-12, Matthew 10:27-39

- c. We must understand that a servant is not greater than his lord. If Jesus was persecuted, then every Christian that stands for the truth will also be persecuted. John 15:20
- d. Paul encourages new believers about being persecuted for Christ.

Acts 14:21-22 "And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch, (22) Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God."

- e. Paul encourages Timothy about being persecuted for Christ.

2 Timothy 3:11-12 "Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me. (12) Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."

- f. Peter encourages the church about being persecuted.

1 Peter 3:15-18 "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: (16) Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ. (17) For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing."

3. Fear of F_____

- a. Many Christians do not share their faith because they do not know exactly what to say, or because they fear being asked a question they don't know how to answer.
- b. Christians should be sharing their testimony often. (Start with friends and family) Acts 26:1-2, 26-27
- c. What should a Christian do when challenged with a difficult question?
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Note: This will be looked at in detail in Module 5 – *Defending the Truth of the Gospel*

4. Finding T_____

- Satan is trying to keep Christians so busy with earthly things that they miss out on the heavenly perspective. 2 Corinthians 4:17-18

Colossians 3:1-4 "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. vs.2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. vs.3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. vs.4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory."

❖ *Spurgeon once said "Jesus died for sinners; cannot we live for them."*

Philippians 1:21-24 "For to me to live is Christ..."

Note: To live for Christ is to live for others,

- a. Jesus' Mission Statement, Luke 19:10
- b. Jesus' Cross, Matthew 16:24
- c. Jesus' Example, John 13:14
- d. Paul's Statement in Philippians 1:24

Question: Who are you living for?