

Tell HIS Story-Sharing a Simple Gospel Message

When Jesus commissioned His disciples to go into all the world and preach the gospel, He did not send them unprepared. They had spent three years observing Jesus own evangelism methods in dealing with a variety of people.

Christians today can still learn from the examples that are recorded for us in the Gospels. The heart of Jesus' ministry was to individuals. While the masses were intrigued by His teachings and miracles, His true followers came through a personal encounter with Jesus Christ, the Living Gospel. This is our goal as we seek an opportunity to tell His story. Personal evangelism is the art of sharing Jesus passionately with those whom you encounter for the first time and those whom you've already have established a relationship. Discipleship is the foundational truth of evangelism and it must involve a total commitment in the life of a believer to follow Jesus daily.

Personal evangelism is communicating the love of God in Christ to a dying world. In order to reach this postmodern, radical culture for Christ, we need to go where people are, and where others will not go. The problem is that so many do not go. The average Christian today challenges nobody. He can rub shoulders with the world, can meet with unconverted people and they're no different. Moody Bible Institute took a survey years ago and found that 95% of Evangelical believers have never led a soul to Christ. Yet the inflexible precept deeply woven into the Commission of the Master is that we, as believers, should make disciples of all men, "teaching them to observe all things, whatsoever I have commanded you."

It is essential to build bridges through relationships with the people for whom Jesus died for and came to save. People matter to God and relationships matter to people. Our Gospel message will have no effect on the lives of the people we seek to evangelize if we fail to love them and establish genuine relationships with them. The true motivation for evangelism is a zeal for God, a love for others, a passion for God's glory and the salvation of all people. We are reminded that successful evangelism will be impossible if we fail to make ourselves available for the Spirit of God to use us as He wills.

Here, we offer a brief, simple plan of the Gospel (**God-Offers-Sinful-People-Eternal-Life**)

God has a plan

- God knows you personally and He has a plan for your life.
- *For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. {12} Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. {13} And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. (Jeremiah 29:11-13)*

Relationship is personal

- God offers his friendship as a free gift, but many people often reject this because they think it means "religion". Having a relationship with God is simple—just as any friendship should be.

- *How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them!* (Psalm 139:17)

Jesus is the answer

- For every problem or situation in your life, Jesus is the answer.
- *God showed how much he loved us by sending his only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him.* (1 John 4:9)

Faith is the key

- Faith is the key to God's treasures. Even the smallest faith can work wonders in your life. Everything is possible with faith.
- *Whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive ... If you have faith as (small as) a mustard seed, and you will say to this mountain, "Move from here to there," it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you* (Matt. 21:22, 17:20).

Action is necessary

- You must accept Christ as Savior and turn from your sins.
- *Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.'* (Jeremiah 33:3)

You can ask Him to be your Savior and Lord by praying a prayer like this, "Lord Jesus, I believe you are the Son of God. Thank you for dying on the cross for my sins. Please forgive my sins and give me the gift of eternal life. I ask you in to my life and heart to be my Lord and Savior. I want to serve you always."

Expect results

When we tell others about Jesus and how much He loves us that's like planting God's seeds in their hearts. When a farmer plants seed, he is confident that it will produce a harvest. Most of the time people don't get saved the very first time they hear about Jesus. Maybe the first time they heard about Jesus they were not sure they believed in Him. Then later someone else told them about Jesus again, but this time they believed. That doesn't mean that the part you did wasn't important. The Bible says, *"I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase."* (1 Corinthians 3:6). It is the Holy Spirit that makes the seed grow into salvation. We need to remember that even if the people we talk to don't get saved right away, we have planted a seed. Sometimes we might even be watering a seed that someone else has planted. Don't get upset or feel bad because the people you talk to don't get saved right away, just keep planting and watering the seeds of God's kingdom and trust the Holy Spirit to make them grow.