

The Ingredients Of Evangelism

Intro: Evangelism is the lifeblood of any congregation and the Lord's church. Without evangelism, the church would cease to exist. After His resurrection, Jesus gave the marching orders for the church. It combines what it takes to become a Christian with the need to evangelize. Thus, we generally call this the Great Commission recorded for us in the synoptics (Mat 28:18-20 ¹⁸ And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. ¹⁹ Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: ²⁰ Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.”; Mark 16:15-16 ¹⁵ And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. ¹⁶ He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”; Luke 24:46-47 ⁴⁶ And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: ⁴⁷ And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.”). Thus, in this lesson, let us consider some facts about evangelism.

I. THE WHAT OF EVANGELISM

A. Preach the Gospel.

1. Evangelism comes from the Greek word εὐαγγελίζω (*euangelizo*) meaning to announce glad tidings or good news.
2. The noun form (εὐαγγέλιον—*euangelion*) is the New Testament word for *gospel*.

B. This word demands proclamation of a message.

1. It is the good news of salvation in Christ.
 - a. It is a salvation from an eternal torment.
 - b. It is a salvation with God being eternally blessed.
 - c. What a thrilling message.
 - d. It is a message every person on earth needs to hear.
2. It is God's saving power.
 - a. Rom. 1:16 ¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.”
 - b. 1 Cor. 1:21 ²¹ For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.”
 - c. Jam. 1:21 ²¹ Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.”
3. Men have originated counterfeit *gospels*, but there is only one God-given, saving Gospel.

II. THE WHY OF EVANGELISM

A. Christ's command; the Great Commission.

1. Mat. 28:19-20 ¹⁹ Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: ²⁰ Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.”
2. Mark 16:15 ¹⁵ And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.”
3. We must be ready with the Gospel to give an answer of our hope; 1 Pet. 3:15 ¹⁵ 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.”

B. It is God's power to save.

1. Men are lost without its saving power.
2. Man must hear God's Word.
 - a. Rom. 10:17 ¹⁷ "So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."
 - b. Heb. 11:6 ⁶ "But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."
3. Christians are the means by which they will hear; 2 Cor. 5:11 ¹¹ "Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences."

C. The church's survival depends on it.

1. It is the only way souls are added to the church; Acts 2:38, 41, 47 ³⁸ "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.... ⁴¹ Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added *unto them* about three thousand souls.... ⁴⁷ Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."
2. By it the church is kept pure; 2 Tim. 2:2 ² "And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also."
3. Everything relating to the cause of Christ relates to evangelism.

III. THE WHO OF EVANGELISM**A. Initially it was to the apostles.****B. Every Christian**

1. Some of the most effective evangelist in the New Testament were what we would call *ordinary* Christians.
 - a. Jerusalem saints
 - (1) Acts 8:4 ⁴ "Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word."
 - (2) Acts 11:19 ¹⁹ "Now they which were scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose about Stephen travelled as far as Phenice, and Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to none but unto the Jews only?"
 - b. Philip; Acts 8:5 ⁵ "Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them."
 - c. Barnabas
 - (1) Acts 11:22-30 ²² "Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch. ²³ Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord. ²⁴ For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord. ²⁵ Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul: ²⁶ And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch. ²⁷ And in these days came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch. ²⁸ And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the Spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar. ²⁹ Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea: ³⁰ Which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul."
 - (2) Acts 13:1-3 ¹ "Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. ² As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work

- whereunto I have called them. ³ And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid *their* hands on them, they sent *them* away.”
- d. Aquila and Priscilla; Acts 18:26 “²⁶ And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto *them*, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.”
 - e. To name a few.
2. Every Christian is an “earthen vessel” to carry the Gospel to their world.
 - a. 2 Cor. 4:7 “⁷ But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.”
 - b. 2 Cor. 5:11 “¹¹ Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.”
 - c. The Gospel has been delivered to the saints; Jude 3 “³ Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort *you* that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.”
 3. Every Christian has the responsibility of finding some means of spreading the Gospel.

IV. THE WHEN OF EVANGELISM

A. At all times.

1. 2 Tim. 4:2 “² Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.”
2. 1 Cor. 15:58 “⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.”

B. Now

1. Jesus taught daily in the temple; Mat. 26:55 “⁵⁵ In that same hour said Jesus to the multitudes, Are ye come out as against a thief with swords and staves for to take me? I sat daily with you teaching in the temple, and ye laid no hold on me.”
2. The early church taught daily.
 - a. Acts 5:42 “⁴² And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.”
 - b. Acts 20:31 “³¹ Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.”
3. The more seed we sow, the better our chances to find the good and honest heart.

Conclusion: Let us make sure that we are engaging ourselves in evangelizing those we encounter. Our responsibility is to evangelize, we are not responsible for their acceptance or rejection of the seed.