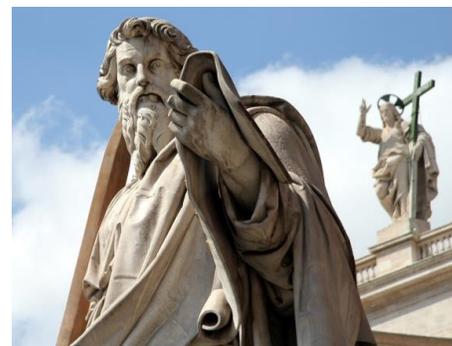
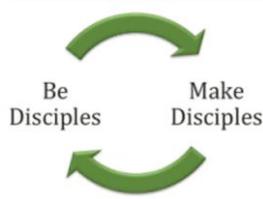
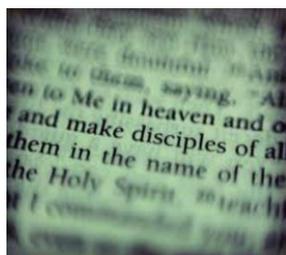


What Made Paul Such a Great Evangelist?



When we think about great evangelists, we immediately think about the Apostle Paul. Paul spent his life preaching and teaching the saving message of the gospel. He preached to his countrymen, to Gentiles, to royalty, and to the common man. How did Paul develop such a drive to seek and save the lost?

1. His past life: Paul's past life helped mold him into the great evangelist that he became. He was educated in the law and had a zeal toward God as a member of Pharisees. When he was called by the Lord and taught by Ananias his education and zeal immediately worked in his favor for his new cause...the cause of Jesus Christ. Our past lives could be a motivating factor to help us become great evangelists for the Lord. Many of us were zealous for other things in our past lives and we can use that same zeal for the cause of Christ as Paul did. If Paul, who persecuted Christians, could turn his zeal and knowledge around, we can do the same.

2. His love for his countrymen: Paul expressed his concern for his brethren by saying, "That I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsman according to the flesh" (Rom. 9:3). Paul wanted his brethren in the flesh to be saved so desperately that he would have been willing to be cut off from Christ himself. Of course Paul could not do that, but it shows the intense concern he had for his brethren. Our love for our countrymen should help us develop into great evangelists as well. Love for our "countrymen" should start in our own homes. We should want to see everyone in our immediate family go to heaven, and if we could be cut off from Christ for them, we should possess the concern that we would be. Since we cannot do that, it would behoove us to teach our family members everything they need to know so we all can enter the joys of heaven. We should also have a love for people and a concern for their soul as well.

3. His respect for the gospel: Paul understood the message he was preaching did not originate with him or with any other human source. He attributed the gospel he preached to Jesus Christ. He said, "I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of

me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ" (Gal. 1:11-12). Since Paul knew this message was of divine origin, he proclaimed it to as many people as he could. He held the gospel in high regard because he knew it had the ability and capability to save man. When we possess a high regard for the gospel, we too, can become great evangelist. So many believe the gospel is not adequate to save man, so additional things have to be added to the gospel. It is powerful enough and capable enough to transform the vilest of hearts if we would respect it and teach it like Paul did.

Paul used his past life, the love of his countrymen, and respect for the gospel to develop into a great evangelist. May God help each of us to develop into great evangelists and evangelizers as we develop those aspects of our lives as Paul did. —K.A. Pugh

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ENERGIZED
ABOUT
EVANGELIZM!**

