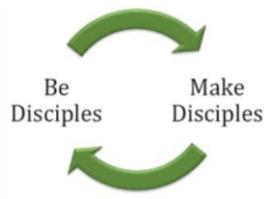
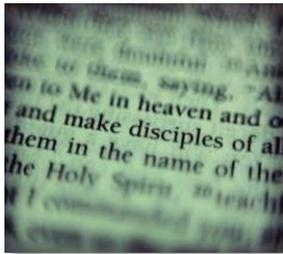


# THE EVANGELISTIC ENERGIZER

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 51

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## Evangelism (continues)



**LET'S GET  
ENERGIZED  
ABOUT  
EVANGELIZM!**



**Plan for Evangelism** God has a plan for reaching the lost and bringing them to Christ. This plan calls for preaching and teaching the gospel. “No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me.” ([John 6:44-45](#))



In this passage Jesus tells us that those who are taught the gospel and make a personal application of it to their lives come to Him. Similarly Paul said, “faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” ([Romans 10:17](#)). God’s plan to save mankind involves His children going out and teaching the gospel to the lost. God has given each of us a Great Commission to do that very thing.

The command to spread the gospel applies to all Christians – not just “paid” ministers. Notice the context of [Matthew 28:19-20](#) “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.” The apostles were given the command to teach the gospel and thereby convert people to Christ. They were also to continue teaching those converts to “observe all things” (verse 20) that He had commanded them. One of those commands was to “teach all nations”, (verse 19). It should be plain to see from this passage that if those converted were to “observe [Defined by Thayer: “to attend to carefully, take care of”] all things” which Christ had commanded them – then they were to carry on the work of the apostles in teaching / preaching the Gospel. The Bible teaches that we must “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.” ([Mark 16:15](#)). It has been well said, “Go ye means go me!” Every Christian needs to realize that they must take part in the Great Commission.

### Purpose In Evangelism

The primary purpose in evangelism is to persuade men. Persuade them of what? First, they need to be persuaded of truth of God’s Word. Jesus said, “And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” ([John 8:32](#)) He also said, “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth” ([John 17:17](#)). Once a person believes in the truth of God’s Word, they are ready to begin making a personal application of it. Second, they need to be persuaded of the fact that they are in need of salvation. “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God” ([Romans 3:23](#)). Along with this, they need to understand the consequences of their sins. “For the wages of sin is death” ([Romans 6:23](#)) and the remedy for that sin.

Helping Christians to Energize Their Focus on “THE MAIN THING”

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How do we persuade them? Teach them about heaven and the promise of Jesus, “Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.” (John 14:1-4)

Teach them about the terror of the Lord, “Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men...” (2 Corinthians 5:11) Lovingly warn them of coming judgment when God, “in



flaming fire” will take “vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ” (2 Thess.1:8) Teach them about the love of Christ, “For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.” (2 Cor. 5:14-15)

The purpose in preaching or evangelism is to prepare souls (including our own) for the coming Day of Judgment. “I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.” (2 Tim. 4:1-2)

What must we teach the lost? The Word. “For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” (Hebrews 4:12)

When do we teach the lost? When do we evangelize? Paul told Timothy to “be instant”, to be always ready to seize an opportunity to lead others to Christ. Peter adds, “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.” (1 Peter 3:15)

Under what circumstances should we practice evangelism? Paul said, “In season, out of season.” In other words, no matter what the circumstance we may find ourselves in we can use that opportunity for evangelism.

In what manner should we conduct ourselves with regard to evangelism? 1 Tim. 4:2 reads, “with all longsuffering...” Longsuffering implies that we have to have patience, endurance, and perseverance when we study the God’s Word with an individual. Along with teaching “with all longsuffering”, we must remember that we are to be, “speaking the truth in love” (Eph. 4:15). Love for the lost has to be our motivation for evangelism and we must help them in a loving manner.

Also we must teach them “with all longsuffering and doctrine.” This does not mean that we must teach a person everything there is to know about the Bible before they can be converted. However, it does imply that we must teach them God’s entire plan of salvation. We cannot leave out any part of God’s plan.

## Power In Evangelism

The Power for evangelism is found in the Word. “For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.” (1 Corinthians 1:18) In this verse, the word translated “preaching” is the Greek word logos, which is a noun meaning speech or word. In other words, the “word of the cross”, the gospel message of salvation “is the power of God.” Romans 1:16 reads, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.” The Gospel is God’s power in saving men. The word “power” comes from the Greek word dunamis, from which we get words such as: dynamo, dynamic and dynamite. In other words, the gospel, or so it can be said, is dynamite! Jesus said of the church and by implication, the gospel, that “the gates

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Godly sorrow leads to repentance. “For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.” (2 Corinthians 7:10). Repentance leads to obedience. Obedience leads to confession, baptism and pure Christian living. This is the only response that will lead one into the promised land of Heaven. This is the ultimate goal of evangelism – to help others get to heaven. The Devil knows he is bound for an eternity in hell and out of his hatred and spite for God and man he desires to take as many with him as he can. On the other hand, faithful Christians are those who are bound for an eternity in heaven and out of their great love for God and their fellow men desire to take as many of them to heaven with them as they can.

## **evangelism is not a dirty word.**

### **Conclusion**

Evangelism is God’s plan for drawing a lost and dying world to Christ so that through Him, they can have the hope of eternal life. It is by teaching the gospel that each individual Christian can and must be involved in God’s great plan for saving man. We involve ourselves in

evangelism first and foremost because we love God and appreciate all that He has done for us and because we love our fellow man and want for each of them to share God’s eternity with us. We reach out to the lost because someone reached out to us when we were lost. We strive to evangelize with the understanding that the purpose for evangelism is to save our fellow men from sin. With God’s help and His all sufficient and powerful Gospel we know that His Word, which we spread, will not return to Him void (Isaiah 55:11). It is my hope that each of us will become more and more involved in personal evangelism; that through our efforts many people will be drawn to Christ. Let us each be more diligent in searching for and “sowing” to those who have an “honest and good heart” (Luke 8:15) who will hear and receive the gospel. Let us learn not to be afraid of how some will receive our attempts at evangelism and find comfort in the knowledge that it is not the messenger, but the message which saves. We each must trust in God to give the increase after we have planted and after we or another has watered.

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