



Sunday February 18, 2018
Lifestyle Evangelism (Part-3)
Simple Strategies

We continue our series on "Lifestyle Evangelism".
Last week we spoke about the necessity and urgency of sharing Christ with others.

Quick review:

Part -1 Necessity and Urgency

Necessity

why should we witness about Jesus Christ - why tell people the message of Jesus Christ?

- 1, *People Need A Savior And There Is Only One*
- 2, *People Are Empty, Are Hurting, Are Searching, Are in Need*
- 3, *People will not know the truth unless someone tells them*

Urgency

Why do we need to be witnesses with a sense of urgency...and not 'do it when convenient'?

- 1, *People are perishing and they don't know it*
- 2, *Time is running out*

Part -2 Overcoming Inhibitions

- 1, Not knowing what the Gospel is
- 2, Assumption that people are not spiritual
- 3, Will people be convinced
- 4, Fear of rejection
- 5, Fear of persecution
- 6, Other Excuses

Today : Simple Strategies

We are all called to be witnesses with power.

Acts 1:8

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Power is to be demonstrated.

Overall we have just one strategy: ***Share and demonstrate the Gospel with love and power***

Romans 1:16

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.



The Gospel - the message about Jesus Christ - is the power of God that brings salvation to anyone who will believe.

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

18 For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

19 For it is written: "I WILL DESTROY THE WISDOM OF THE WISE, AND BRING TO NOTHING THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE PRUDENT."

20 Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?

21 For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe.

22 For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom;

23 but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness,

24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

25 Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

The apostle Paul told us that the Cross of Jesus Christ, the message of the Cross, is the power of God and the wisdom of God - it addresses the needs of both Jews and Greeks. Jews are spiritual people and look for something supernatural (a sign). The Greeks are intellectual people and look for something that appeals to the mind (wisdom).

So, we depend on the power of the Spirit to touch lives as we proclaim the Gospel - share the message of Jesus Christ.

Even Paul a great scholar and intellectual stated:

1 Corinthians 2:4-5

4 And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,

5 that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

We depend on the power of the Holy Spirit to bring conviction in the hearts of people (John 16:8-11).

The Gospel is simple: Jesus Christ died for our sins on the Cross. He was buried. He rose up the third day and is alive today. Anyone who believes in Him will experience salvation. (1 Corinthians 15:1-3). Salvation is a complete package including forgiveness of sins, healing from sickness, deliverance from every demonic oppression, protection from evil, Eternal life and everything God gives to us in Christ.

Overall we have just one strategy: ***Share and demonstrate the Gospel with love and power***

This is where we depend on the gifts of the Spirit - words of knowledge, words of wisdom, prophecy, gifts of healings, working of miracles, faith, etc....to demonstrate the power of God. These gifts not only demonstrate power, but also God's immense love for them. In addition, as



opportunity arises, we do things to serve/help people practically and demonstrate God's love to them.

You need to have some personal strategies to share and demonstrate the Gospel...in your world of influence. Each of us are engaged in a different sphere: business, management, sport, education, etc...and we must understand the "world" we operate in, the needs of people we interact with, and be ready - be on the lookout - for opportunities to touch people.

We present some general ideas/strategies here:

Personal Strategies

With people personally - this can work with people you already know, or people you may happen to meet/interact with:

- ✓ Build trust. Engage in conversations. Share the Gospel.
- ✓ Give them something to read (e.g. a prayer card, our Experience Change book or some other book you think would interest them, and then follow-up with them in conversations. *{hold up a prayer card and a copy of the Experience Change book and let them know they can pick up copies from the book table or request copies from the church office}*
- ✓ Pray and minister to them if you sense a need in their lives - healing, situation, etc. Expect God to demonstrate His goodness to them.
- ✓ Invite them to church or your life group if they are open to this.
- ✓ With strangers you can engage in conversation, expect God to give you words of knowledge, and then minister to them the power of God.

Group Strategies

As a group, say your Life Group, or just get together with a few others, you can plan to do things together to evangelize:

- ✓ Pray and go together to the mall, coffee shops, streets
 - ✓ Host a gathering at home (or college, or workplace) and invite people. You can share the Gospel and engage in discussions.
 - ✓ Invite them to watch a Christian movie at home
- ..you can think of many other group strategies....

Be Prepared To Share

- ✓ The Gospel in 5 minutes
- ✓ Your personal life-transformation in 5 minutes
- ✓ A relevant personal miracle story (healing, God's intervention, God's provision) in 3 minutes

Pray short prayers

When praying for people, pray short prayers. (When praying alone in your prayer closet pray long - but in public, pray short prayers). Remember Jesus said simple things like: "be healed", "be clean"; "stretch out your hand", etc.

Remember, the Battle is the Lord's



2 Timothy 2:23-26

23 But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife.

24 And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient,

25 in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth,

26 and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.

John 6:44

No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.

Always stay in love. Always speak with humility.

Never get into strife with anyone. Never get into an argument with anyone.

Our part is to share and demonstrate the Gospel with love and power.

God's part is to cause them to come to a place of repentance and place a draw (a pull on their hearts) to Himself.

Ministry Time



LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE



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This is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

Preparation

To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) or the full length Sunday sermon. You can also review the Sunday Sermon notes. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online



at apcwo.org/sermons . Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship and a fun activity.

LISTEN to God's Word

Read the following Scripture passages: *Romans 1:16; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; 1 Corinthians 2:4-5; John 16:8-11; 2 Timothy 2:23-26; John 6:44*

INVESTIGATE God's Word Together

Discuss these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

#1, The message of the Gospel is simple. What are we confident about when we share the Gospel? (based on Romans 1:16; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; 1 Corinthians 2:4-5)

#2, What should we expect God to do, as we share the Gospel? (based on John 16:8-11; 2 Timothy 2:23-26; John 6:44)

#3, Take turns where each one does any one of the following:

- ✓ *The Gospel in 5 minutes*
- ✓ *Your personal life-transformation in 5 minutes or less*
- ✓ *A relevant personal miracle story (healing, God's intervention, God's provision) in 3 minutes*

If time permits, each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key learning and how they see themselves applying it into their specific life situations. Within the group, feel free to share areas of emotional healing that may be needed. (Keep all matters confidential).

Encourage each one to participate and share.

FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey

Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:

1, families to be protected and strengthened



2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.

Close by thanking God together.