

## Evangelism

In this lesson we shall look at what is called Evangelism. Although the word is not found in the scriptures it is essential to the furtherance of the Gospel and the health of the Church. The word Evangelist is used twice, Acts 21:8 & 2 Timothy 4:5, both meaning a preacher of the Gospel. The word Evangelists is found once in Ephesians 4:11 Also it means a preacher of the Gospel.

At the end of this Lesson you should be able to understand:

1. What is Evangelism?
2. God's purpose for the individual/church in Evangelism.
3. Effective evangelism.
4. Missions
5. Evangelizing at school.

### **1: What is Evangelism?**

The promulgation of the gospel.

Promulgate - To publish; to make known by open declaration; as, to promulgate the secrets of a council. It is particularly applied to the publication of laws and the gospel. The moral law was promulgated at mount Sinai. The apostles promulgated the gospel. Edicts, laws and orders are promulgated by circular letters, or through the medium of the public prints. 1828 Webster's Dictionary.

As the definition tells us it is an open declaration. We are to speak, and speak boldly, the things that Christ has done. So many times we are afraid of what others may say, but if we tell not of Christ we deny him. We are to lift him up.

*Matthew 10:33: But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.*

*John 12:32-33: And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. This he said, signifying what death he should die.*

It is to make known the secrets of a council:

*Act 2:23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:*

It is this counsel that we must proclaim, how God gave us his Son to die for our sins.

## 2. God's purpose for the individual/church in Evangelism

- 1st. We are commanded:

*Matthew 28:19: Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:*

*Act 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*

*Luke 24:47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.*

*Acts 13:46 Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles. For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.*

- 2nd . We must evangelize for the growth of the church:

*Ephesians 2:21-22: In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: (22) In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.*

*1 Corinthians 3:9 :For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.*

- 3rd. We are debtors:

Paul says in Romans 1:14, "*I am a debtor both to the Greeks and to the Barbarians, both to the wise and to the unwise.*" In like manner today we are debtors to every non-Christian because we have the good news that can save his soul. This places us under obligation to share the gospel with the lost so they can be saved. Because someone loved us enough to teach us the truth, shouldn't we do as much for someone else?

- 4th. So we may rejoice:

*Psalms 126:6 He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.*

*John 4:36 And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together.*

*Acts 15:3 And being brought on their way by the church, they passed through Phenice and Samaria, declaring the conversion of the Gentiles: and they caused great joy unto all the brethren.*

### 3. Effective evangelism

The term effective is defined as: Having the power to cause or produce. Oh how we must learn to be effective.

- 1st: It must be our hearts desire:

*Romans 9:3 For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh:*

*Romans 10:1 ¶ Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.*

- 2nd: We must be trained of Christ:

*Matthew 4:19 And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.*

*Mark 1:17 And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men.*

*Luke 5:10 And so was also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men. Christ said he would make.*

- 3rd: We must have a clean heart:

*Psalms 51:10-13: Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. (11) Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. (12) Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit. (13) Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.*

- 4th: We must be learned in the word:

*Psalms 1:1-3: Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. (2) But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. (3) And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.*

- 5th: We must remember that not everyone has grew up in our or any church:

*1 Corinthians 9:22 To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.*

Although the truth never changes, we should consider the personalities of others and not offend, but lead.

#### **4: Missions**

The word mission simply means going forth. This can be abroad or locally. If we are not effective locally, we can never expect to help those abroad.

- 1st: Christ commanded us to go:

*Matthew 28: 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:*

*Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*

*1 John 2:6 He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.*

*Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*

- 2nd: Missions should be supported:

*Philippians 4:14: Notwithstanding ye have well done, that ye did communicate with my affliction.*

Communicate in the Greek, means to share with. Paul tells us that the church of Galatians "for I bear you record, that, if it had been possible, ye would have plucked out your own eyes." Support comes with money, prayers, and also visits and contact.

- 3rd: The mission effort should be the personality of every child of God, whether preacher or lay member:

*John 4:28 The woman then left her waterpot, and went her way into the city, and saith to the men, John 4:29 Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?*

*John 4:39 And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on him for the saying of the woman, which testified, He told me all that ever I did.*

She told of what Christ had done for her. We need to exclaim the same.

## **5. Evangelizing at school**

The most important thing that we can do is encourage of younger members to witness.

*Ecclesiastes 12:1 Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;*

Although young they can be used of God.

*2 Kings 22:1 Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned thirty and one years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jedidah, the daughter of Adaiah of Boscath.*

*1 Samuel 17:34-37 And David said unto Saul, Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion, and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock: (35) And I went out after him, and smote him, and delivered it out of his mouth: and when he arose against me, I caught him by his beard, and smote him, and slew him. (36) Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he hath defied the armies of the living God. (37) David said moreover, The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the LORD be with thee.*

We should not discourage them, They can do it with God!!!!!!

*1 Samuel 17:33 And Saul said to David, Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth.*