

Samuel Johnson

SESSION 4 | Our Method of Evangelism

Lifestyle evangelism: Evangelism is a way of life, embedded with the proclamation of the gospel.

Paul in 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

1. 1-6—Paul shared the Gospel.
2. 7-8—Paul shares His life.

There is a two-pronged approach within a lifestyle of evangelism:

1. Personal
2. Within the church

“For you yourselves know, brothers, that our coming to you was not in vain. But though we had already suffered and been shamefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we had boldness in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in the midst of much conflict. For our appeal does not spring from error or impurity or any attempt to deceive, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not to please man, but to please God who tests our hearts. For we never came with words of flattery, as you know, nor with a pretext for greed—God is witness. Nor did we seek glory from people, whether from you or from others, though we could have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nursing mother taking care of her own children. So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us.” 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

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I. PERSONAL

Sharing your life (vs 8)

- A. Share your time.
- B. Share food.
- C. Ask Good Questions.

- D. Listen.
- E. Make sure they feel known and loved.
- F. Pray *with* them and *for* them... in the name of Jesus.

We need to be reminded that Jesus shared His life to the point of death and has given us His spirit so that we can daily share ours.

“The impact of this service was twofold: (1) Christian sacrifice for their fellow believers stunned the unbelieving world as they witnessed communal love like they’d never seen ([John 13:35](#)), and (2) Christian sacrifice for non-Christians resulted in the early church experiencing exponential growth as non-Christian survivors, who benefited from the care of their Christian neighbors, converted to the faith *en masse*.” – Moses Lee (TGC)

Finally, because they are broken, we share the gospel (1-6)

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“But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life. Who is sufficient for these things? For we are not, like so many, peddlers of God's word, but as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ.” 2 Cor 2:14-17

“Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God, who has made us sufficient to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.” 2 Cor 3:4-6

The Holy Spirit is sufficient for the task, and He indwells you!

Equip yourself with knowledge of the Word but trust the Holy Spirit.

1. Pray for the power of the Spirit.
2. Pray for doors.

3. Pray For clarity and boldness.

If our hearts are fractured by fear, then it will be hard to minister to a fractured world.

Tozer—“A frightened world needs a fearless church.”

4. Speak the gospel—trust the Lord with the outcome.
5. Be creative in getting gospel truths to them.

II. WITHIN THE CHURCH

“Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.” Colossians 4:2-4

Paul involved the Colossian Church in his evangelism.

He involves them in prayer.

Other ways to involve the church:

We can involve our church through boasting in the Lord.

We can involve our church through sharing their fellowship with the lost.

“Should we risk bringing people into our home who are stranded? Christians will arrive at different positions on this based on our circumstances. One family will make phone calls, another will deliver groceries, another will welcome the stranger to sleep on its couch. Each household may serve its neighbors in different ways, but each household should be intent to serve. Faced with temptation to fear men, we seek to grow our “milk faith” into a “meat faith” that looks to God alone.” –Rosario Butterfield

“We pray as COVID-19 is rapidly spreading through every nation and tongue, that true and heartfelt repentance will usher in revival. Our prayer is that Christian revival will spread faster than COVID-19.” –Rosario Butterfield

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COMMISSIONED: THE JOYFUL TASK OF TAKING THE GOSPEL TO YOUR WORLD

1. What does it look like for you to take a step forward in evangelism, without fear?
2. What is one creative way you can reach out to your neighbors?
3. How can you reach out to others to pray for them?
4. How can you use public platforms for the gospel?