

Sharing the Gospel

What is the Gospel?

It is the good news of Jesus. We are no longer separated from God and can have a relationship with Him because Jesus was willing to die on the cross for our sins. If we put our faith in Jesus then we will be saved.

- God so loved the world that He gave His only Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. John 3:16
- I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith." Romans 1:16-17

The Need for the Gospel

- 7% of the population is evangelicals. (2005)
- Only one-third of Americans understand the "Gospel".
- 86% of all adults in the US can't describe the "Great Commission".
- More than half of all adults (54%) believe that if a person is generally good, or does enough good things for others during their life, they will earn a place in Heaven. (2005)
- There has been a 92% increase in the number of unchurched Americans in the last thirteen years. In 1991 there were 39 million unchurched Americans compared with 75 million currently. (2004)
- Nearly half (43%) of all Americans who accept Jesus Christ as their Savior do so before reaching the age of 13. (2004)
- Two out of three born again Christians (64%) accept Jesus Christ as their Savior before their 18th birthday. (2004)
- "There does not seem to be revival taking place in America. Whether that is measured by church attendance, born again status, or theological purity, the statistics simply do not reflect a surge of any noticeable proportions." *George Barna*

Called to Share the Gospel

"Witnessing is listed as a divine job description of every single believer no matter our talents or spiritual gifts." from *Voices of the Faithful* by Beth Moore

- Matthew 28:18-20
- 2 Corinthians 5:14-21
- 1 Peter 2:9-10
- 1 Peter 3:15

Excuses for Not Sharing the Gospel with Others

- Fear of rejection
- Fear of not knowing enough
- Fear of offending a friend or relative
- Fear of being ridiculed or persecuted

Effectively Sharing the Gospel with Others

“Learning to share Jesus with others is more about learning to trust and obey God than it is about learning the right methods or skills.” from *Sharing Jesus Without Fear* by Fay and Bennett

- Be in a growing Relationship with God-
 - a. Your heart will change to be more like God’s heart- Matthew 9:35-38; Luke 5:31-32, 13:34, 15:7, 19:10; 1 Timothy 1:15-17, 2:3-6; 2 Peter 3:9; Titus 2:11
 - b. If you are personally witnessing God’s activity in your life, then you will have something to share with others- Acts 10, Acts 16:25-34, Acts 22:1-21
 - c. Witness (martyrs)- one who has information or knowledge of something; hence, one who can give information, bring to light, or confirm something
- Acknowledge that God will provide us the Power-
 - a. Witnessing does not have to come naturally, it comes supernaturally- Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 1:8, Zechariah 4:6
 - b. God is the one who draws men to Himself- John 6:44, John 16:7-11, 1 Corinthians 3:5-8
- Remember God is with you, do not be afraid- Joshua 1:9, Luke 12:11-12, 2 Timothy 1:7
- Pray-
 - a. For yourself to be aware of and to make the most of opportunities to share your faith
 - b. For you to love the lost around you
 - c. For salvation of non-Christians
- Say something...Ask Questions...Listen...Turn the conversation into spiritual thought
- Speak God’s Words-
 - a. You do not have to be an eloquent speaker- 1 Corinthians 2:1-5
 - b. God’s Word will accomplish it’s purpose- Isaiah 55:11
 - c. Share evangelical scriptures- John 3:16, John 14:6, Romans 3:23, Romans 5:8, Romans 6:23, Romans 8:9-10, Romans 10:13, Ephesians 2:8-9, 1 John 1:8-10
- Realize that it is a process
- Can use different “tools” like your testimony, tracts, evangelism questions, evangecube, salvation bracelets