

Agros

Find, Train, Support

Evangelism Workshop
September 3, 2022
Atchison, KS

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all the he has and buys that field.”
Matthew 13:44

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Date: September 3, 2022

Location: Riverbend Bible Church
410 Commercial Street
Atchison, KS 66002

Bring: There is no cost for this workshop. All registrants will be provided with a workbook. Bring a pen or pencil and your Bible.

Purpose: To embolden and equip the churches of NW Missouri and NE Kansas for faithful evangelism of the unbelievers whom the Lord has placed in their harvest fields.

Summary: Jesus said in Matthew 28:19, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...” Most evangelical Christians claim this verse gives all of us an individual responsibility to do the work of evangelism. But many of us would confess that we are not as faithful as we ought to be in this mission. J. Mack Stiles writes, “Sure, there is that rare person who is uninhibited about sharing the faith. But if you ask most normal people what hinders their evangelism, the vast majority will tell you it’s fear: fear of rejection, of looking stupid, or of being lumped into weird stereotypes about evangelists.” This workshop aims to address that fear with encouraging fellowship around the topic of evangelism. We want to think clearer about what evangelism is. We want to remind one another of the momentous reasons that we should persist in this difficult work. And we want to share practical wisdom with one another in how to take steps to become more faithful evangelists.

Approach: Our morning sessions focus on *equipping*. We aim to make the training hands-on and collaborative instead of just listening to a lecture. We will have brief periods of teaching, followed by group discussions aided by our workshop booklets. After lunch, our sessions focus on *encouraging*. We aim to “stir up one another to love and good works” (Heb. 10:24).

Proposed Schedule (session topics are subject to change)

- 8:00 – 9:00... Registration and fellowship (w/ light breakfast available)
- 9:00 – 10:00... Session 1: The What of Evangelism
- 10:00 – 11:00... Session 2: The How of Evangelism
- 11:00 – 12:00... Session 3: Video Case Studies of Evangelism
- 12:00 – 1:00... Lunch (provided at Riverbend Bible Church)
- 1:00 – 2:00... Session 4: Salvation testimony and Evangelism Q&A Panel
- 2:00 – 3:00... Session 5: Sermon on evangelism and prayer

Recommended Resources

Want to learn more about evangelism?

We recommend these books

- *Evangelism* by J. Mack Stiles
- *Evangelism as Exiles* by Elliot Clark
- *Everyday Church* by Steve Timmis and Tim Chester
- *The Master Plan of Evangelism* by Robert E. Coleman
- *The Soulwinner* by Charles Spurgeon
- *What Is the Mission of the Church?* by Kevin DeYoung and Greg Gilbert

We recommend these free online resources

- 9marks.org/evangelism-gospel
- capitolhillbaptist.org/resources/core-seminars/series/evangelism/
- desiringgod.org/topics/evangelism/messages
- livingwaters.com and the “The Living Waters Podcast”
- thegospelcoalition.org/topics/evangelism
- wretched.org and the “Wretched Radio” podcast

Want some tools to help with evangelism?

We recommend these free online resources

- cru.org/us/en/train-and-grow/bible-studies/jesus-investigative-bible-study.html
- namb.net/evangelism
- navigators.org/topic/evangelism/?post_type=resource

Want to learn more about apologetics?

We recommend these books

- *The Battle Belongs to the Lord* by K. Scott Oliphint
- *The Reason for God* by Tim Keller

We recommend these free online resources

- answersingenesis.org
- aomin.org
- capitolhillbaptist.org/resources/core-seminars/series/apologetics/
- carm.org
- faculty.wts.edu/lectures/apologetics-101-introduction
- namb.net/apologetics

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Session 1 – The What of Evangelism

“Evangelism is teaching the _____ with the aim to _____.” – J. Mack Stiles

1. Evangelism is teaching a _____ message

Read Romans 10:13-17 and discuss the following questions:

How does this passage indicate that the gospel must be a *verbal* message?

What are some activities you have heard called “evangelism” that don’t require words?

What are some reasons we might resist the *verbal* nature of evangelism?

How does this passage relate to this popular quote: “Preach the gospel at all times, and if necessary use words”?

2. Evangelism is teaching a _____ - _____ message

Read Matt. 5:13-16, 2 Cor. 6:3-10, Titus 2:9-10, 1 Pet. 3:13-16 and discuss the following questions:

What are biblical descriptions of how our behaviors are connected to our words/beliefs?

Why does a failure to behave according to the gospel affect our evangelism?

What are some behaviors that are connected the gospel?

When someone comments on your godly behavior, what are some ways you could connect your behavior to the gospel in that conversation?

3. Evangelism is teaching a _____ message

What doctrines does Peter teach in Acts 10:34-43? Can we put them into categories?

What doctrines of _____ must we teach? See Isa. 6:1-3; Col. 1:16-17; John 3:16; Rom. 1:18.

What doctrines of _____ must we teach? See Gen. 1:26-27; Rom. 3:9-12; 6:23; Eph. 2:1-3

What doctrines of _____ must we teach? See John 14:6; Rom. 5:6-11; Eph. 2:4-9

4. Evangelism is teaching an _____ message

Read Mark 1:15, John 8:12, Acts 2:38, 2 Cor. 5:20 and discuss the following questions:

What are some descriptions of how people are commanded to respond to the gospel?

What temptations to avoid this aspect of evangelism can we face?

Write out your own response to the question, "What is the gospel?" Try to include 1-3 sentences for each of the following categories: God, Man, Christ, Response.

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Session 2 – The How of Evangelism

1. How to _____ for evangelism

Discuss the following questions with your group.

What are some reasons it might be wise to prepare for evangelism?

What are some ways we can prepare our hearts and the hearts of our listeners?

What are some expectations in evangelism that we should change?

2. How to _____ a _____ for evangelism

Discuss the following questions with your group.

What are some good questions to *steer* a conversation toward spiritual topics?

What would be good, evangelistic follow-ups to these statements in a conversation?

“Yeah, I grew up Roman Catholic, but I’ve kind of got away from church.”

“Well, I had to go to my aunt’s funeral on Tuesday.”

“Mommy, why can’t I take communion?”

3. How to _____ the gospel in a conversation

Assume a conversation has been brought to the point of evangelism. Discuss the following questions with your group.

What truths about God, themselves, and Christ must we speak?

Since evangelism includes the aim of persuasion, what are some ways in the conversation we could find out what truths they are not persuaded of?

Why is it important to address a person's *conscience* in evangelism, instead of just addressing their intellect or emotions? What are some questions that do this?

4. How to _____ in evangelism

Discuss the following questions with your group.

What truths about ourselves/others can we meditate upon to help us persevere in evangelism?

What truths about eternity can we meditate upon to help us persevere in evangelism?

What are some disciplines in our Christian life where we could incorporate these truths more?

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Session 3 – Evangelism Case Studies

1. While watching “How to Witness to a Formerly Born-Again Christian”, take notes that focus on these points:

- 1) How does the conversation switch from the natural to the spiritual?
- 2) What are some helpful questions asked by the evangelist?
- 3) What truths did the evangelist work to persuade the listener of? How did he do it?

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Notes from Q&A Panel

Notes from Message on Philippians 3:12-16

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Prayer Guide

1. Pray for one another's hearts

Write your group members' names below. Have each group member choose one or two of the items below for the group to pray for them. Take turns reading the relevant Scripture and praying these things for one another by name.

- A. More confidence in and boldness with the gospel (Rom. 1:16)
- B. Deeper appreciation for our own salvation through the gospel (Eph. 2:11-13)
- C. Humbler acknowledgment of the gospel's fruit in our behavior (1 Cor. 15:10)
- D. More devotion to prayer for the spread of the gospel (Acts 4:24-31)
- E. Richer compassion for those who do not believe the gospel (Matt. 9:36-38)
- F. Stronger joy through persecution for speaking the gospel (Matt. 5:11-12)
- G. Greater passion for the excellencies of Christ revealed by the gospel (1 Pet. 2:9)

2. Pray for one another's lost neighbors

Have each group member share the name of an unbeliever and write it below. Select one or two items below for each unbeliever, read the Scripture, and pray these things for them by name.

- A. For resurrection from death to life (Eph. 2:4-5)
- B. For deliverance from Satan's kingdom into God's kingdom (Col. 1:13-14)
- C. For wisdom to see the folly of earthly riches (Luke 12:13-21)
- D. For humility to embrace the foolishness of the gospel (1 Cor. 1:26-31)
- E. For godly grief over their sin (2 Cor. 7:8-10)
- F. For faith that rejects a righteousness of their own (Phil. 3:8-9)
- G. For the love of Christians to direct them toward following Christ (John 13:35)

3. Pray for one another's opportunities

Select one or two items below, read the Scripture, and pray for these things for one another.

- A. A neighbor or friend to ask them to give a reason for their hope (1 Pet. 3:14-16)
- B. An opportunity to lay aside our rights for the sake of evangelism (1 Cor. 9:19-23)
- C. An opportunity to do good and speak truth to someone who wrongs us (Luke 6:27-31)
- D. An opportunity with a family member or close friend we've avoided (Matt. 10:34-37)
- E. An opportunity to suffer joyfully for unbelievers to witness (Phil. 1:12-14)
- F. An opportunity to tell a stranger how they can be saved (Acts 8:4)
- G. An opportunity to work alongside another Christian in evangelism (Ecc. 4:9-12)

“Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken”
(Tune: “Come Thou Fount”)

Jesus, I my cross have taken,
all to leave, and follow thee;
destitute, despised, forsaken,
thou from hence my all shalt be.
Perish ev'ry fond ambition,
all I've sought or hoped or known;
yet how rich is my condition,
God and heav'n are still my own.

Let the world despise and leave me,
they have left my Savior too;
human hearts and looks deceive me;
thou art not, like man, untrue;
and, while thou shalt smile upon me,
God of wisdom, love, and might,
foes may hate and friends may shun me;
show thy face, and all is bright.

Man may trouble and distress me,
'twill but drive me to thy breast;
life with trials hard may press me,
heav'n will bring me sweeter rest.
O 'tis not in grief to harm me
while thy love is left to me;
O 'twere not in joy to charm me,
were that joy unmixed with thee.

Take, my soul, thy full salvation,
rise o'er sin and fear and care;
joy to find in ev'ry station
something still to do or bear;
think what Spirit dwells within thee,
what a Father's smile is thine,
what a Savior died to win thee:
child of heav'n, shouldst thou repine?

Hasten on from grace to glory,
armed by faith, and winged by prayer;
heav'n's eternal day's before thee,
God's own hand shall guide thee there.
Soon shall close thy earthly mission,
swift shall pass thy pilgrim days;
hope soon change to glad fruition,
faith to sight, and prayer to praise.

Words by Henry F. Lyte (1824, 1833); alt. (1990); music by Asahel Nettleton (1825); public domain

“I Love to Tell the Story”

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

Chorus:

*I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

I love to tell the story; more wonderful it seems
than all the golden fancies of all our golden dreams.
I love to tell the story, it did so much for me;
and that is just the reason I tell it now to thee.

Chorus

I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet.
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
the message of salvation from God's own holy Word.

Chorus

I love to tell the story; for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it, like the rest,
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
'twill be the old, old story, that I have loved so long.

Chorus

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