

A Lifestyle of Evangelism: Understanding the What and the How!

"An angel said to Philip, "Go south to the desert road that goes from Jerusalem to Gaza." So he went, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of Candace, queen of Ethiopia. He had gone to Jerusalem to worship, and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading Isaiah the prophet. The Holy Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and walk along beside the chariot." Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked. "How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come and sit with him. The eunuch was reading this passage of Scripture: "He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before the shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth. In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?" Then Philip began with this passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. Why shouldn't I be baptized?" And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea." Acts 8:26-40

I. Introduction

NOTE: Fruitful evangelism is not about **WHAT** you know, it's more about **WHO** you know---Jesus!

II. Succinct Evangelism Keys from the Experience of Philip

- o Be ready to listen---first to the Holy Spirit and then to the person in question
- o Pray for a unique discernment to come upon you uniquely designed for each situation
- o Always have your heart filled with God's Word and His love---and just be ready to share!

III. The Biblical Formula for Global Evangelism

Two facts concerning global evangelism:

For our world to be reached, every believer must think of themselves as a _____!

The Biblically-oriented mathematical formula for world evangelism: _____!

1. The first part of God's formula is _____

*"Let your conversation (life) be always **full of grace, seasoned with salt**, so that you may know how to answer everyone." Colossians 4:6*

*"Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were amazed. And **they realized that they had been with Jesus.**" Acts 4:13*

*"But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. **Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.** But do this with gentleness and respect..."*

1 Peter 3:15

2. The second part of God's formula is _____

*"For this is what the Lord has commanded us: "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth." **Acts 13:47***

*"People do not light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." **Matthew 5:15-16***

Think about it. When you have a problem or a crisis in life, who do you go to first for help and comfort? Answer: _____!

A recent study asked 10,000 Christians how they came to Christ and their church....

- ½% said they did so as a result of a revival service
- 2% said they went because they had a special need
- 3% went because liked the church programs
- 5% liked the Sunday School/or certain classes
- 6% liked the Pastor
- Almost 84% came to Christ because they were invited by friend/family!

3. The third part of God's formula is _____

*"Pray that I will proclaim **the message of the Gospel as clearly** as I should." **Colossians 4:4***

*"When I came to you, brothers, **I did not come with eloquence or superior wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God.** For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified." **1 Corinthians 2:1-2***

The facts in a nutshell...

"...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."---Romans 3:23

"... your sins have separated you from your God."--- Isaiah 59:2a

*"...For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." **Romans 6:23***

*"Jesus said, "I tell you, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God." **John 3:3***

"For if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."---Romans 10:9

IV. Strategic and Practical keys to success:

a.) Commit to pray through and cultivate YOUR story (a testimony)

b.) Keep it real

c.) Point people to Jesus.

d.) Refrain from using "Christianese"

e.) Keep it short or concise

f.) Be available after the conversation

g.) Live it out---walk it out---take it seriously!

"Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good." Romans 12:9

*"Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, **abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles (the unsaved)**, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of their visitation." I Peter 2:11-12 (NKJV)*

*"...but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, **it would be better for him to have a heavy millstone hung around his neck**, and to be drowned in the depth of the sea." Matthew 18:6 (NASB)*

h.) Commit to pray daily for the lost and for opportunities to share the Gospel

"Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not lose heart or give up." Luke 18:1

"Those who sow in tears shall reap with joyful shouting. He who goes to and fro weeping---with heavy hearts---today, carrying his bag of seed, will indeed come again with great shouts of joy tomorrow, bringing his harvest with him!" Psalm 126:5-6

"Prayer is crucial in evangelism: Only God can change the heart of someone who is in rebellion against Him. No matter how logical our arguments or how fervent our appeals, our words will accomplish nothing unless God's Spirit prepares the way." ---Billy Graham

Never allow the devil to lie to you and tell you that you can't share the Gospel with others!

Answer Key:

III. The Biblical Formula for Global Evangelism

Multiplier

$$HP + CP + CC = MI$$

1. High Potency

2. Close Proximity

Friends

3. Clear Communication