

REKINDLING THE FIRE OF EVANGELISM

MODELS OF EVANGELISM/ HINDRANCES TO EVANGELISM



Dr. William R. Glaze
Bethany Baptist Church
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MODELS OF EVANGELISM

“To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some” (1 Cor. 9:22).

Paul is saying that for the sake of sharing Christ, he learned how to relate to others by understanding where they were at and identifying with them accordingly. In other words, he recognized the interests and activities of others, tried to attain knowledge about it and then became relatable to them in order to share the Gospel.

Relationship Evangelism

Every believer is in a home, school, neighborhood or place of employment and in these settings come into contact with many people. As friendships and relationships are established, opportunities arise to share the Gospel with others. **Biblical Example:** Andrew bringing Peter to Christ (Jn. 1:35-42).

Evangelistic Invitations

These are invitations to unbelievers to events where they can find Jesus. These are invitations to weekly worship services, Christmas programs, Resurrection (Easter) programs, concerts, plays or any event where the Gospel is being shared. **Biblical Example:** The four men who tore the roof off the house so their friend could see Jesus (Mk. 2:1-5)

Home Evangelistic Outreaches

One low-key but effective method of evangelism is to have an outreach in the home. This can be a dinner, desert, games or even a Bible study where the host shares his/her testimony or some other presentation of the Gospel. **Biblical Example:** Martha and Mary invited others to their home to hear Jesus teach (Lk. 10:38-42).

The Shock Approach

The other methods of evangelism might be considered soft approaches and presentations. They quietly expose the non-Christian to the Gospel in a way that the soul-winner can tactfully follow up by asking a series of open-ended questions. In hard-hitting evangelism the evangelist directly confronts the lost person with the Gospel message. This type of evangelism is bold and direct. **Biblical Example:** Paul sharing his testimony with Agrippa (Acts 26:1-32).

Media

This can be a powerful and unintimidating way to share the Gospel. There is Biblical information written on just about every problem that both Christians and non-Christians face. When looking for Divine Opportunities to share the Gospel with unbelievers the Lord may open

up the door for witnessing through their problems. A wise believer will be familiar with resources by solid Christian authors and speakers. You can find information on addictions, marriage, singleness, sickness, finances etc. Make sure you pick something that edifies Christ and gives a clear presentation of the Gospel. **Biblical Example:** Philip used media to lead the Ethiopian Eunuch to Christ (Acts 8:26-40).

- CD's
- DVD's
- Books
- Tracts

FIVE HINDRANCES TO EVANGELISM

Every obstacle to evangelism falls under one of five categories:

Ignorance.

Many saints don't witness to non-believers because they don't know how to share their faith.

Fear.

"It is common to have some apprehension concerning sharing your faith, but being so fearful that you refuse to obey the Lord in this area is sin. Many Christians fear it so much that they put the thought of witnessing out of their minds. But what is it that believer's fear? Listed below are three key things that stir up fear in the hearts of God's people when it comes to evangelism:

- Fear of not witnessing the right way.
- Fear of being rejected or ridiculed.
- Fear of offending an unbeliever.

Indifference.

A sad but true reality is that many believers have a nonchalant attitude towards personal evangelism. We get excited when our favorite sports team is playing on TV or we get upset when someone takes our seat in church but we are not moved with compassion for the lost.

Sin.

A sage of the past once remarked, "Sin will keep you from the Bible and the Bible will keep you from sin." The first part of that statement is true in reference to evangelism—sin will keep you from soul-winning. There are many sins that can be a hindrance to evangelism—laziness, worldliness, procrastination, busy-ness and personal sins.

Discouragement.

Some have tried to share their faith and have been met with opposition, became discouraged and have given up on it.