

Personal Evangelism 101:

How To Bring Your Neighbor To Christ

(Ray Reynolds – Preacher's Forum – 4/27/09)

What was responsible for your coming to Christ and to this church?

- I had a special need - 3%
- I just walked in - 3%
- I liked the minister - 6%
- I visited there - 1%
- I liked the Bible classes - 5%
- I attended a gospel meeting - 0.5%
- I liked the programs - 3%
- A friend or relative invited me - 79%

What Is Evangelism?

- E = Every member is active.
- V = Visitation is practiced.
- A = Absentees are contacted regularly.
- N = New members are involved.
- G = Giving is taught and practiced.
- E = Everyone is enrolled in Bible Class.
- L = Lost individuals are won to Christ.
- I = Increased attendance at all services.
- S = Standards are set high.
- M = Missions are stressed.

Reasons For Being An Evangelist

- A COMPASSION FOR LOST SOULS
Matthew 9:35-36, 14:14, 15:32
- A FEAR OF THE LORD
Matthew 10:28, Mark 9:43-48, Luke 23:34
- A LOVE FOR THE LORD
John 14:21, 23, 15:9, 17:26, I John 4:12
- A SENSE OF PURPOSE IN LIFE
John 4:27, 34, 5:30, 36, 6:38, 17:4, 19:28-30
- A SIGN OF A JOYFUL HEART
Hebrews 12:2, Revelation 7:13-17, 21:1-7

Signs of Successful Evangelism

THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD IS AT WORK

Acts 8, 9, 10, 16, 18, 19

THE PROPER DOORS BEGIN TO OPEN

I Corinthians 16:9, II Corinthians 2:12-13

THE PRAYERS OF BELIEVERS ARE ANSWERED

Acts 10:1-4, Colossians 4:3

THE POWER OF GOD'S WORD

Romans 1:16, Hebrews 4:12

THE PRINCIPLE OF SOWING & REAPING

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23, II Corinthians 9:6

If we really want to reach the lost we will:

BECOME A CARING CONGREGATION

MAKE A LIST OF SOULS TO TEACH

PRAY FOR THESE SOULS DAILY

DEMONSTRATE YOUR LOVE FOR THEM

INVITE THEM TO ATTEND SERVICES

INVITE THEM TO ATTEND ACTIVITIES

SHOW HOSPITALITY TO VISITORS

SEEK OUT THE MOST EFFECTIVE METHODS

TAKE THE GOSPEL TO THEM

DO NOT GIVE UP ON THEM

Suggestions For Implementing a

Congregational Evangelistic Effort

(1) Plan to meet together weekly

(2) Set goals for the coming week and pray

Visit one person or family each week

Making a list of souls to pray for together

Decide how to reach each person on the list

Make an effort to invite them to services

Discuss contact people (call, visit, etc.)

Praise God for studies, successes, souls won

(3) Put the goals into action (accountability)

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Effective Methods

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- * Using Your Personal Story

Paul did this effectively over and over in the book of Acts.

- * Using Gospel Tracts for Personal Evangelism

It is possible to plant tracks in bathrooms, waiting rooms, and public places.

- * U-Haul Ministry

When someone moves into the neighborhood, we should create welcome packets.

- * Outdoor Education Ministries - Outdoor Evangelism

We could have more tent meetings, outdoor youth rallies, game nights, movies, etc.

- * Door To Door Ministry - Winning Souls, One Household At A Time

Door knocking has always been a popular way to teach and invite people to services.

One successful method is a Bible survey that offers a Bible correspondence course.

- * Bus Ministry - Winning Young People, Bringing Them to Church

Bringing children to services can often be an effective way of winning families.

- * Sidewalk Sunday School

Some congregations have had Bible Classes outside with activities for the children.

- * Community Events - Health Fairs, Blood Drives, AA, Weight Watchers, etc.

Many people will come to our buildings when we have community events.

- * School Events – Prom Alternative, Team Dinners, 5th Quarters, etc.

We should be thinking of create ways to attract young people to our building.

- * After School Programs

Our local schools would love for us to begin tutoring programs.

- * Benevolence Ministries

When people are in need of help they should have to depend on the government.

- * A Night Out or A Day Out

Mom's Day Out, Day Cares, Pre-schools, are other ways to minister to the community.

- * Back To School or End of the Year Events

There are two guaranteed ways to attract teenagers: lock-ins and food!

- * Disaster Relief Ministry

We live in an area where this should be a reality by now.

- * Create Your Own Training & Teaching Materials

Begin writing books or tracts and establish your own curriculum, etc.

Publish your own classes and sermons on DVD, CD, and tape.

- * Create a Church Website

Even if you can't produce a wealth of material you can link others to it.