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("Christianity in *Nutshell!*")

**See also: How To Have the Best Life (on YouTube)**

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Please note this web site is a *work-in-progress*, and if you catch any un-edited errors, you will *bless* us to inform us of such through our “Contact Us” email connection.

## AN OPEN LETTER TO ALL CHRISTIANS

### ONLY 5% OF AMERICAN CHRISTIANS EVER SHARE THE GOSPEL WITH ANYONE!

God commands His Church to tell *every* person about eternal life in Jesus Christ, yet we sit idly by watching the world *literally* go to Hell. In all our efforts to *encourage* and *train* Christians to tell people about salvation, the 5% statistic has remained constant for 30 years.

### THIS CONDITION CANNOT CONTINUE!

What are the ramifications of our sinful apathy, weak timidity and non-urgent lack of love for the lost? Millions, up to BILLIONS may not enter heaven who *otherwise might have*, with all the negative consequences this fact entails. The *number* depends on how long we let this condition CONTINUE. (See: Jude 1:7, 13, II Pet. 2:4, Mt. 8:12, 10:28, Lk. 16:23-24, Mk. 9:42-48, Rev. 20:10, 14-15, etc.)

### DO YOU CARE, CHRISTIAN?

Tragically there seems to be a **CONSPIRACY OF SILENCE** with **Pastors** to not address this *scourge* of evangelismlessness very *often* or very *aggressively*. So long as our new and **beautiful buildings**, social and **entertainment activities** and often **undisclosed salaries** are *paid for*, there's an almost *unspoken agreement* that no exhortation, reproof, motivation or accountability for **personal growth** in Christ or **evangelism** will EVER befall the layman. At best, maybe a sermon on evangelism, with *no follow-up* to see if *change* was affected.

**We Have the GREATEST LIFE AVAILABLE, Yet We Don't ENSURE that Christians Learn How to Daily Live it or Regularly Tell it so Lost People Can Get in on it.**

### HOW SELFISH!

God says to *leave* the church building and **go and tell** His message to ALL, yet laymen are asked to "befriend" people in order to EVENTUALLY invite them to come and hear at church. How do we justify *passing the buck* and *pushing the burden* of evangelism on the professional? (Eph. 4:12) What about the billions who will never attend church? Do they miss the chance to go to heaven because YOU are lazy? Are lost people viewed as potential tithers (religious business "customers") OR people who need Jesus Christ, wherever the Spirit leads them to attend? (I Cor. 9:17-24)

### GO TELL THEM, CHRISTIAN!

Missions Strategists say we need 40,000 additional missionary nationals to **complete** the Great Commission in the *least-evangelized* area of the world known as "the 10/40 Window," at a cost of **ONLY \$375 annually from EACH American church**. That figure is a PITTANCE in our affluent society, no matter the condition of our economy!

- ◆ Have you ever been told these figures from the pulpit?
  - ◆ Does your church staff have a plan to **AT LEAST ensure** that EVERY lost person within 3 miles of their building has *heard the Gospel* in the next 2 years (or less)?
    - ◆ **WHY NOT?**

**WAS JESUS JOKING, OR ASKING THE IMPOSSIBLE** when His *last words* commanded us to take His 'Good News' to every soul? (Mt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:15)
- ◆ Christ could come back at any time,
  - ◆ People die unexpectedly, 'prematurely' and daily all the time,

♦ And HUGE numbers need to be reached, so...

We can only be **URGENT** in **COMPLETING** the Great Commission!

**P.S.:** If God were to give the *world* ONE (last?) **chance** to **HEAR the Gospel**, would He lead it to be done...

- **Urgently** or *slowly*?
- **Directly** or *indirectly*?
- **Fully acted upon** or over-*analyzed* and over-*planned*?
- Using ALL believers or just *some*?
- Reaching ALL lost people, or just *some*? (Ex.: Mt. 21:34)

PLEASE SEE **WillYouLiveForever.org** for a PRACTICAL PLAN

to get the job done unto every human being

**AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE!**



## **A WORD TO ALL OTHERS**

Finally, for those **most tragically** affected by the Church's continued apathy;  
To every person who is **uncertain** whether you will go to heaven when you die...

**Please forgive us** for not *caring* enough to regularly and repeatedly tell you:

**PRAY TO RECEIVE JESUS FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF ALL YOUR SINS!**

Pray and ask God to forgive all of your sins and make you a new person through the loving, **free gift** of *eternal life* Christ offers and accomplished by His death on the cross. (**See:** Rom. 5:8, 3:23, 6:23, Heb. 9:27, Jn. 3:16, 36, 1:12, 14:6, Ac. 4:12, I Cor. 15:4-8a, I Jn. 5:11-13)



**Have You Decided to TRUST JESUS for Eternal Salvation**, or Do You Have Questions,  
Comments, or Do You, Christian, Desire to Learn More About How and Why to Evangelize?

Please contact us through our "Contact Us" section.

God bless you! Sincerely,

--James E. Meroney (M.Div., J.D., M.B.A.) Eph. 5:25-30, Gal. 4:16

**P.S.:** Christian Lay Person: if your **Pastor and Staff Members** are not lovingly holding you accountable, under *grace*, to have a **daily Quiet Time** (i.e., *prayer* and Bible *meditation*), and have never asked you to go out sharing the Gospel, possibly with them (as *role models*), **SHAME ON THEM**, and ask them why they have not and **when** they plan to begin! **That's NOT inspired 'leadership,'** no matter how 'successful' our businesses of "church" (and building programs) may appear to men! (Eph. 4:10-16, I Pet.

5:1-4). They cannot argue these ministries are not in their **biblical job description**, as they are *clearly expressed* in a “**PASTORAL epistle**”—II Tim. 1:13, 2:2, 24, 4:5.

## **A WORD TO PASTORS**

Pastor: **Do you know the spiritual condition of every ‘of age’ lost person within a mile or so of your church building?**

*No other church is as responsible* before God for evangelizing those people, and no one is *more* responsible for your church reaching them than *yourself* (**I Pet. 5:1-3; Eph. 4:13-16**). How can the body of Christ KNOW it has completed the Great Commission unless every pastor can answer this question, and chooses to evangelistically ‘adopt’ their part of the *unreached* world (Ex.: the 10-40 window)? Let me know if I can help (contact info on our web site).

Please consider the following priorities, and assess whether your pastoral practice mirrors God’s model:

### **PRIORITIZED PASTOR PLEDGE**

- Knowing that the Great Commission is literal—to a person—and I must do my part, and
- Knowing people die ‘prematurely’ and unexpectedly every day, and
- Knowing that Christ could come back at any time, I pledge to:

\_\_\_ **Ensure that every lost person ‘of age’ within \_\_\_ blocks of my church hears an empowered, loving, accurate Gospel presentation from someone in my church in the next 2 to 3 years.**

**ANY METHOD CAN BE USED, BUT DOCUMENT THAT YOU HAVE *OBJECTIVELY* REACHED EVERYONE**

- Knowing that, on average, only 13% of American Christians regularly read their Bible, I pledge to:

\_\_\_ **Discover how many members (or what percentage) have a *daily quiet time***, by methods like:

- a) Heads bowed, eyes closed worship service hand raising.
- b) Same method for Bible Fellowship/’ Sunday School.’
- c) Having maturer believers ask their friends of their Bible reading habit.
- d) Taking a statistically accurate anonymous church poll, and,

\_\_\_ Commit to changing that 13% statistic by **ensuring that I start a church-wide “relational discipleship” program**, pouring life into others and training them to do the same (as Jesus and Paul did and taught), further described at [www.WillYouLiveForever.org](http://www.WillYouLiveForever.org)). It will include, among other things, a mentor regularly contacting and teaching another to develop a 30 day quiet time habit.

- Knowing that only 5% of American Christians, on average, ever tell the Gospel to anyone in their lifetime, I pledge to:

\_\_\_ **Discover how many members (or what percentage) ever evangelize**, by methods like:

- a) Heads bowed, eyes closed worship service hand raising.
- b) Same method for Bible Fellowship/’ Sunday School.’
- c) Having maturer believers ask their friends of their personal evangelism habit.
- d) Taking a statistically accurate anonymous church poll, and,

\_\_\_ Commit to changing that 5% statistic by ensuring that I **start a church-wide “multiplication evangelism” program**, having evangelistic members ask others to join them in observing evangelism in practice, till they have the courage to emulate them,

starting with staff, deacons, Bible Fellowship on down.

\_\_\_ If I need the assistance of any evangelists, I will seek them out, and I will consider *cooperating* with other churches—even inter-denominationally—*without fighting over* converts as potential “tithers.”

I understand, before God, that it is consistent with His nature to give mankind **at least one last chance** and warning before He institutes judgment, and **I will at least do MY CHURCH’S PART** of that global threshing, locally, state-wide, nationally and internationally (Ex.: Ac. 1:8).

Before God, prayerfully signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## WEB SITE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

For the busy Christian who needs this web site **summarized** to its most important truths, the following is offered:

### Important Issues Addresses.

Dr. Pepper used to have a slogan of drinking their product at **10, 2-and 4**. In America, the deplorable statistics are that...

**5%** of Christians *ever* tell the Gospel to one person in their lifetime,

**10%** of Christians are committed to Christ, and

**13%** of Christians regularly read their Bible.

- God offers solutions to all this **5-10-13 problem** (which is the exact opposite of His will), and the reader would be advised to know and read the following if short on time:
- Evangelism is **not hard**—all you must know, at a minimum, is **John 3:16**. If you understand it, you can tell someone the Gospel.
- The consequences of our lack of evangelism is that **millions and up to billions** might go to hell who *otherwise* might have *properly* responded (and *their blood will be on our hands*).
- Proof that even “pastors” are to do evangelism is found in *II Tim. 4:5, 1:6-8*—part of a “**pastoral**” epistle. Leaders are to lead by example, and the American tradition of primarily preaching *sermons* is **not nearly** all their biblical job description.
- Proof that EVERY Christian is to evangelize, even if it’s not their *spiritual gift* is found in *Ac. 8:2, 4, 10:19*. These Jerusalem church **laymen** were **ALL** evangelizing, and not one ‘leader’ was among them. It took **persecution** to bring this about, as it may take in America *today*.

### Important Questions Answered.

1. Why don’t we evangelize more?  
**Sin**—pure and simple. Timidity and fear—The ultimate **selfishness** and **hatred** of mankind;  
**Read:** Excuses for Not Evangelizing
2. How do we get more Christians evangelizing?  
**Disciple them!** *Immature* believers will hardly speak for God. Get them in a *regular Quiet Time* habit, and  
**Read:** Why Evangelize?, On Hell, and The 18 Most Important Discipleship Subjects.
3. Is there any false theology going around hindering our completion of the Great Commission?  
Yes,  
**Read:** What Evangelism is Not.
4. What is an effective plan for an individual to start a habit of evangelizing?  
**Read:** Personal Evangelism Plan.

**See also:** How To Have the Best Life (on YouTube)

## THE SPIRITUAL STATE OF THE AMERICAN CHURCH

**PASTORS:** PLEASE SKIP THIS SECTION UNTIL AFTER YOU HAVE *READ* THE FREE BOOK.  
HOPEFULLY AFTER THAT, YOU WON’T EVEN *NEED* TO RE-VISIT THIS SECTION.

For details of MANY *first-hand* experiences with *several* pastors—some quite famous—which form the **background** for these *constructive criticisms*, see our upcoming **YouTube video** (Search “Church Conflicts” or “James Meroney”).

### **The Heart of Our PRIORITIES Problem:**

**EVANGELISM.** Pastor, **DO YOU KNOW THE SPIRITUAL CONDITION OF EVERY SOUL LIVING WITHIN 3 MILES OF YOUR CHURCH?** Do you have a plan to change that *this* year?  
**See:** A Local Church Plan for Evangelism

**DISCIPLESHIP.** Have you ever Tried **TO DISCIPLE AS MANY CHURCH MEMBERS AS POSSIBLE THE WAY JESUS DID WITH THE 11** (i.e., intimately, personally, intensely and lovingly ‘pouring your life into’ people, so they’ll do the same with others, including grace-based *accountability* to ensure growth and a daily walk with God)? If **THIS IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE METHOD, why haven’t (or won’t) you?** **See:** Relational Discipleship

**“BODY LIFE.”** If Christ said **THE WORLD WILL KNOW US BY OUR LOVE**, yet “church” is too often strangers seated near each other as **spectators** watching the *professionals* (vs. interacting, knowing and lovingly relating to each other), and if the Bible’s **“one another” commands** are not a joke or myth, **WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO TO IMPLEMENT THEM IN YOUR MAIN WORSHIP SERVICE?** **See:** Body Life

### **INTRODUCTION**

Due to the rise in mega churches, great architectural church buildings, increased church attendance, modernization of worship services, and church expenses and salaries being paid, MANY American pastors have been lulled into a false sense of contentment—resting on our laurels while **the world goes to hell**. Consider some of the following questions, and assess whether we could be guilty of having the same *moral* and *spiritual self-delusion* problems of the Laodicean Church of Rev. 3:

**Please Note:** While I am **FULLY AWARE** there are **MANY great things** the Church of America is doing, don’t let these successes **blind you** to **MAJOR issues** going virtually unaddressed.

[Ex.: Specific credit is given for doing some evangelism, interesting, eloquent, preaching-oriented sermons (not *balanced* with teaching expositorially), professional, great modern music, telescreens vs. only hymnals, casual dress vs. only robes and suits, more modernized church architecture, increased political involvement and some social ministry activities (especially among the more liberal denominations)]

### **SPECIFIC ISSUES**

#### **Zealous Commitment**

Why are so many American Christians so **luke-warm** about Jesus Christ? Where is our **zeal**? Is *eternity in heaven* that boring and insignificant?

According to II Chron. 7:14 (by *analogy*), and apart from the prophesied sin increase in the ‘last days,’ the recent **moral decay of our country** can be laid directly at the feet of **un-prioritized Protestant pastors** who have been in ministry over *three years* (who should know better).

Why are *truly committed* Christians considered extremists? Has God—or the devil—warned us to not be ‘too heavenly-minded to be any earthly good?’ (Col. 3:1-4 and Ecc. 7:16-17)

Why do so few believers regularly meet with God (i.e., Quiet Time”), praying and **reading His word**? Is *unrestricted, 24/7 direct access* to the God of the universe that uninteresting? Meeting with God only at church is like a long distance relationship with your wife, or having a *chaperone* on your honeymoon or a mediator between husband and wife ( I Jn. 2:27).

How are most American Christians *different* from moral lost people? Why are so many American believers **lovers of money** (and *entertainment*)?

Many if not most U.S. Christians have a **cultural morality** where they compare their righteousness to their peers—lost *or* saved—and what is socially *normal*, in a Politically-Correct environment. If you need a “litmus test” of the spirituality of many church-goers, talk to them about **Bible verses** they know, **evangelism**, and *Quiet Time*. Your conversation may quickly end, but at least you have taken the *pulse* and seen if there is **any** temperature in the Body. (Rev. 3:15-19)

U.S. Christians **predominantly aspire to** a status *God* says gets **FEW** into heaven—*riches*.

Why do so many Americans adopt the “work hard, play hard” motto, and omit the “**minister hard**” third (and MOST IMPORTANT) element?

If you are a believer, **why don’t you do much** for God? Are you ungrateful? What is your ministry or service to God (Him *through* you, of course)?

### **Discipleship**

Contrary to popular opinion, Christianity is NOT *being nice*, going to church regularly and “tithing” (i.e., “Churchianity”). That is a MYTH (containing only *partial* truths), predominantly accepted. It is a **daily relationship** directly with God, the *outgrowth* of which is your desire to meet with other believers to worship in public.

*Since when* is **Christianity** a 2 hour a week event, as opposed to 24/7 living and walking with and **knowing** God, exhibiting His *power* and *character* and regularly *telling* people about salvation?

Between **mentoring, coaching, apprenticeship, foster parenting or adopting a child**—as contrasted with someone giving a child a 40 minute speech once a week—which approach would better build them into the **adults** you want your children to become? Then why do pastors consistently stick with primarily ‘discipling’ through **sermons**?

### **Mega Churches**

If Christ returned, NOT visibly in the clouds but humbly, as before, would He stand any chance of meeting with or being identified by head pastors of mega churches, who often require an **act of Congress** to make them know their membership or meet with new church members?

Relatedly, the first 2 churches *were* mega churches, but **if your church is too big** for you to know and care about your members (i.e., personally and individually), you are **morally too big**, because you cannot properly manage God's *entrusted* people.

People obviously like what mega churches are doing. Does God? As I rhetorically asked in 1996 at Dallas Seminary, **could you start a mega church** if the *pastor's expectations* of his members were that they had a daily Quiet Time, regularly evangelized, were filled and led by the Holy Spirit 24/7, knew Bible doctrine and practiced the "one anothers" of Scripture among themselves while gathered?

Many mega church pastors have a mental illness which teaches to DO "evangelism" in other areas they must start *fund raising* and *building programs* to **franchise** new locations of their church. Biblically diagnosed, it's called a '**love of money.**'

**How were the 11 apostles able to 'turn the world upside down'  
with the Gospel and never build one building?**

Mega church pastors follow the **Hollywood model** ("if you build it they will come") rather than God's model of *evangelizing, then gathering* the converts into a church. The money spent on franchised campuses could **really be used for evangelism** if it went to hire evangelists (but that's only an *incidental* purpose used to sell *expansionism*). If you're doing the *highest* priorities, have as many campuses as you like (but reveal and cap your salary, to prove you're qualified to serve—(I Tim. 3:3; Tit. 1:7)

American pastors do a **pretty good job** with preaching, music, offerings and announcements. They do a much worse job of teaching (Ex.: expository), discipling, prayer, evangelism, body life and social ministry (especially helping the poor).

Many mega church pastors are **profits**—not prophets.

Pastors 'tithing' to their **own** church are self-serving. Pastors 'tithing' to *others'* ministries—especially to evangelists—are **heroes**.

Why is it that mega churches seem to always crop up in the **richest neighborhoods** in our country? One such church, where they solicited myself to interview for an Evangelism Minister position, bragged "we serve in the richest zip code in America." Many American churches are *rich* by being '**blessed**' by the devil, and some are just like the church of **Laodicea** despite their external, human "*success*." (Rev. 3). Beautiful buildings, packed pews, secure salaries, and abundant amenities are *not* necessarily '**success**.'

Laymen: Require an accounting of your pastor's work schedule. Sermon prep is important (I Tim. 5:17-18), but evangelizing, discipling and Quiet Time are *even more* important. (Ac. 6:4, etc.) Quit financially rewarding them so well just because you see crowds and nice buildings! (Ex.: Mt. 24:1-2)

### **Seeker-Sensitive Churches**

If the Bible teaches that **no one seeks after God**, how do so many churches follow a “seeker sensitive” philosophy, which often **warps** what Church is *supposed* to be in order to “attract” spiritually **dead** people to a *supposedly* spiritually **alive** place? (Rom. 3:11)

### Carnality

Why are our “Sunday School” classes so cliquish, why does it take **years** to befriend new members (and why do THEY have to initiate the relationship-building)? Is that the “**love**” and pace God is pleased with? Why require them to attend more and more *extracurricular* events just to *know* those few in their Bible Fellowship class?

How is it not **hypocrisy** to be “evangelical” yet never evangelistic?

How is it not **hypocrisy** to believe in the Bible yet never *personally read* it? Why not just **burn** or **rip up** your Bible if it’s only a church clothing accessory to you? Isn’t the book God wrote *just for you* large enough for you to still need to study, or have you mastered its 31,102 verses?

**10%** of Christians are committed, yet most say God is *number one* in their life. Their righteousness, evangelism and daily ingestion of the Bible *believe* the claim, like saying you love your wife, your best friend, when you met her in a bar once and can *hardly pick her out* of a photo line-up.

If you’re too busy for God, you’re ***morally too busy***, and He may choose to be too busy for you. Don’t you *waste* 10 minutes a day you could have spent getting to know your Creator?

If you never **memorize** or **meditate** on *God’s word*, how do you expect to become more Christ-like? Don’t think that hearing a sermon—the contents of which you can’t remember 2 days later—is going to do the trick! *You’re not a spiritual camel* who can survive all week off a 45 minute lesson, sometimes watered down with **fluff**, when Christ said “man cannot *live* by bread alone, but by *every* word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.”

### Doctrine

Why has the majority of the church blindly accepted the works-based “**Lordship Salvation**” heresy (of the 1980’s) whose prime advocate himself presents salvation as analogous to **army enlistment**, which is both free to join but extremely costly to commit to? Are we so *blind* that we can’t see that **you can’t solve the carnality in church problem (a sin) with a sin (false doctrine)**, but only through *prayer-backed* discipling?

When did God change His revealed requirements for discipleship to merely requiring **willingness** to fulfill it’s demands, and not actual *follow-through* on such a commitment? Doesn’t the **parable of the two sons** itself prove that God honors *implementing* decisions—not just saying you’ll do something, and later changing your mind? If so, Lordship salvation does teach a **lifetime of works** in order to be saved and in order to ever have any assurance of salvation.

Why have so many jumped on the bandwagon of piling on against the *true* doctrine of **Saviorhood Salvation** as being “**cheap grace, easy believism, intellectual assent, eternal fire insurance, notches on one’s spiritual belt and a false Gospel**” (terms and misrepresentations the devil whispered into the ears of naïve, self-proclaimed “Christians”).

## Evangelism

**America is now a foreign mission field** to third world countries we had cultivated as foreign mission fields last century. Smaller countries are sending missionaries to witness to *Americans*. What is it they see in us that we don't see in ourselves? **A lack of evangelism and need for salvation.**

Have we become the prophesied “**ear tickler**” generation, who never ‘steps on toes’ or ‘offends’ anyone for any **MAJOR moral issues**? **Why do we get more angry** at someone reproving us for our only 5% who ever evangelize rather than our **anger being at the 95%** of Christians who don't give a darn about lost peoples' eternity? Are those 95% showing love and selflessness?

If you don't like my ‘methods’ or ‘tone,’ **YOU change the 5%** who ever evangelize one person in their lifetime (God, of course, doing it through you)! Why doesn't that 5% statistic stir up YOUR spirit to righteous indignation? Could you suffer from the *indifference* of a hardened heart?

When was the heavenly memo sent that Christians should abandon any Bible verses on reproof, correction and rebuke, in favor of whole-heartedly embracing our culture's **Positive Mental Attitude** and **Political Correctness idols**? In light of *large* and *prevalent* church problems, the 5% statistic of evangelizers remaining constant for 30 years, our society's increase in sin (likely a prophetic sign of the times), and many mega church pastors avoiding top priorities if such could **threaten their church growth opportunities**, how can one be very positive or overly optimistic, as is required by our culture?

If you can **prove** Jesus will **not** return for a long time, or that **everyone has heard** the Gospel, I'll change my methods and tone, and adopt the *apathetic* and *slow-paced* attitude most American Christians have today!

You think I'm judgmental? **Have you ever read** of God leading imperfect men to reprove His people for **MAJOR** sins, and **warn** them of impending judgment for such evils as **ignoring the plight of un-evangelized lost people**?

**Why do so few** American Christians ever tell anyone the Gospel? Is the Gospel untrue or unimportant, or has EVERYONE heard enough times that we can **quit** and feel comfortable?

Do you know of **one church** who knows the spiritual condition of *every* soul within a mile of their building—the “field” and “sphere” they're most responsible before God for? Any church **more serious about men's salvation** than just growing their business would have a map of their local sphere of influence to ensure they reached them all (Ex.: neighborhood photo—Aerial Focus Maps, 214.866.0700, or actual government mailing route street addresses with owners listed). **Anything short of this** proves you're practicing a hit-or-miss *random* approach.

If Pepsi executives were trying to get their drink to every person on earth, and launched a multi-billion dollar campaign to do so, but never tracked how many customers they had **before** and **after** that initiative (or patted themselves on the back for having ‘*many*’ customers), they'd be **FIRE**D. Only *personal* evangelism—**human communication**—can ensure *all* were reached.

Anecdotally, when's the last time anyone asked you about your eternal salvation and destiny?

**Tens of millions** of lost people in America are *waiting* to hear from Christians. Our silence is deafening.

If the truth of hell hasn't made you evangelistic, you **haven't considered it** long enough.

We've got all eternity to *fellowship* and *worship* God—we **only have NOW to evangelize.** This is not to say don't worship or enjoy koinonia, but keep perspective of what's most needed and '*relevant*' to lost people (and God's concern for them) in this life.

### **Relationship Evangelism**

*Biblical* evangelism is bold, urgent, loving and direct. When did that standard change in favor of a **timid**, "natural," *subtle*, **non-urgent** and non-comprehensive method?

Since when has **making friends** with people and **being 'nice'** toward them been biblically equated with practicing evangelism (which is defined as **speaking the Gospel** with lost people)?

*Relationship Evangelism* is a declared work slow-down on *completing* the Great Commission, not orchestrated by God and **nowhere** clearly taught in His word (and we have Mr. Aldrich's "monumental" Lifestyle Evangelism work—which theologized this heresy—to blame).

Sadly, the "relationship evangelism" movement (started in the early 1980's) has *socially shamed* or *ostracized* direct evangelizers into the back rooms, where they are hardly united, vocal, and some have seemingly retired from evangelizing for fear of being different (from the carnal norm) or considered either *old-fashioned* or *stupid*, as 'everyone now knows' such practice is **"confrontational," "ineffective," only for the 10% sales personalities or not needed** in countries where the Gospel has gained a stronghold (all LIES of the **devil**, propagated by so-called "Christian" so-called "leaders").

Where in the Bible does it tell you to **entertain** and try to "**attract**" the world to your building, instead of leaving church to TELL THEM the Gospel? They only possess a dead, sinful spirit/nature, and a mature church should be almost a **polar opposite** of the losts' natural interests!

Does the Bible require a lost person to **attend a religious building** as a requirement for salvation? If a lost person near your church is not 'attracted' to your *events*, should he have no right to **hear how to avoid hell**?

Have you ever heard the 5% evangelize statistic in a **sermon**, or that only **\$375 per American church**, annually, would **complete** the Great Commission in the least-evangelized part of the world? Who's **withholding these facts** (and why?), and who's "expertise" are you relying on?

### **"Church Growth"**

Why are so many American churches **preoccupied** with numeric growth, and raising *money* for **building programs**? Keeping up with the Jones'? Are modern ministers **co-laborers** or competitors? When any church refuses to read what God says a church is to be, and instead relies on what tradition or their neighboring or competitor churches are doing, they *cease to*

*please God* for the sake of pleasing their human membership to keep paying customers returning (i.e., the church-as-a-business model).

The Great Commission has been eclipsed and re-defined by the ‘Church Growth’ mantra, keeping laymen biblically **dumbed-down** (vs. *discipled*) and inviting people to church (vs. evangelizing) to support an “**attraction**” theory supposedly based on *culture* (vs. Christ), because laymen like America’s definition of “success” (vs. God’s—Josh. 1:8), as do pastors (**fame, fortune and keeping up with the competitor Jones--and Osteens**, because they’re too lazy to tent make, if *needed*).

Why have so many pastors accepted the ‘Church is a business’ lie, and targeted people as church customers they are **in competition** with other *pastors* and *churches* to get? We are co-laborers!

Church growth teaching (including Saddleback) says worship services *targeted* to lost people should be “**relevant,**” when the Bible says to preach (and TEACH) the word—the **whole counsel of God** (Ac. 20:27). Spiritual things are foolish to the lost mind (I Cor. 1:18-25, 2:12-15), but if we change it, maybe they’ll like it, goes the theory. Customizing and **watering down** subject matter to the small percent of the Bible on relationships, family, parenting and career is an **equivalent sin** to the liberal denominations *de-mythologizing* the Bible by **denying** it’s miraculous parts. Both groups are guilty of *subtracting* from the word of God. (Rev. 22:18-19).

### **Demon-inationalism?**

Though sometimes helpful, and necessary, do you believe God is **pleased** with so many **denominations**—separated from other believers and never cooperatively working to **fulfill** the Great Commission (NOT EXCLUSIVELY PROMOTING ANY CHURCH in the process)?

Why have denominations abandoned engaged debate of doctrinal differences in favor of **autonomous business units** totally self-contained and *self-absorbed*, with little to no interaction with any other churches (or denominations) in the pursuit of *business growth*?

The **Church Growth Movement** of the 1980’s is to blame for fostering this trend toward defining success by the criteria of **bodies, bucks and buildings**. Other pastors refined this concept, advocating the church-as-a-business philosophy in the 1990’s. Jesus has already shown us how He treats God’s religious institutions being treated as a business (twice cleansing the temple), and it is this author’s opinion that **any church that is run as a business ought to be taxed as a business!** Only hirelings, Balaam-like false prophets and tares are in ministry for the *fame* and *fortune*!

Why have we **lay people** allowed our donations to be used to make millionaires out of man-deemed “*celebrity* pastors” who don’t do the highest priorities, give little to the poor, tithe only as a **reinvestment** in their own ministry?

### **Church Life (vs. ‘Body Life’)**

*Contemporary* or *Traditional*? Paper or Plastic? Does the **Bible** instruct us about what types of music we are to utilize, in church, or is it up to congregation opinion polls, **age group** demographics, personal preferences and what’s *popular*?

Is the Church in America more influencing our culture, or *vice versa*? Do we have any spiritual power anymore?

Consequently, why is our world so perverse, God-hating and increasingly wicked? Our culture has become “**politically correct**”—offend no one, take no stands, just **be nice** to all—and the Church often agrees with this ‘form of godliness’ which **denies God** and His power.

Is God really *pleased* with our throwing sermons at these problems, or simply offering courses that are available to those interested? If better solutions exist, why are you **content** with the **failed status quo** (unless comfortable with habits and **income levels** which **MEN** view as “successful?”—Gal. 1:10)

### Pastors

So long as *people keep coming* and *giving* (i.e., the budget’s met), the 5/10/13 problem is not my fault (i.e., blame the laity, though you’re their *leader*), as I do my job (i.e., traditional vs. *full* biblical) by *preaching* (i.e., *rarely* teaching, never relationally discipling), and our church does do evangelism (i.e., only *some*, un-thorough, sporadic and *disorganized*) is a **HORRIFIC** pastoral attitude of the *heart* every pastor should repent of.

Since when does 5% or less of your church members doing evangelistic activities justify claiming that your church is “**reaching the world for Jesus Christ**?” Even if a person faithfully attends church and “tithes,” **you cannot pay your way out of the obligation to evangelize** any more than people used to **buy indulgences** to cover their sins! Too many of our pastors suffer from a *myopic*, “**blinders-on**” mentality of exaggerating and blowing out of proportion what **IS** being accomplished in evangelism, and trying to excuse or make all others feel included, by attributing the efforts of the **few** to the **many**.

Pastor, just between and before you and God, are you more concerned with **growing your church’s** size, or with **completing the Great Commission**? This is a **heart matter** no one can outwardly detect with 100% accuracy—but God knows and sees.

Whether from *ignorance* of the problem or willful rebellion, **too many pastors** seem content that laymen are **not** evangelizing (95% never evangelizing) and **not** growing in Christ (90% uncommitted) so long as they are coming and giving (at church).

Since when has an evangelistic invitation at the end of a **church sermon** been the PRIMARY method for a church “reaching the world with the Gospel,” especially when the clergy is to **train** the laity to **do the work of ministry**? (Eph. 4)

**They won’t listen**, Lord. They don’t want to change church-as-a-business. They *negate* and *ignore* Your priorities, and anyone not in their system is *discounted* as an **evil** person or **extremist**. (Jer. 4:22; Judg. 17:6).

Dr. Jack Graham reports that the famed Chicago area Pastor **Bill Hybels** once admitted at a Conference that in *all his years of ministry and sermons*, he didn’t think he had really impacted his congregation’s lives very much. This *wouldn’t be the case* if pastors emulated **para church** evangelism and discipleship **methodologies** and *materials*.

If pastors are leaders, and the **three most neglected** priorities of the Church are evangelism, discipleship and “body life,” are we really leading, earning our pay checks, or “successful” (no matter how many luke-warm people warm our benches (i.e., pews) and pay for our salaries and beautiful buildings!)?

These things take faith. No one is promising every church member will be willing to evangelize, be committed to Christ and be discipled, but no church will increase in these priorities if the pastors don’t mature them up (i.e., discipleship). Has any U.S. Pastor **not been disillusioned** by his *experience* where he is a **practicing atheist** regarding what God’s word says? When Christ returns, will He find faith on earth, even among Pastors? returns?

One tried to discount this message by referencing a Minister who taught on parenting yet had no children (i.e., academic idealism by someone who has **never** experienced or **done it**), but he was SILENT when I told him that, humbly, **I have done or experienced** all these priorities as an Associate Pastor or independent Minister, except the two only a Head Pastor can do—implementing Body Life and the 3 mile plan **church-wide**—and I’m willing (and have submitted resumes) to be hired to do even those activities as a Pastor.

Another Pastor said if you bring in the people from these ministries, Pastors will take note. I and *many others* have evangelized and discipled **numbers**, but, as usual, **Pastors are always looking to increase their membership and budget numbers** as priority one, and they could care less what God wants them to do as higher priorities, despite Matthew 6:33 saying to do the first things first, and God will bless you

Why are para-church organizations **far superior** to God’s institution—the Church—in the important ministries of **evangelism** and **discipleship**?

*Since when* has the Bible taught that Christians should **politically associate only** with parties opposed to **abortion** and the **gay** lifestyle, but support greed, riches and ignoring the plight of the **poor**? The Bible teaches that government is not to favor the rich *or* poor.

Is it only religious nut cases who are **morally offended** and **righteously indignant** that for **30 years** only **5%** of believers ever share the Gospel with anyone? Doesn’t the **eternal destiny** of people we are supposed to love and care about MATTER?

Isn’t the **reality of hell** enough to get us off our duffs to **make a plan** to reach everyone at least ONCE (research says it takes up to 7 times before positive responses are expected), also known as *faithfully* and *literally* **COMPLETING the Great Commission**?

*Pastor*, quit ALLOWING only 5% of your members to be evangelistic, by doing more—**ALL you can**—to change it, **SOON!** **Prioritize** and commit to these objectives.

Do you **care**?

Am I just **spitting** in the wind?

Is there any **godly pastor** who ever ponders these problems, make **plans** and takes **ACTION** to try to solve them? If so, I’D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Our COUNTRY is becoming more and more a fulfillment of these verses:

- When the Son of man returns, will He find *faith* on the earth?
- “most people’s love will grow *cold*.”

- “in the latter days, *difficult times* will come.”
- The *luke-warm* church described in Rev. 3.

We say we want “**revival.**” Pray, yes. But **DO** the things that put you in a position to most likely receive the answer to that prayer. **Quit ignoring** evangelism, discipleship and “body life!”

With so much **biblical ignorance** abounding among laymen, no wonder pastoral **inaction** on these matters is **accepted** and hardly even noticed! The laity is trusting the clergy to teach them what **God’s word** says—including on evangelism, discipleship and “body life”—but that clergy’s seminary training doesn’t address these matters often, nor do their ministry peers **do them** much. **How do you expect things will change** without a grass roots movement of *Biblically-informed* and *committed* believers?

In short, God’s people in America are deceived about *shallow* preaching (without teaching—I Tim, 5:17), exclusively contemporary music (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16), tithing, Lordship salvation, church growth over priorities, seeker church (Rom. 3:11), attraction theory and relationship evangelism—*essentially most* practices occurring every Sunday (and some wonder why we have or otherwise ignore the results—our 5/10/13 problem... 5% of American Christians ever evangelize, only 10% are committed and only 13% regularly read the Bible). Dumbed-down sermons maintain this condition (II Tim. 4:3-4), so pastors can **pursue bigger pay checks** (and the laity FEELS so good after their one hour a week with God after professionals perform).

If you are willing to **do your part** to change these maladies, and want encouragement and education on what you can do, please contact us through this web site’s “Contact Us” box!

--Jim Meroney

## **EDB Ministries** (i.e., Evangelism, Discipleship and Body Life Ministries)

**P.S.—Feel free to get involved an any of the following message-promoting activities:**

### **MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

What could you do for *evangelism* that is **BIG**? Pray about it, and for one thing, use all contacts and marketing savvy you possess to get this web site *well-known*, *well-read* and *well-implemented*. A few other suggestions include:

- **#1:** Participate in the “Five Plus” Ministry, detailed below.
- Fund a New York Times weekend back page ad of our Open Letter
- Contact us for any letters used to stimulate a local church to action
- Email any materials on this website to any and all pastors you know
- Use the author’s resume attached on this site to apply for any Evangelism Minister or Pastor position (as it instructs church leaders what they should do, even if it is rejected)
- Call into Christian radio programs and exhort them according to principles on this site
- Email pastors and believers in other countries, to spread the word globally
- Leave comments on Christian blogs that exhort these principles
- Legally use auto-dial voicemails to reach believers with exhortation to evangelize

- Use email chain letters (if you're into that sort of thing) to promote the message
- Forward emails to your own friendship circles and Facebook or Twitter accounts
- Create your own website, and attach a link forwarding readers to this site (no funds will ever be solicited, but for the 'giving' button my webmaster created on the subject)
- Drop off door hangers when people are sleeping (for maximum efficiency)—don't get shot!
- Place evangelistic business cards on cars in parking lots (VistaPrint.com is very inexpensive)
- Meet with or email your church staff on these matters
- Put evangelism exhortation business cards on church parking lot cars
- Salesmen—leave a gospel tract or business card as you leave a business

#### SUMMARY:

**Do whatever you can and are willing to do to promote—and DO—evangelism!**

**P.S.S.**—Lest you think this author is TOO negative and sees zero good in the American Protestant church, if you want to meet genuine godly Christians who live the life, and whose fellowship I have cherished through the years, **my thanks go out to** my following fellowship friends I *wish* you had the privilege of meeting—Dr. John Bisagno, Rev. Don Anderson, Judge Paul Pressler, David Strawn, Jason Bessire (who introduced me to my like-minded webmaster, Steve McCraney), Rev. Tom Eckman, Chad Uretsky and Tom Richardson. Though distance may separate us, my fellowship with each of these individuals **far surpasses** any activities of Churchianity with which I have been a part.

Why am I so *hard* on the Protestant Church, and not liberals or Catholics, whose official beliefs often stray further from the Bible? Because if the Church **won't do the priorities** she's called to—especially reaching the lost with the Gospel—**WHO ELSE IS THERE?**

**What's worse**—a church being *strongly exhorted* into doing the right things, or not reaching all the lost in their community? You can try positive motivation on churches—especially mega churches—but **human-defined success**, once achieved, often both blinds and hardens many of them to the truth. **See also:** Biblical Evidence for a Prophetic Voice

#### **“Five Plus” Ministry**

**Organization:** Layman-driven, voluntary, non- and not-for profit, not for fame and no “leader” but Christ. Name derives from the 5% who ever evangelize, plus others who will increase that percentage.

**Purpose:** Obedience to the Great Commission (completing the 3-mile plan **one time**, then *spreading the news* of that success world-wide).

**Workers:** Only unpaid laymen, and any like-minded pastors or evangelists (for no wages).

**Duties Thereafter:** Use any and all moral methods to get pastors on-board, ultimately without our help, and to encourage laymen to evangelize. Spread the organization around the world for global evangelism completion, and raise funds for paying 1040 window indigenous evangelists (\$15,000 a year) to complete the task there.

**Symbol:** A stone with a 5+ in red on it, connected to a sling shot with a cross on it, symbolizing the David vs. Goliath challenge of completing this task with only 5%, the plus indicating we hope for more to join us (as we pray and enlist).

**Targets:** Evangelism Explosion, Campus Crusade, Evangelists, (~Navigators?), etc.

**Denominations:** Inter-denominational, but first target Baptist, Bible Church and charismatic (as most likely to cooperate)

**Policy:** Humble submission to your church leaders in your private life, to no one in this organization, and never to any command to not be part of this mission.

**Beliefs:** The Bible. Traditional mainstream doctrines.

**Methods:** Any method that gets you in conversation with a lost person about Jesus Christ, and can objectively document results for a completed field.

**Activities:** \*\*\**Never let organization activities reduce your existing evangelism efforts!*\*\*\*

- a) Salesmen visit churches to talk to pastors about the Prioritized Pastor Pledge
- b) Email the Prioritized Pastor Pledge Packet
- c) Place a Prioritized Pastor Pledge on a church's door the night before church services
- d) Take Gospel Signs to churches
- e) Leave organization web site business cards on church cars
- f) Organize a world event
- g) Billboard campaign
- h) Airplane streamer campaign

**Later:** To expand the 5%...

- i) Evangelism motivation seminars (Ex.: You Tube video)
- j) Evangelism training of laymen
- k) Take pastors evangelizing
- l) Etc.

**Vision Materials:** 3-Mile Plan ([www.WillYouLiveForever.org](http://www.WillYouLiveForever.org))

**Funding:** Evangelism costs no one anything but time and effort. Any activities which cost money will be funded by soliciting any and all donors sympathetic to the cause (whether they participate, or not). Ex.: Incorporation, web site, billboards, materials, airplane streamers, etc.

### **5+ Billboard Campaign**

It does not bring me joy to *have* to do this, but I assure you it is **needed** though undesired. If anyone will **fund the following billboard slogans, I will take all the heat** and *never* reveal your name (if you want privacy). Some may argue this is '*airing the family's dirty laundry*,' but I have dealt with pastors over 25 years and they keep these exhortations **a secret** from their members, to maintain their public "image."

Every billboard will reference this web site, to ensure *no one else receives the fall out*. We *could* use some billboards to tell the Gospel, but **the great need** is reaching Christian laymen and pastors to exert *godly pressure* on them to start **implementing** a 3-mile plan.

It would be *ideal* to have a donor **build a billboard** that consecutively *computer-generated* all these statements every few seconds, but it would need to be vandalism-, bullet- and fire-proof. I assure you the attention this would bring to the cause of Christ would be *worth the investment* (and you could use it for your business afterwards).

## **EVANGELISM**

### **Warning the Lost**

If no "Christian" has asked you where you will spend eternity recently, ask them why they don't love you.

You may never have another Christian tell you the Gospel again at their current pace, so pray to receive Jesus for the forgiveness of all your sins. (John 3:16).

You will go to hell if you never hear the message 95% of the Church is too scared to tell you.

If you know a Christian, ask him what he is supposed to say to you.

To go to heaven, pray to receive Jesus for the forgiveness of all your sins. (John 3:16).

Pray to receive Jesus for the forgiveness of all your sins  
(or there will be literal 'hell to pay'—John 3:16).

Many American Christians will be paupers in heaven (though it's better than the alternative).

If a doctor found the cure to cancer and kept it to himself,  
you'd feel about him the same way you should feel about 95% of American Christians.

God nowhere requires anyone to go to church in order to learn how to go to heaven,  
but most churches do. Pray to receive Jesus for the forgiveness of all your sins. (John 3:16)

Forgive us, world, for presenting Jesus as a real estate-craving business called "church,"  
when He stood for just the opposite. (Jn. 2:13-16; Mt. 24:1-2)

Our BUSINESS model does not call for us to tell the Gospel to every lost person nearest the  
church—to literally fulfill the Great Commission in our 'Jerusalem.' --The American Church

You're being eternally duped by churches who treat you like everything's alright.

Never talk about religion or politics and live a shallow and hell-bound life.

### **The 5%**

5% of Christians ever evangelize. If you're one of them, Please contact us so we can organize  
to complete one zip code or town, to show the other 95% it can and needs to be done.

### **The Problem**

95% of Christians will do anything but tell you the Gospel—  
the only thing they can do for you that helps eternally.

God requires His people to tell you how to avoid hell and go to heaven  
but 95% of them are disobedient.

The evangelistic laziness of the church will cause the eternal destruction of many unreached people.

95% of U.S. Christians are scared to tell you how to go to heaven,  
and for fear they'll offend you they'll "lovingly" let you go to hell.

How can "good" people let other humans go to hell untold and un-warned?

95% of American Christians are hypocrites on needed job one.

95% of American Christians are unwise. (Pv. 11::30)

95% of American Christians are bad with God.

95% of Christians fail to address the most important issue of life.

5% of Christians ever tell anyone about Christ, and the buck stops with pastors.

Disciple your church members. (I Pet. 5:1-3; Eph. 4:10-13)

Nike knows more about biblical evangelism than many pastors and 95% of Christians—'just do it.'

Christian: Evangelize! They go to hell if you don't, and their blood is on your hands.  
(Eze. 3:18; Ac. 20:26)

Pastors hate this web site, because it TELLS THE TRUTH—www.WillYouLiveForever.org

God will judge His people for their lack of evangelism. (Heb.10:30)

The American Church is spiritually fiddling while Rome (eternally) burns.

Christians' apathy will ultimately cause there to be hell to pay for those they were to reach.

Nice buildings, suits, dresses and a smile for an hour a week cannot disguise the fact that 95% of Christians demonstrate hatred for the lost by their never evangelizing.

The Gospel: The greatest message never told (by 95% of American Christians).

God bless the evangelists. Support them like your eternal life depended on it.

Some Jews repented at John the Baptist's preaching.

Will ANY church implement thorough evangelism of everyone near their church?

Judgment is needed by every church refusing to evangelize every lost soul near their church in the next 2-3 years.

I would go on a hunger strike to get ONE American church to reach all the lost in their area with the Gospel, but Someone has already died on a cross for that purpose. Church: do your job!

In Acts one man spoke and 5,000 got saved. In America, it often takes 5,000 church members just to see one saved. (paraphrase of the late **W.A. Criswell**)

God requires no one to go to church to hear how to go to heaven.

That's religious business marketing—not the Bible.

The Bible teaches Christians to leave their building and tell people the Gospel.

Modern church requires the otherwise hell-bound to be "attracted" to their church.

How did Christ's apostles turn the world upside down without jump houses, guest celebrities, cookouts, face painting and other church amenities?

Fulfilling the Great Commission does not require one building to be built!

Denominations—a barrier the devil uses to keep Christians from uniting (despite important differences) to do the Great Commission.

If your mind isn't worldly, you'll think about evangelizing often, Christian and pastor.

If there was a spiritual battle and 95% of Christians were unaware of it, the devil would win.

500 U.S. mega churches completely ignored a recent call to fully evangelize their neighborhoods.

If the world really was coming to an end, and those who knew never told you, what would you think of them?

### **No Plan**

If God gave mankind only one last warning before judgment, the Church is too disorganized or disinterested to ensure you would all hear the Gospel one last time.

Christians have the most disorganized lack of a plan to ensure they have completed the Great Commission, and no pastor even seems to notice there's a problem.

### **Relationship Evangelism**

Many Christians try to serve you, befriend you or invite you to church, with a noble hidden agenda—to eventually tell you the Gospel. You cannot afford that time wasted staying spiritually lost.

Christians trying to become your friend ‘for Jesus’  
are just too scared to tell you how to go to heaven today.

Timid Christians lacking power are trying to “befriend” you to eventually tell you the Gospel. You can’t afford those wasted days outside of life in Christ and facing judgment if you die before then!

Has any church not bought into the Great Commission work slow down known as “relationship evangelism?” They don’t believe the Gospel is God’s power, without emotional bonding.

If a Christian does good toward you so he can tell you the Gospel,  
he is afraid the message itself is not God’s power unto salvation.

‘Relationship evangelism’ sounds biblical, but only masks our fear to speak the Gospel to strangers and hides pastors’ ulterior motive to recruit paying church members more than seeing people saved.

The Bible doesn’t excuse Christians from evangelizing based on not having a salesman personality, but preachers allow their members to disobey God with this excuse.

God never required Christians to have a salesman personality—  
only to speak the Gospel to lost people.

No Christian’s lifestyle is ever so good you can learn how to go to heaven by watching their deeds.

## AMERICAN CHURCH LIFE

### Evangelism

God does not require you to seek out how to go to heaven, but 95% of His Church sinfully does.

If the church nearest you hasn’t asked where you will spend eternity, ask them, why the hatred?

Every church needs to tell the Gospel to every needy person near their building,  
but few ever will.

Pastors knowingly and church members more ignorantly are complicit  
in not doing their top priorities—ever.

Any church not doing “Evangelism, Disciples-making, Body Life and Social ministry to the poor”  
is corrupt at heart and will likely be judged soon.

Pastors are guilty of professional negligence not knowing the spiritual condition  
of everyone within walking distance of their church.

A farmer is incompetent if he only harvests a few corn stalks in his field. Pastors: evangelize!

Most churches are corrupt in meeting YOUR number one need.

The Church will never know if they have completed the Great Commission  
with their current practice and pace.

Accessibility of the Gospel is not acceptance of the Gospel.  
Leave your church and go evangelize, pastors!

God: We knowingly choose not to fulfill the Great Commission. –**the Church**

We never thought about our immediate neighbors needing to hear the Gospel. –**the Church**

Para church organizations run circles around the church in evangelism and discipleship—the same type circles as happened at Jericho.

If one church would complete the Great Commission near their building, others may or may not follow suit, but we'd be one step closer to experiencing revival.

### **Hirelings or Pastors?**

Has any pastor in your area ever told you the Gospel?  
How can they require you to visit their building to hear the message of life?

Pastors are getting away with *worse* than murder  
not reaching all in their vicinity with the Gospel.

Have you ever seen a pastor do any ministry outside his building  
that couldn't bring in more paying customers?

Why won't churches tell you the Gospel outside their building?  
They want you as paying customers. God wants you saved. (John 3:16)

Any pastor who will not evangelize all the lost near their church ASAP  
is on record as being guilty before God.

How can any true minister not reach every lost person near their church?  
False prophets are in ministry for the money. Follow the money and deeds—not the words.

Being a pastor is not just running the business and preaching a sermon. Do evangelism, discipleship,  
Body Life and social ministry (especially helping the poor)! Duh 101

Is any pastor—like Paul—innocent of the blood of all men—  
just in their own neighborhood? (Ac. 20:26)

Get out of your cloistered office and go evangelize during the week, pastor.

Only pastors with egos refuse to leave their cloistered comfort zones to tell their neighbors  
how to go to heaven—and NOT just those who have visited, who are potential paying customers.

Does any pastor believe if you simply obey God and evangelize all the needy near your building—  
not wondering whether or how they can become paying church members—He will bless you?

If there is any pastor in America who is willing to reach every lost person near their building,  
and needs help, please contact us.

If any pastor has fully evangelized all people near their church, please give me a call.

Any pastor viewing another pastor as co-mpetition vs. co-laborers for Christ is co-rrupt.

A pastor has no more claim to your money than an evangelist without a church building, and who's  
doing more to get people into heaven instead of getting the heaven-bound entertained and educated?

Someone full-time winning souls is much more valuable than someone just preaching sermons to the  
saints. "Tithe" to evangelists! Quit giving them the leftovers after million dollar building programs.

Pastors have a false monopoly on Christians' "tithe,"  
when evangelists and disciple-makers do a much more important job.

Selfish Christians only fund their church. Selfless Christians fund evangelists.

The information on this web site gets buried and hidden by pastors, when confronted,

for fear the truth will hurt their business.

### American Church

The rapture may come soon primarily to end the deplorable condition of God's people, the Church.

The Church in Acts impacted its culture. Today's church is too often ignored, as mere impotent, self-contained business units on street corners.

Church may be boring, but God isn't. Learn to separate the two.

If you go to church and see their buildings, you'll never see that 10% are committed, 13% read the Bible regularly and only 5% ever evangelize one person.

Going to church, sitting and "tithing" is not New Testament Christianity, but "Churchianity."

Christianity is not a spectator sport you go to a building 1 hour a week for to watch professionals earn their keep.

Give me amenities, luxuries, entertainment and a comfortably good feeling at church, and to hell with those who to hell will go is far too often the statement of the American Christian's behavior.

A Christian only relying on sermons for their ingestion of the Bible is like having a human mediator between them and God, when you have 24/7 direct access.

A Christian only getting Bible intake at church is like having a chaperone on your honeymoon. You have direct 24/7 access to God—use it.

Churchianity is a sermon, music and giving money. Christianity is far more!  
The Church prays for revival, but never fulfills its other 3 requirements. (II Chron. 7:14, by analogy).

Laodicea was the winning National Spelling Bee word in 2010, and aptly describes many U.S. churches.

Only Bible-ignorant apathetic laymen content with crowds, buildings and a good 1 hour at church a week would allow un-prioritized pastors to continue to flourish. You are part of the problem!

### Church-as-a-Business

It is a mental illness—otherwise known as the love of money—to believe you must construct a building in order to complete the Great Commission.

Churches run like a business should be taxed like a business.

Church-as-a-business sees members as paying customers, and Jesus turned the tables on such an attitude.

Mega church pastors: Reveal your total compensation and cap your salary if you're really not in it for the money.

Many mega church pastors need to quit using our non-profit laws to line their pockets!

It's sad how otherwise intelligent-seeming people can be duped to pay for buildings to expand churches, believing that is required for evangelism.

Churches waste billions of dollars on themselves, when only \$375 per church could complete the Great Commission in the most needy part of the world (the '1040 Window').

With the rise of mega churches, the cries for 'revival' have waned. Perhaps all that was wanted is more paying church members.

Completing the Great Commission is not part of the “business plan” of church-as-a-business  
Jesus would turn the tables on were He here and inside them vs. knocking on their door. (Jn. 2:13-16)

Rev. 3:15-19 are ‘life verses’ of many mega churches.

### **Giving**

How can otherwise intelligent seeming people be duped into making pastors millionaires with earthly monuments to their egos, when building program money could win souls if we really cared?

A “tithe” is a Jewish tax pastors guilt you into to keep their buildings and salaries paid for.

Give as the Spirit leads, and learn how to be led, Christian.

Pastors claim a monopoly on Christians’ “tithes” and those doing the real work—Evangelists and disciple-makers—are left rummaging for crumbs and bi-vocationally working. God led this mess?

Fools make pastors millionaires thinking they’re giving to God!

Your pastor won’t tell you the New Testament teaches giving as the Spirit leads—  
not the Jewish national tax—the tithe.

### **Denominations**

(II Cor. 8:13-15)—Denominations and self-absorbed churches ignore this truth.

### **Prophecy**

If the world’s coming to an end, the Church won’t tell you and most don’t know it.

Jesus is coming soon and if you’re not ready, there will be hell to pay. To go to heaven,  
pray to receive Jesus for the forgiveness of all your sins. (John 3:16)

## **CARNALITY VS. COMMITMENT**

If America is going to hell in a hand basket it is primarily due to apathetic Christians  
who have a cultural morality and remain silent about the Gospel.

The devil rejoices at these statistics: 10% of Christians are committed,  
13% regularly read their Bible and only 5% ever tell the Gospel to anyone.

90% of U.S. Christians will be paupers in heaven—no evangelism, no zeal, no commitment.

10% of Christians are committed, and the other 90% face God’s disciplining.

Un-committed, un-zealous, un-evangelistic Christians are an oxy moron,  
yet the experience of the majority in America.

Is eternal life and direct access to God so mundane only 10% of Christians are committed?

Rip up your Bible if you don’t read it regularly, Christian.

Burn your Bible, Christian, if you don’t read it very often.

A Christian not regularly reading his Bible is like a human taking a meal once a week. It is our life’s  
blood, because ‘man cannot live by bread alone’ as spiritual camels drinking only at church.

If a Christian is no different from you—not zealous for God, never telling you about Jesus and never  
living out His Bible—ask him how he knows he’s saved and what that salvation means to him.

## 2. The Gospel

(A printable Tract I *PRAY* you'll *hand out* or *email* to MANY lost people!)

# THE GOSPEL (“Good News”)

(References from the New American Standard Version Bible)

## DO YOU KNOW FOR CERTAIN THAT YOU WILL GO TO HEAVEN WHEN YOU DIE?...

### 1. GOD’S PLAN: Good News... God Loves You, and has a Wonderful Plan for your Life!

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)

“The thief comes only to steal, and kill, and destroy; I came that they might have life, and might have it abundantly.” (John 10:10)

### 2. MAN’S PROBLEM: All People have Sinned—No One is Morally Perfect.



**If you have ever committed one sin, you are guilty before God as if you had committed all sins. Therefore, no one deserves to go to heaven and no one can work their way there.**

“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” (Rom. 3:23)

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me.” (John 14:6)

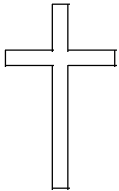
### 3. SIN’S PUNISHMENT: The Punishment for Sin is Physical and Eternal Death.



**Man not only dies bodily when this life is over, but his soul is eternally separated from God—in hell—without Christ.**

“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Rom. 6:23)

### 4. GOD’S PROVISION: God has Provided Jesus Christ as the Solution to Man’s Problem.



**Christ paid the punishment/penalty for all men’s sins by dying on the cross, and He is alive today, in heaven, having been resurrected from the dead.**

“Now I make known to you, brethren, the Gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.” (1 Cor. 15:1-4)

“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” (Rom. 5:8)

“And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12)

### 5. MAN’S RESPONSE: You can Receive Jesus Christ for the Forgiveness of All your Sins.



**By faith in God’s word, the Bible, you trust God to save you from your sins. You do this by praying to invite Jesus Christ to live in your heart (i.e., life).**

“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name.” (John 1:12)

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him, and will dine with him, and he with Me.” (Rev. 3:20)

Please Turn This Page Over and PRAY TO GOD FROM YOUR HEART...

**PRAYER EXAMPLE:** “Dear God, I admit that I am a **sinner** and that I cannot come to You based on any of my own goodness or works. Lord Jesus, **I believe** You died on the cross for my sins, were raised, and are *alive today*. **Please forgive me** for ALL my sins—past, present and future—and I ask you to **come into my life** right now and *make me a new creation*. God, **I believe** based on Your word, the Bible, that because I *now* have received Christ, **You have saved me**, and I will live with You eternally when I die. THANK YOU that I now have a personal, daily relationship with You and *Your Son*, Jesus Christ, and for *all that He did for me* on the cross, and gave me at salvation. In Jesus’ name, I pray. Amen.”



### **NOW WHAT?..**

**GOD’S PROMISE: Eternal life is yours! Now, you can live out being a citizen of heaven.** “And the witness is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, in order that you may know that you have eternal life.” (1 John 5:11-13, **See Also: John 3:36**)

### **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER BLESSINGS:**

You are now rightly related to God, and will be with Him for eternity in heaven. Therefore, you will want to get to **know God**, learn how to *please Him* and how to keep that relationship strong. The following SIX THINGS will be *crucial* for you to grow close to and more like God, to learn His plan for your life, and to obtain guidance from Him in the daily *decisions* of your life:

**A. PRAYER AND MEDITATION (“Daily Quiet Time”) (Col. 4:2).** You speak to God in Prayer. To develop a maturing relationship/friendship with Him, you should **daily meet with** and spend time with Him. Becoming **more Christ-like** *also* occurs by putting God’s word on your heart (i.e., memorization). **Meditation** is deep and prayerful contemplation on the truths of the Bible. Memorizing Scripture is a great *first step* toward getting God’s word deep in your heart, so you can *grow* in knowing His will (or plan) for your life.

**B. BIBLE STUDY (II Tim. 2:15).** God speaks to you through His word, the **Bible**. Bible study involves *reading, interpreting* and applying God’s word. There are many help books and *Commentaries* on the market to assist your study, and I would recommend you begin by reading the New Testament books of **John, I John and Romans**. Spend time in God’s word, and **God will reward your efforts**.

**C. CONFESSING YOUR PERSONAL TESTIMONY (I Tim. 6:12).** Tell a Christian person or members at a local church what happened to you *today*. They can *assist* you further, and doing so can further solidify your decision to receive Christ. You may want to re-read the other side of this page to be mentally *clear* about the spiritual **miracle** that *happened* inside you today.

**D. Water BAPTISM (Ac. 2:41).** You need to be baptized in a Bible-believing church, as this is the *first act of obedience*. Baptism publicly demonstrates to others your testimony about what happened internally at salvation (i.e., death, burial and resurrection to a new spiritual person).

**E. WORSHIPPING GOD (Heb. 10:25).** Regularly attend a Bible-believing church *fellowship*.

**F. EVANGELISM (Mk. 16:15).** Share the “Good News” so others can go to heaven too!

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, OR NEED PRAYER, PLEASE CALL YOUR NEAREST BIBLE-BELIEVING CHURCH  
**GOD BLESS YOU!**

**See Also:** Mt. 10:32-33; Jn. 4:23, Rom. 12:1-2, Phil. 3:3, I Tim. 6:12, etc.

### 3. Evangelism Defined

Evangelism is **NOT** an academic or theoretical subject. It can only be properly understood by **DOING**. Therefore, little time will be spent defining it. Evangelism comes from the Greek word for “*messenger*,” and is the same root word from which we derive our word, “angel.” From this we see that evangelism is proclaiming a message. Verbs used for it in the Bible *include preaching, announcing, teaching, speaking* and *telling*. It requires communicating words—words of the Gospel.

**Evangelism is lovingly and confidently/boldly speaking an accurate Gospel message to lost people in reliance on the power of the Holy Spirit.**

Nothing More, Nothing Less.

People uncomfortable with evangelizing, or those who have only hinted at the subject with lost people often hang their confidence on the verse about seed planters (‘sowers and reapers’). But even though people may not always say ‘yes’ when invited to receive Christ, only if the potential hearer *refuses to hear* the message has one engaged in evangelism *without actually speaking* the message of Christ. Don’t use your fear of speaking with lost people as some theological or holy attitude by abusing I Cor. 3:5-9 and Jn. 4:35-38.

Also, despite theological discussions to the contrary, **evangelism is an EVENT**—not a “process.” Yes,

- a) God prepares the hearer’s heart before you speak, and yes,
- b) you should pray over the experience and for that person, and yes,
- c) you do rely on the Holy Spirit to convict as you speak, but

Evangelism itself begins—simply and exclusively—when you introduce the subject of the Gospel to a lost person. This truth is not popular today, because people wants excuses for not obeying the Great Commission (that is, their *flesh* does).

Also, there is no particular **presentation** that is *required*, as long as the message presented is **fully biblical**. A very popular method I heard 2 local mega churches use (one which **copies** the other) is saying **the Gospel is as easy as ABC**—Admit you’re a sinner. **Believe** Christ died for your sins, and **Commit** to Christ (apparently adapted from Josh McDowell). This may be too simplistic, and the *commit* step can certainly lead to Lordship Salvation, but I understand people are wary of Evangelism Explosion’s overly-*academic* and lengthy presentation.

Finally, since research indicates it takes **7 Gospel presentations**, on average, for a person to positively *respond*, we *cannot* think our evangelism duty is complete after the whole world has heard the Gospel once (*if we ever even reach this minimum standard and if we want people saved*).

#### **WHAT EVANGELISM IS NOT**

(Popular False Doctrines About Evangelism)

In conversations with laymen over the years, its amazing how much *false doctrine* has been spread by spiritual ‘leaders’ on this subject, including the following commonly-held **myths** and **misconceptions**:

- a) Doing **good deeds**. These do, however, corroborate you believe what you say.
  - b) *Prayer walks*. You should pray before evangelizing, but until you leave the walk and speak the Gospel, you haven't evangelized.
  - c) Praying for the lost (despite DTS's President's book to the contrary).
  - d) Serving the lost ("servant evangelism"). The greatest way to serve men's needs is to speak the Gospel to them!
  - e) Being FOR (i.e., emotionally supporting) the Great Commission (absent DOING evangelism).
  - f) Giving to missions, though that validly allows *others* to DO evangelism.
  - g) Visiting church visitors (if no Gospel message is communicated).
  - h) Inviting lost people to church. You are aiding others doing evangelism by so doing, but you are not doing evangelism.
  - i) Inviting people to come hear an Evangelist speak the Gospel. Though this act validly assists evangelism, and is not wrong to do, you have not yet **done** evangelism.
  - j) **Telling lost people you are a "Christian,"** because that phrase is often misunderstood and does not tell them the Gospel. Cults think themselves "Christian," as with *non-born again Catholics*.
  - k) **"Planting" churches** (a very popular myth). In Acts, Christians won entire cities—at least their majority—and churches were the **result** of evangelism—not the aim/objective. Building buildings and loading them with existing believers is NOT evangelism, though resultant churches from your evangelism may be responsible to complete the 'mop up' campaign.
  - l) Relatedly, impacting or "reaching *people groups*." **Jesus did not die for people groups**, but people—individuals—and ALL of them. Just impacting a certain formerly-unreached culture group does NOTHING for any in that group who have **not heard** the word. They still go to hell.
  - m) **"As you're going evangelism" only**. Certainly one *should* evangelize as they live their lives, but many now teach that the Great Commission (in the Greek) tells us to only do so "as we're going," as if the first century was not out going to new cities to evangelize **purposefully/intentionally**. Teaching that denies these verses-- . Do evangelize in your live daily life, but also intentionally purpose and set out to do so, or you'll evangelize a lot less.
  - n) Building bridges into lives and waiting for "open doors." **Christ bridged the gap** between God and man and *we can add nothing to His work*. **See:** "Relationship Evangelism Errors" for the dangers of waiting to tell lost people the Gospel till you *know them well*. A Christian needs to assume (better, believe) God has been preparing hearts, be led by Him, and **assume doors are open** unless the hearer absolutely refuses to listen. You don't shove the Gospel down the throat of unwilling listeners, but nowhere in Scripture is it taught that you wait to hear something the other person says to mystically be a sign that it's time to evangelize them.
- Paul's reference to a 'wide door' (I Cor. 16:8-9) was referring to a general city-wide receptivity to the Gospel, absent outright *persecution* (for the time being) or enforced government *prohibitions*, and his reference to God opening a door in Col. 4:2-4 is speaking of **praying** before you evangelize so God might have them prepared and open their heart to respond. The context says pray before you go, in relation to their being an 'open door.'
- o) Having an **'I Am Second'** bumper sticker or billboard. **YOU** are not the message and you

are nothing (II Cor. 4:5, 12:11), even if you're famous! Even then, the proper biblical priorities are Jesus, Others, then Yourself. Salvation is letting Christ freely, eternally save you, and the Gospel is a cross, a sacrifice, forgiveness—not how humble you may be now that you're saved yet “famous” (at least to men).

- p) A billboard that merely refers people to a website that *does* evangelize them (Ex.: 800 Need Him or ForgiveThem.org). Nothing wrong with advertising those sites, but they could die and go to hell before accessing the Gospel on those sites. DFW had a billboard which read: ‘We’re all sinners and Jesus can save us.’ That’s *about as close* to the Gospel as I have ever seen on a billboard, yet even it *assumes* lost people understand the word “save,” and most importantly, **how** to be saved. Plus, we all started out sinners, but hopefully some of us are imperfect *saints* now.
- q) Giving your testimony. It can lead to a Gospel presentation, but in itself is simply explaining how you have experienced the benefits of the evangelism of others. Again, **you are not the message** (II Cor. 4:5)
- r) Offering **emotional healing** (Ex.: Jesus can heal your marriage). Christ died for our sins, and getting them all forgiven is the issue of salvation, and all people need this.
- s) Telling people to ‘*have a blessed day*,’ or hanging Christian memorabilia in your work office.
- t) Having a fish emblem on your car.
- u) Having a “Got Jesus?” bumper sticker on your car, or a jewelry cross around your neck.
- v) Even broadcasting the phrase, ‘**Jesus saves**,’ though true, does not inform a lost person of enough information to understand the Gospel.
- w) Having **secular celebrities** represent Christianity as our spokespersons (Ex.: Tony Dungy, as ‘*great*’ a man and coach as he may be). Evangelism is all Christians speaking about Jesus.

All these acts are **good**, but are not the same  
as speaking the message of the Gospel to lost people!

## 4. Great Commission *COMPLETION* Statistics

### YOU Do the Math:

*Figures change by the second and estimates vary.* Feel free to stay updated at [census.gov](http://census.gov), [uscwm.org](http://uscwm.org), [wholesomewords.org](http://wholesomewords.org) and [Barna.org](http://Barna.org), but at the time of *this* posting...

The world has approximately 6.5 billion inhabitants, *presently* (6,654,571,794).

And...

At most 2,173,183,400 claim to be Christians, though the figure is much less for those “born again” (the only type)—as low as **814,402,000** (the recorded number of Protestants and “Independents”). Then we must adjust upward for all born again Catholics, Orthodox and Anglicans “Christians.” Barna indicates only **10%** of American Christians are committed, according to Pastor Jack Graham.

And...

Historically **only 5%** of Christians *ever reach ONE SOUL* with the Gospel in their LIFETIME!

And...

Add to this calculation the fact that the global birthrate is 20/1000 population (who will eventually need to hear the Gospel) while the death rate is 9/1000, globally, and the number of people who *move into and out of* our churches’ ministry areas, and one can **only** honestly conclude that **THERE IS A LOT OF WORK FOR ALL CHRISTIANS TO DO!**

Then...

These figures lead me to approximate that the portion to be evangelized by EVERY Christian is between **42** and **111 each** (rounding the figures upward to the nearest digit).

## ARE YOU DOING YOUR PART ?

Don’t lost people *deserve* better, and  
doesn’t Christ’s suffering work on the cross deserve *more respect?*

The emphasis, here, is on EVERY Christian. There is no excuse for Christians to not evangelize regularly. You don’t want to, I know. We all have a sin nature. But you are all **called** to, and we all have a new nature (IF you are saved). The only conceivable Christian I can think of who might have an excuse to not evangelize is one stuck on a remote island by himself (who could spell **S.O.S.** and *JESUS*, with rocks, for flyovers) or a **sadly mute or deaf believer** (who even has sign language, technology, written communication, etc., to do the job with). In the final analysis, I can **really think of very few who have a legitimate excuse**. Trouble is, almost every Christian you know excuses this sin and can **salve their conscience** in ways you can’t imagine.

Enough with PROCRASTINATION. **Quit doing the devil’s will!** Go obey God in the areas of evangelism and personal moral growth (discipleship), or **quit looking and acting so nice and holy, dressed up for church for an hour a week!** God hates hypocrisy, just as, I fear, you’ll hate me if you *courageously* read this web site. God bless you anyway—**you’ll need that blessing and power to GO EVANGELIZE!**

Some of us in evangelism get accused of being so ‘*passionate*’ or ‘*excited*’ about the work we would ‘witness to a light poll.’ **Can we ever slow down and relax** on the subject? If **YOU** ever tell the Gospel to your **fair share** of people and your church reaches all lost people near their building (and does it’s part *internationally*), even though people take, on average, 7 presentations to respond positively, at least you could have *peace* that you have **done your minimum duty** to God. That would not excuse you from *needing to do more* and re-evangelizing, but at least your **deserved guilt** over being in the 95% and “not doing enough” (an ambiguous, guilt-ridden statement) would be ended. However, always do what God leads you to. He leads some—hopefully many (due to the tremendous need)—to do *much more* than their part, even as laymen. I’d be much more concerned with never evangelizing, that whether I had completed my responsibility in the matter.

## 5. Motivation

(A section whose contents I hope pastors will regularly use!)

### WHY EVANGELIZE?

#### Its Importance to God

1. The number one reason Christ came to this earth.
2. The last, dying words of Christ on this earth.
3. Clearly God's will for every Christian to **do**.

#### Its Importance to Mankind

1. People go to an eternal hell without Christ and learn how to receive Him exclusively through the Gospel—primarily through HUMAN evangelism.
2. How do we LOVE the lost if we care for other needs yet allow them to drift **unwarned** to an eternal *death* and *separation* from God?

#### Its Importance to Christians

1. Evangelism is *one ministry* for which Christians will receive rewards in heaven.
2. God blesses obedient lives, and one is not behaving obediently to **let the lost go un-evangelized**.

Christian martyrs *died* for the privilege of telling the Gospel, yet 95% of American 'Christians' remain silent their *entire* life! --**J. Meroney**

#### Consider:

- Have you ever heard of a **lottery winner** who wasn't excited about it?
- Has *any* expectant mother ever not told anyone the great news?
- If a seismologist knew a 9.8 earthquake was about to occur and *warned no one*, he'd **lose his job**. Same goes for a *Meteorologist* with Doppler showing an impending hurricane.
- What would you think of a scientist who discovered the cure for cancer and kept it *to himself*?
- If you saw *sheep* following their leader over a cliff, you'd probably **do something** to stop it.
- If a train full of hazardous materials overturned, the government would quickly go **door-to-door** to ensure the *safety* of everyone in the nearby area (and warn those choosing to remain *sheltered-in-place*).

### Evangelism Scriptures

“For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that **the world should be saved** through Him.” (Jn. 3:17)

The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and **he who is wise wins souls**. (Pv. 11:30)

Jesus said^ to them, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to accomplish His work. Do you not say, ‘There are yet four months, and then comes the harvest’? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes, and look on the fields, that they are **white for harvest**. Already he who reaps is receiving wages, and is **gathering fruit for life eternal**; that he who sows and he who reaps may *rejoice* together.” (Jn. 4:34-36)

“Do not work for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man shall give to you, for on Him the Father, even God, has set His seal.” (Jn. 6:27)

So then neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but **God** who *causes* the growth. Now he who plants and he who waters are one; but each **will receive his own reward** according to his own labor. (I Cor. 3:7-8)

“Everyone therefore who shall confess Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever shall deny Me before men, I will also deny him before My Father who is in heaven.” (Mt. 10:32-33)

And we proclaim Him, **admonishing** every man and **teaching** every man with all wisdom, that we may present every man complete in Christ. (Col. 1:28)

but just as we have been approved by God to be **entrusted** with the Gospel, so we **speak**, not as pleasing *men* but God, who examines our hearts. (I Th. 2:4)

When I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die’; and **you do not warn him** or speak out to warn the wicked from his wicked way that he may live, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity, but **his blood I will require at your hand**. (Eze. 3:18)

Therefore also we have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to be **pleasing** to Him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may be **recompensed** for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether **good or bad**. Therefore knowing the **fear of the Lord**, we **persuade men**, but we are made manifest to God; and I hope that we are made manifest also in your consciences. For **the love of Christ** controls us, having *concluded* this, that **one died for all**, therefore all died; and He died for all, that they who *live* should no longer live for themselves, **but for Him** who died and rose again on their behalf. Therefore from now on we recognize no man according to the flesh; even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer. (II Cor. 5:9-11, 14-17)

### **Fifty Reasons to Evangelize**

Most Christians **know** they should evangelize but so few ever do. Here are *fifty* reasons (with associated verses to look up and meditate on) which I **pray** the Lord will use to *inspire you to **get after it!*** IF YOU **EVER TAKE FIVE MINUTES** to consider the future destiny of lost people (Ex.: read Bible descriptions of *Hell*), **you’ll start TODAY!**

As with many things, such as riding a bike or learning basketball, **learn by doing** (or volunteer to go out with someone who has *experience*). Pray, and view any ‘*mistake*’ you might make as part of the learning process. Remember, **you only FAIL if you fail to try!** God will *lead* and *empower* you as you are obedient.

“If sinners be damned, at least let them leap to hell over our bodies. And if they will perish, let them perish with our arms about their knees, imploring them to stay. If hell must be filled, at least let it be filled in the teeth of our exertions, and let no one go there unwarned and un-prayed for.”  
-- **Charles Haddon Spurgeon**

“You cannot stop their dying, but, oh, that God might help you to stop their being damned! You cannot stop the breath from going out of their bodies,

but, oh, if the Gospel could but stop their souls from going down to destruction!”  
--**Charles Haddon Spurgeon**

“Do you want arguments for soul winning? Look up to heaven, and ask yourself how sinners can ever reach those harps of gold and learn that everlasting song, unless they have someone to tell them of Jesus, who is ‘mighty to save.’ But the best argument of all is to be found in the wounds of Jesus. You want to honor him, you desire to put many crowns upon his head, and this you can best do by winning souls for him. These are the spoils that he covets, these are the trophies for which he fights, these are the jewels that shall be his best adornment.” --**Charles Haddon Spurgeon**

1. Because God Loves All Men, Sent Christ to Die for All and Desires that None Perish.  
(**Jn. 3:16, II Pet. 3:9, I Tim. 2:3-4**)

2. Because All Men Need Christ, and All have Sinned and are Sinners.  
(**Rom. 3:10-12, 23**)

“Often I am asked the question, ‘Can the heathen be saved having never heard the Gospel?’ Perhaps the question that should be asked is, ‘Are you really saved if you have the Gospel but never share it?’ --**Freddie Gage**

“People who don't believe in missions have not read the New Testament. Right from the beginning Jesus said the field is the world. The early church took Him at His word and went East, West, North and South.”  
-- **J. Howard Edington**

“In every revival there is a re-emphasis of the Church's missionary character. Men return to Calvary, and the world is seen afresh through the eyes of Christ. The infinite compassion of Christ fills the heart, and the passion evoked by Calvary demands the whole wide world as the fruit of His sacrifice.”  
--**John Shearer**

3. Because of the Reality of Heaven and Hell. There is a Serious, Somber Severity to a Wrong Choice Concerning Christ. Eternal Life or Eternal Death and Damnation Hang in the Balance If the Lost Reject God's Message and Spirit's Call to Salvation. (**Rom. 6:23, Mk. 9:44**)

“How you believe God perceives people will determine how you respond to them.” --**Jacquelyn K. Heasley**

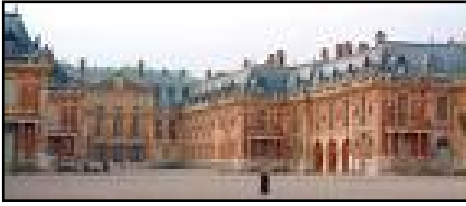
4. From an Eternal Perspective on Life, Seeing Evangelism's Importance to God.  
(**Col. 3:1-4, Rom. 12:1-2**)

“Only one life we have, at last. Only what's done for Christ will last.”  
--**Anonymous**

“The world has yet to see the full impact of but one life, totally and completely surrendered to the will of God.” --**Anonymous**

5. Because God has Promised Believers Blessings (in This Life) and Heavenly Rewards for So Doing. (**Mt. 6:19-20, I Cor. 3:7-8, Rom. 10:15**)

**Perspective:**



(Government housing in Heaven)

**Don't live in an outhouse all your (eternal) life!**

6. Because We Want to Please God. (Eph. 5:10, II Cor. 5:9-11)

“Someone said of a soul-winning friend of mine who had seventeen thousand the previous Sunday in Sunday School, ‘I think he’s overbalanced in the area of witnessing.’ My response was, ‘I’d rather be overbalanced like him and see the results he sees than be balanced like you and see the results you are seeing!’”  
--**Freddie Gage**

7. To be Innocent of the Guilt (Moral Culpability) of Having Men’s Blood on our Hands by Not Declaring the Message we Know, Have Personally Experienced, and Which is the Only Message That Can Save Lost Peoples’ Souls. (Ac. 20:26-27)

Christians are to love mankind. Not evangelizing is the *ultimate* form of hatred, for you are willingly damning them to hell (if no one does your job)  
--**J. Meroney**

“No one could point their finger at Paul and say, ‘You never told me about Jesus.’” --**Freddie Gage**

“If your Gospel isn't touching others, it hasn't touched you!”--**Curry R. Blake**

“We Christians are debtors to all men at all times in all places, but we are so smug to the lostness of men. We've been "living in Laodicea ", lax, loose, lustful, and lazy. Why is there this criminal indifference to the lostness of men? Our condemnation is that we know how to live better than we are living.”  
--**Leonard Ravenhill**

8. Out of Gratitude and Thankfulness for Our Great Salvation. (Heb. 2:3)

“I would not give much for a man’s Christianity if he is saved himself and is not willing to try to reach others. It seems to me the basest ingratitude if we do not reach out the hand to others who are down in the same pit from which we were delivered. Who is able to reach and help drinking men like those who have themselves been slaves to the intoxicating cup? Will you not go out this very day and seek to rescue these men? If we were all to do what we can, we should soon empty the drinking saloons.”  
--**D.L. Moody**

“There are two kinds of Christians—Soul winners and backsliders.”  
--**Andrew Murray**

9. Because it’s as Natural and Normal as Parents Desiring to Have Children (i.e., “Spiritual Propagation”).

“For a Christian full of Jesus to remain silent is as inconceivable as for one

to be ‘filled with Einstein’ and never think, or ‘filled with Babe Ruth or Pete Rose’ and never talk about baseball, or ‘filled with Roger Staubach or Earl Campbell’ and never mention football.” --**Freddie Gage**

“Having joined the church of God, are any of you satisfied to be silent? Are you content to let those around you sink to hell? What! Never tell of Christ’s love? What! Never speak of salvation to your own children? Can this be right? In God’s name, wake up! What are you left on this earth for? If there is nothing for you to do, why are you in this sinful world?”  
--**Charles Haddon Spurgeon**

10. Because Good News Cannot be Contained (i.e., Held Within). What Lottery Winner Has Ever Told No One of His Good Fortune, or New Mother Hidden the Fact of Her New Child? We Have **Good News**—Not Bad News—to Tell People, So Why be Scared to Take it to People?

“If the lost are to be reached by the Gospel of the Son of God, Christianity must be more aggressive than it has been in the past. We have been on the defensive long enough; the time has come for us to enter on a war of aggression. When we as children of God wake up and go to the work in the vineyard, then those who are living in wickedness all about us will be reached but not in any other way. You may go to mass meetings and discuss the question ‘How to reach the masses.’ But when you have done with discussion you have to go back to personal effort. Every man and woman who loves the Lord Jesus Christ must wake up to the fact that he or she has a mission in the world, in this work of reaching the lost.” --**D.L. Moody**

11. To be Involved in the Greatest Activity in the World. Evangelism is Arguably the Most Important Thing You Can Do in Life (at Least Toward Lost People)! If the Lord Ever Uses You to ‘Win’ One Person, You’ll be Hooked.

“Winning one person creates a hunger for more and on it goes until the soul-winner is consumed with a burning passion to win others to Jesus Christ.” --**Freddie Gage**

12. To Show That we Truly Love People. All Other Efforts we Engage in to Show Love Fall Short and Do Not Eternally Help Them if We Do Not Tell Them the Gospel. (II Cor. 5:14-16)

“You can witness without loving but you cannot love without witnessing.”  
--**Freddie Gage**

The greatest sin for a Christian is silence. --**Dr. Jack Graham** (*paraphrased*)

The meanest act of one man against another is evangelismlessness—  
Christians remaining comfortably mum about the Gospel. --**J. Meroney**

13. To Bless the Lost.

“Etiquette nowadays often demands of the Christian that he should not intrude his religion on company. Out on such etiquette! It is the etiquette of hell. True courtesy to my fellow’s soul makes me speak to him, if I believe that soul to be in danger.” --**Charles Haddon Spurgeon**

14. Because it's the Right Thing to Do.

“It is the duty of every Christian to be Christ to his neighbor.” --**Martin Luther**

“You *must* witness if you be a Christian. You may try to shirk it if you will, but you must witness, for you are *subpoena*. That is to say, you will suffer for it if you do not. Some Christians think they will sneak comfortably into heaven without bearing witness for Christ. I fear they will be mistaken; but this I know, that every Christian who does not come out distinctly and boldly for his Master will lose all choice enjoyments.” --**Charles Haddon Spurgeon**

“The Great Commission is not an option to be considered; it is a command to be obeyed.” --**Hudson Taylor**

15. Because of the Declining Moral State of Our Country and World (which Evidences the Fact that Men are Lost Sinners and that Christ's Return is Imminent).

“People say that we must adopt the language and culture of the day to be relevant today. That is a mistake. If the Church marries itself to the spirit of the times, it will be a widow in the next generation. There is a universal language—the language of reality and the language of love.”

--**E. Stanley Hones**

“Christians continue day by day as though being lost was nothing more than having a common cold.” --**Freddie Gage**

16. Because We are Ambassadors for Christ, as Christians. (II Cor. 5:17-21)

“Could a lifeguard sit idle if he heard a drowning cry? Could a doctor sit in comfort and let his patient die? Could a fireman sit and watch men burn and offer no hand? Can YOU sit at ease in Zion with the world around you damned? --**Freddie Gage**

‘Never talk to strangers’ was a rule we learned in kindergarten, which, if applied in adulthood, is severely detrimental to the Great Commission. (**I Cor. 13:11**)  
--**J. Meroney**

17. Because the Church is the Body of Christ, and He Primarily Uses Us to be His Physical Representatives and to Serve as His Feet and Mouth (i.e., Taking and Speaking His Gospel Message to the World).

“God uses people. God uses people to perform His work. He does not send angels. Angels weep over it, but God does not use angels to accomplish His purposes. He uses burdened broken-hearted weeping men and women.”  
--**David Wilkerson**

18. To Not be Sorrowful in Heaven (at Least Possibly Initially). (I Jn. 2:28)

19. Because Spiritual Forces (Manifested in Various Ways, such as Cult Groups) are Out-Working Us in Trying to Get Men to Follow Their FALSE Religious Systems.

20. Because it's an Outward Expression of Our Dynamic Relationship with Christ. If We are Following Christ, and are Not Evangelizing, it is Certainly Not Because Christ Lied in His Promise, or Is NOT Leading Us to Do So. (Matthew 4:19)

“Is a person a fisherman if year after year he never catches a fish? Is one following if he isn’t fishing?” --**Freddie Gage**

“Can’t we see there is nothing so ‘shallow’ as the person so concerned with his own spiritual growth that he neglects a hell-bound world around him? And, nothing is deeper than the experience of leading lost souls to Jesus.”  
--**Freddie Gage**

“The spirit of Christ is the spirit of missions. The nearer we get to Him, the more intensely missionary we become.” -- **Henry Martyn**

21. Because of the Urgency of the Days (Prophetically and Increased Sin-Wise).  
(**Eph. 5:16-17, Mt. 24:12, II Tim. 3:1-5**)

We have eternity to praise God and fellowship. Get about the business at hand—evangelism! --**J. Meroney**

“Is it not time for us to launch out into the deep? I have never seen people go out into the lanes and alleys, into the hedges and highways, and try to bring the people in, but the Lord gave His blessing. If a man has the courage to go right to his neighbor and speak to him about his soul, God is sure to smile upon that effort. The person who is spoken to may wake up angry, but that is not always a bad sign; he may write a letter the next day and apologize. At any rate it is better to wake him up in this way than that he should continue to slumber on to death and ruin.” --**D.L. Moody**

22. Because We are Commanded, Commissioned/Authorized and Empowered to Do So.  
(**Mt. 28:18-20, etc.**)

“Some people have said that I made the statement that ‘nine-tenths of the church members haven’t got power.’ I didn’t say that to hurt any feelings; but I refer to a good many Christians who lack power to reach out to the unsaved. Christ says, ‘Go and disciple the world.’ Am I uncharitable when I say that there’s not more than one out of ten who is doing that kind of work? I don’t want to slander the church. I would never preach again as long as I live if I thought I was hurting the church. I pray God day and night to help me to awaken the church. I don’t say there are not Christians, by a good deal. I never dreamed such a thing. Many are good, converted people, but they haven’t got ‘converting power.’ There’s the trouble.” --**D.L. Moody**

23. Because Spirit-Filled and Spirit-Led Living is, Among Other Things, for the Purpose of Our Bearing Witness to Jesus (as was a Common Initial Action Following the Spirit’s Infilling and Empowering in Acts. (Ac. 4:31)

“I have had the privilege of preaching the Gospel on every continent in most of the countries of the world. And I have found that when I present the simple message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, with authority, quoting from the very Word of God—he takes that message and drives it supernaturally into the human heart.” --**Billy Graham**

24. Because of Our Spiritual Heritage, Especially the Testimony of the Martyrs Through the Ages, Who were Willing to Give Their Lives to Share God’s Message. (See: *Foxes Book of Martyrs*).

25. Because it is a Privilege to be a Part of God's Eternal Purpose. (I Tim. 1:11)
26. Because of the Great Need, Both in the Numbers of Lost and the Lack of Number of Evangelizers. (Mt. 7:13-14, 9:37-38)
- “At a certain mission church (says the Rev. W.W. Martin), I had put over the clock these words: ‘83 a minute.’ At last a deputation came to me and said, ‘Will you kindly take us down? It haunts us.’ They knew that it meant that eighty-three souls a minute were passing into eternity.” --**Paul Tan**
- “More than two billion of the earth's inhabitants are either pagan, atheistic or non-Christian. There are 800,000,000 Communists, all militant atheists. There are 700,000,000 Moslems, all anti-Christians, and there are almost a billion Indians and Chinese and other kindred Asians.” --**Paul Tan**
- “The cradle and the grave are two great obstacles to fulfillment of the Great Commission. Every day, a new multitude is born, and a vast prospect list vanished. In the United States alone, there are 11,227 births and 4,970 deaths daily.” --**Carl F.H. Henry**
27. Because it is The Wise Thing to Do. (Pv. 11:30)
- “He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.”  
--**Jim Elliot**
28. To Not be Selfish. Someone Shared the Message with You...Pass it On!
- “We can talk about it. We can pray about it. We can sing about it. But until we actually GO and TELL, we can never be a soul-winner.”  
--**Freddie Gage**
- The world's greatest injustice and the worst crime against humanity is to not evangelize ALL the lost. --**J. Meroney**
- If you are not evangelizing, you are out of fellowship with God.  
--**Dr. Jack Graham** (*paraphrased*)
29. Because “the Only Thing you Can Take With You to Heaven is Another Friend.”  
--**Larry Moyer**
30. To Implement the *Primary Purpose* for which Christ Came and Died. (Lk. 19:10)
- “The Church exists for nothing else but to draw men into Christ, to make them little Christs. If they are not doing that, all the cathedrals, clergy, missions, sermons, even the Bible itself, are simply a waste of time. God became Man for no other purpose.” --**C. S. Lewis**
- “Jesus gave the Church only one task—not two, five, or ten—“and the Gospel must first be published among all nations (Mark 16:15). Everything else is secondary. To fail in this is to fail in our main reason for existence.”  
--**Freddie Gage**
31. Because Only 5% of Believers Ever Share the Gospel with Anyone, and this Statistic has, Sadly Remained Constant for 30+ Years, and is Deplorable to God.
- “I would sooner bring one sinner to Jesus Christ than unpick all the mysteries of the divine Word, for salvation is the thing we are to live for.”

--**Charles Haddon Spurgeon**

32. Because all Our “Good Deeds” can Never TEACH Lost People the Contents of Christ’s Message—Only Corroborate It. (I Cor. 15:3-5)

“But the great need today is for LIFESTYLE EVANGELISM: lives lived from morning to night, seven days a week, sharing Christ, GOING and TELLING, in the shops and market places, at work, at home and at play.” --**Freddie Gage**

33. Because the Devil Wants Us to Remain Silent--or Very Slow and Timid If We DO Evangelize—and He is the Spiritual Source for All Excuses Not to Evangelize.

“Any reason to not evangelize which your mind can devise is surely birthed in the war room of hell, and YOU are the one being deceived and losing out on the blessing and victory (as with all those you could have reached).”

--**J. Meroney**

“To refuse to witness of a saving Gospel to a lost world day by day is nothing short of high treason, spiritual rebellion and inexcusable disobedience to God’s holy command.” --**L.R. Scarborough**

34. Because Today is the Day of Salvation—Not Tomorrow, or “Someday.” (II Cor. 6:2)

35. Because Your Contact with Lost People Could be the Last You Will Have with Them. No One Knows When They will Meet their Maker, But we All Must be Ready. (Heb. 9:27)

“Our lack of concern is a crime, and we are the criminals.” --**Freddie Gage**

36. Because Regularly Evangelizing is the NORMAL Christian Life, at Least Biblically. (Ac. 5:42, 16:5, 19:9)

“So many Christians have been sub-normal so long by not telling people about Jesus that when a Christian starts witnessing, others call him abnormal.”

--**Freddie Gage**

37. Because the First Stage of the Great Commission (i.e., Evangelism) CAN be Completed in Our Lifetime! With God, and Through More Evangelizing Believers, the God’s Miracle and Vision—Fulfillment of Mark 16:15—Can Become a Reality.

38. Because Evangelizing is Fulfilling and Exciting.

“To be a soul winner is the happiest thing in the world. And with every soul you bring to Jesus Christ, you seem to get a new heaven here upon earth.” --**Charles Haddon Spurgeon**

“People are searching for thrills, but one thrill that surpasses all thrills is missed by most—winning a man to Jesus. Soul-winning is the most exciting, thrilling adventure in which any individual can be involved.”

--**Freddie Gage**

39. Because Billy Graham Cannot Make Up for Our LACK Forever.

“Will the cause of Christ’s Great Commission suffer any set-back when you die?” --**J. Meroney**

40. Because We are Not to be Ashamed of the Gospel. (Rom. 1:15-16, II Tim. 1:7)

“Our churches are filled with Christians who never introduce anyone to Christ.

They declare that Christ is in their life, has made the greatest change in their life, and means all the world to them. Yet, when they are faced with obvious opportunities to introduce others to Him, they fade away in fear. No one who really loved a friend would be ashamed to introduce him to another. He would be pleased and even proud to do so. He would not pretend his friend was not there, but would call attention to the fact that he WAS there. Yet many of us, when faced with an opportunity to share Christ, do just that.” --**Freddie Gage**

Penn and Teller’s Penn—an avowed atheist—reportedly respected those with the ‘courage of their convictions’ to talk to him about the Christ he disavowed.

41. Because if 11 Less-Educated, Less-Wealthy and Less Technologically Enabled People “Turned the World Upside Down” With the Gospel in the First Century, So Can We!  
(Ac. 17:6)

“What are we here for, to have a good time with the Christians or to save sinners?” --**Malla Moe**

“God has left us down here to shine. We are not here to buy and sell and get gain, to accumulate wealth, to acquire worldly position. This earth, if we are Christians, is not our home; it is yonder. God has sent us into the world to shine for him—to light up this dark world. Christ came to be the Light of the world, but men put out that light. They took it to Calvary, and blew it out. But an even more brilliant light shone forth from the empty tomb when Christ rose from the dead. Before Christ went up on high, he said to the disciples, ‘Ye are the light of the world. Ye are my witnesses. Go forth and carry the Gospel to the perishing nations of the earth.’” --**D.L. Moody**

42. Because we Fear the Lord and are Accountable to Him as our Highest Priority.  
(II Cor. 5:10-11)

“Give me one hundred preachers who fear nothing but sin, and desire nothing but God, and I care not a straw whether they be clergymen or laymen; such alone will shake the gates of hell and set up the kingdom of heaven on earth.”  
--**John Wesley**

43. Because So Many Christians are Available to Do Support Ministry and Disciple Converts, but there are Few Battlefield Warriors Working on the Front Lines.

This is like having 20 coaches or medical trainers, and only one athlete, or 20 medical staff (i.e., doctors and nurses) to run MASH units for the one injured soldier. If there is no one to bring lost people into a relationship with Christ, what is the use of having skilled personnel waiting to disciple people who never get reached? It’s like having 20 administrative personnel and only one salesman—it makes no sense! As one of my former Pastors, Dr. Charles Wisdom put it, “for a church to not be evangelistic is like a grocery store with display cases, employees and cash registers, but no food.” (Paraphrased)

“No one has the right to hear the Gospel twice, while there remains someone who has not heard it once.” -- **Oswald J. Smith**

“As long as there are millions destitute of the Word of God and knowledge of Jesus Christ, it will be impossible for me to devote time and energy to those who have both. -- **J. L. Ewen**

44. Because, Though We Should Pray for Lost People's Salvation, God Usually Answers Those Prayers Only When We Share His Message with Them. He Rarely Miraculously Intervenes. (I Tim. 2:1-7, Rev. 14:6)

“Christ alone can save the world, but Christ cannot save the world alone.”  
--**Freddie Gage**

45. Because We Have Different Spiritual Gifts But are All Called to Evangelize.

“It is now possible to live a "Christian life" without doing the things that Jesus commanded us to do. "We have hired people to go into all the world, to visit those in prison, to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to care for widows and orphans. The average Christian doesn't have to do it.”—**Cal Thomas** (My high school Sunday school teacher)

“The Gospel is not something to come to church to hear, but something to go from church to tell. ... We need to stop condemning sinners for not coming to church to hear the Gospel, and start condemning Christians for not going from the church with the Gospel.” --**Freddie Gage**

“A fisherman doesn't go fishing in his bathtub if he expects to catch fish, he casts his net where the fish are—away from his house and out into the streams and waterways.” --**Freddie Gage**

“Dr. Len G. Broughton tells of a minister, who called his leaders together and said that he was about to resign his ministry at the church, because he had seen no more converted for a considerable period. They begged him to stay, and pointed out how edified they were by his preaching. ‘Edified for what?’ he asked. Turning to one leader he asked him if he had ever led a soul to Christ. ‘No,’ was the answer, so the question was put to the next with the same result, and the next again.

Finally the minister got all the members at the meeting to promise that they would also resign with him, if within a short period they personally led no one to Christ. One Monday morning one leader began with his confidential clerk, and by the next Sunday he had eleven saved men with him in church for company. The rest of the meeting brought the tally up to thirty.”

--**The United Methodist**

46. Because it's Your New Nature to Do So.

“You have only one business on earth—to save souls.” --**John Wesley**

47. Because if You Don't, Who Will? You May Be the Only Christian Who Will EVER Evangelize the Person You Reach!

Have you ever noticed that there ***never*** seems to be a **good time** to **evangelize**?

- Weekdays. From 6:30 am to 7 p.m. we prepare for, commute to work, work and then return home.
- Evenings. Evenings are spent with family, doing chores, exercising, relaxing and entertaining ourselves.
- Additional Time. Sleep may last 5-7 hours a night, and often our jobs require travel or over-time.

- Weekends. On the weekends we go to church, play, do chores and hobbies, Engage in politics and social associations, exercise, travel and relax.
- We **make our money**, try to **enjoy life and family**, but RARELY does any believer spend time with God, or **share the Gospel** with another!

48. Because of the Great Suffering and Sacrifice of Christ for You and Lost People.

49. Because You've Been a Christian for However Many Years and May Have Never Evangelized. Set a Date for Yourself After Which you Can Prove to Yourself that You are Procrastinating in this Most Important Area.

“Not called!' did you say? 'Not heard the call,' I think you should say. Put your ear down to the Bible, and hear Him bid you go and pull sinners out of the fire of sin. Put your ear down to the burdened, agonized heart of humanity, and listen to its pitiful wail for help. Go stand by the gates of hell, and hear the damned entreat you to go to their father's house and bid their brothers and sisters and servants and masters not to come there. Then look Christ in the face—whose mercy you have professed to obey—and tell Him whether you will join heart and soul and body and circumstances in the march to publish His mercy to the world.” --**William Booth**

50. Because to Not Evangelize is Disobedience and Sin (Objectively Speaking).

“What if a man convicted of high treason and condemned to die was not only pardoned but taken into the favor of his sovereign? If he were riding in the royal carriage and on the road he saw some of his fellow traitors pinioned and manacled, led forth in the midst of officers to die for the offense in which he had as deep a hand as they, wouldn't he entreat the gracious monarch to extend his clemency to his fellow rebels? Wouldn't the tears stand in his eyes as he admires the difference that his sovereign's free mercy has made? Wouldn't he be moved with emotions impossible to describe, of mingled joy and grief, pity and gratitude, wonder and compassion?

The Christian's likeness is drawn here. Surely each Christian must feel ready to fall down on his knees, and cry, 'Lord, why do you reveal your mercy to me and not to these others? Save them, also, Lord, for your name's sake.'” --**Charles Haddon Spurgeon**

### **Remember...**

- People can **die** unexpectedly at *any time*, and
- Christ could **return** unexpectedly at *any time*...

“To silence a preacher from preaching judgment is like being awoke from sleep by a fire alarm, and just silencing the alarm, and going back to sleep.” --**Unknown**

### **Disclaimer:**

Please realize, however, as a **pastor** or someone in **leadership**, that presenting the concept of going evangelism to a group of people, if you are **only positive and excited**—*which naturally occurs with experience*—the majority will think you crazy or stupid, which can hurt your

*credibility*. This is exactly why I believe the Lord led me to approach churches (pastors), global mega churches and my own denomination with more of a negative bent. You usually only have one chance to broach the subject with someone, and even if they are “turned off” to the needed but more negative approach of *reproof*, God can use that *felt anger* to get them thinking about the subject, where they had done little-to-nothing before, and 95% were otherwise often **dead set** against *ever* participating. Plus, before God and on judgment day, there is value in holding people *accountable* and putting them *on record* as consciously rejecting God’s call.

**Quotes Selected From:**

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Tentmaker.org

Tlogical.net

# Bible Study Fellowship/“Sunday School” Assignment

## On Hell

Many people today *don't believe* there is a literal place called **Hell**. Some believe *even if there is*, they can be saved after death by doing time (“penance”) in an in-between place—so-called “Purgatory.” Others teach that you will be continually reincarnated. Some philosophies believe that we are experiencing all there is of a “Hell” right now with our trials and sufferings—a Hell-like state. Still *others* think God is so merciful and knows men's hearts so well that they **have a chance** of reaching heaven without receiving Christ. But **what does God say?**

In life, when you hear the following phrases (hopefully only by lost people and **I'll substitute the word “Heck” for “Hell”**), what is the *connotation*, or meaning to you?

- “Heck no!” Emphatic, intense. The word is used as an expletive or true “**four letter word.**”
- “Go to Heck.” Wishing the worst on an enemy or one who angered you.
- “I'm going through Heck.” **Tough, painful, unpleasant** and undesirable circumstances.

So we see that *even our culture*—and lost people specifically—have a **concept of Hell**, at least in their sub-conscious mind. Overall the picture of Hell is *not a pretty one*. What does God's authoritative source—the Bible—say about Hell? Let's read *aloud* what God says...

[suggested: **one person per verse read verse aloud**]

## Hell Description

- (Lk. 16:23-24; Mt. 10:28) Literal, Real (Not Imaginary or Figurative). NASA will never find Hell with their spacecraft, for it is spiritual. The *poor soul* who enters Hell will never experience relief from the throes of its flames.

“Is hell a place of fire and brimstone? Is heaven a place of gold and pearl and beautiful mansions? When I speak of these things, I ought to use the language of God. I have never been to heaven; I have never been to hell. I must trust God's revelation... I must speak God's language and when I do, I find that I am speaking in the power and unction of the Lord.” --**W.A. Criswell**

Have you ever accidentally placed your foot in **scalding hot tub water**, seen stunt men walking with flames on the back of their flame-retardant suit, or seen people walking on **fiery hot coals** to motivate themselves to have greater self-confidence? These acts are mere glimpses of the calamity Hell truly is. I believe that every person in this room knows that.

For the Christian, II Corinthians 5:6 tells us that ‘to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.’ **A lost person's soul and body enter punishment immediately upon** their physical demise, later to face a resurrection to judgment (based on their sins) and a final sentencing in the Lake of Fire. This is *not a pretty picture* for anyone to face for their eternal destiny. If you **ask any normal CHILD** if they want to go to Hell when they die they will say “*No.*”

- **(Jude 1:7) Punishment of Eternal Fire.** Hell is not temporary, nor enjoyable—the flames are painful, and intentionally so, for it is a place of **punishment**. Judgment gets carried out in Hell.
- **(II Pet. 2:4) Pits of Darkness Reserved for Judgment.** There are **no sunny days** or *bright spots* in the life of a citizen of Hell. Where there are no flames there is only utter, total darkness (sort of like a fire in the woods in the midnight hour). But rest assured, even in this total darkness the **pain still tracks you down**. One is completely *abandoned* and *alone* and in torment. Literally and figuratively, Hell is “the **pits!**”—a pitiful place for *anyone* to end up!
- **(Mt. 8:12; Jude 1:13) Outer, Black Darkness; Weeping and Gnashing of Teeth.** Again, sad and painful. That pain has to be so excruciating and unbearable that men will not only **scream** out in pain, they will **grind their teeth** with crushing friction because of the *severity* of their discomfort.
- **(Lk. 16:23-24) A Place of Torment, with No Let Up or Relief.** There is **no exit door** to Hell—only a **wide entrance**—and there is a great chasm and inseparable gulf between Heaven and Hell. Once human life ends—if one is unsaved—life does not simply cease, as the Jehovah’s Witnesses would like to tell you, not is there some “reincarnation” into a new human (or animal, or insect) life form, as many Eastern religions teach. Only cats “have 9 lives”—really only one.

Death **IS the end of our one body and the beginning** of either bodily *torment* or heavenly *bliss*. There’s not *even* a drop of cool water to *ease* this condition, in Hell. When you attend the funeral of a non-Christian, or read of a famous lost person’s or celebrity’s death, **MOURN**—for truly the words the priest or minister say may comfort the bereaved but those words will never comfort the dearly departed.

“There is no way to describe Hell. Nothing on earth can compare with it. No living person has any real idea of it. No madman in wildest flights of insanity ever beheld its horror. No man in delirium ever pictured a place so utterly terrible as this. No nightmare racing across a fervored mind ever produced a terror to match that of the mildest hell.

No murder scene with splashed blood and oozing wound ever suggested a revulsion that could touch the borderlands of hell. Let the most gifted writer exhaust his skill in describing this roaring cavern of unending flame, and he would not have even brushed in fancy the nearest edge of hell.

Hell was originally ‘prepared for the Devil and his angels’—not for man! Little wonder that there is joy in heaven over one sinner that repented. He is saved, redeemed, rescued. It makes the hearts in heaven glad.”

--**Selected**

We don’t need to be *morbid*, but our minds can occasionally and legitimately—with respectful *fear*—consider the present circumstances of lost people who spurned God and mocked Christ. That is TRULY a waste of a life—a life lost—and **not what God intended** for man. Rest assured, the inscription “RIP” (i.e., rest in peace) is only an empty and hollow fiction for the deceased lost and **wish** of those *living*. ‘God rest his soul’ **WILL NOT happen** if one is lost.

- (Mt. 10:28) Both Body and Soul are There. In Hell, both body and soul are being “destroyed,” yet not annihilated or totally decimated or ever ceasing to exist. Christians should thank God daily that this will **not** be our plight, and live reverently unto Him.
- (Mk. 9:42-48) The Worm Does Not Die and the Fire is Not Quenched. I don’t know if these are worms from decayed physical bodies, but it’s obvious there is **great value in avoiding Hell!**
- (Rev. 20:10). The Devil’s Rightful Home. God intended it for no one else. Man was not created to die, nor was he created to sin. Unfortunately, man did sin and **Hell IS all lost peoples’ future home**—unless they receive Jesus Christ.
- (Lk. 16:19-31) There is No Way to Appeal Your Case or plea your way out of Hell, for **once you’ve entered, you are confined**. Physical death begins this **eternal LIFE SENTENCE**.
- (Heb. 9:27) Finally, there is no salvation after physical death—*only judgment*—for those who have rejected Christ.

To summarize these truths in one word—Hell is bad,  
Hell is negative—*in other words...*

**HELL IS HELL!**

Now I want to ask you a **series of questions** based on what we *learned*. It is based on the Bible, but is organized based on **PURE LOGIC**:

1. Would You Say that Hell is a Positive or Negative Place? Very negative. (Duh 101)
2. Who is Going to Go There—What Kind of People? All who are not believers in Christ. (Jn. 3:36)
3. Is There Any Way for Men to Avoid It? Salvation in Jesus Christ. (Rom. 6:23)
4. Is there any message other than the Gospel which can inform men how to get to God? No—all others are false messages. (Ac. 4:12; Rom. 1:16)
5. From What You Know of Scripture, Does God Want All or Just Some People to Be Saved? All. (I Tim. 2:4)
6. When Does God Want Men to Be Saved—Sooner or Later? Today! (II Cor. 6:2)
7. What One Group has been Entrusted by God to Deliver that Message to Every Human Being? (Col. 1:24-25) The Church—all Christians/believers.
8. Are YOU a Member of That Group? (I Jn. 5:11-13) Yes (or No).
9. Then Does Anyone Have an SUV So We Can Go Right Now and **Tell Somebody** About Jesus? Yes. (II Cor. 6:2)

“In the final analysis, it boils down to this one fact: Do you believe there is a hell or not? If you believe there is a hell, a place of eternal punishment in fire, then your main concern will be to rescue as many from the jaws of hell as you can and to enlist as many to help in the life-saving work as you can.”

--Freddie Gage

**[Suggested: Hand out tracts, inform them that church staff has approved our leaving (unless untrue) and child care**

**has been alerted and that we won't be late returning.  
Any emergency situations are excused!]**

Congratulations! As a great *starting point*, you are no longer a member of the **disgraceful** “**95% club.**” Keep doing this as lifestyle habit. You can be sure your church staff supports you in this most *noble* task, as we never know when men will die or Christ will return.

And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to all creation.” (Mk. 16:15)

**Note:** This message was delivered when I *substitute taught* a Sunday School class, and the Lord blessed with **100% compliance!** There's no reason to believe YOU cannot see the **same results** if you'll TAKE ACTION—**teach this lesson!**

To show how LITTLE evangelism gets done nowadays, an award was given for the most evangelistic church class. Though I'm **THANKFUL** for the class' cooperation, it took only about 10 people spending maybe 25 minutes—**IN ONE YEAR**—to receive church-wide *top honors* for evangelism!

## 6. Excuses Christians Use to NOT Evangelize (Refuted)

What *personal, emotional, psychological* or, most importantly spiritual reasons are there for our lack of evangelism, and what does the Bible say about our excuses? What can we do to help each other **change our behavior** by a set date on the calendar?

### LIES the Devil Whispers into Christians' Minds (as Willing Accomplices)...

- I'M SCARED OR SHY (I.E., FEAR OF REJECTION). Fear God more than men! According to II Timothy 1:7, where does the spirit which fears evangelism come from—God or the devil? After all, they are **not rejecting you**, but Christ. (**Mt. 10:28**). When Christians more intensely believe the things in the Bible than they fear conversing with the lost, **they'll evangelize**.
- I DON'T KNOW ENOUGH OR WHAT TO SAY. **If you know John 3:16 you know enough**. If you can speak about *sin*, the *cross*, and salvation/*forgiveness*, those are the basics. We can teach you, and you can use materials to guide you in sharing a message you may not feel fully *comfortable* speaking. Don't let that prevent you from **missing out** on this **great blessing** of life—to **see lives eternally changed**, and you get to be part of it!
- THAT'S NOT MY SPIRITUAL GIFT. So what? The command is to **EVERY** Christian. Evangelist-gifted Christians may do it more easily, or see more conversions, but that is no reason for your inaction. Not all have the *gift of giving*, but all are to give. It's not a matter of giftedness but **CALLING!**
- THAT'S NOT MY ("SALES") PERSONALITY. **Nor is it mine**. We are not relying on our own personality or temperament, but the Person of the Holy Spirit. You don't even have to have an outgoing personality to evangelize. **Just speak** the *powerful* word.
- I DON'T WANT TO. Perhaps **the most honest response—PREDOMINANT**, though rarely admitted to. **Pray to be made willing** and meditate on select Scriptures to get *God's perspective* on this **choice** you have made.
- I'M NOT SPIRITUAL ENOUGH—I NEED TO GROW MORE. Maybe you do need to grow—**we all do**—unless we're perfect. But **any evangelism is better than none**, and even sinful evangelism, with the right message, is preferable. (**Phil. 1:15-18**) Remember, **False humility** is no humility.
- THAT'S WHAT PROFESSIONAL EVANGELISTS ARE FOR. They **are** for evangelizing *a lot*, but **you are called to do part of that work**, as well, *if you are a believer*. (**Eph. 4:11-13; I Cor. 15:10; Col. 1:24**)
- I DON'T BELIEVE IN THAT. Do you believe in *parenting*, because you're the product of it? If you are saved, you were saved through evangelism. How can you not believe in that which caused you to believe in Christ? How do you believe lost people will get **saved**?
- GOD WILL SAVE THOSE WHOM HE CHOOSES AND WANTS TO BELIEVE. **And He'll do it through his Church**, unless His Church is acting in sinfulness and open rebellion, like,

maybe someone who uses theology to *disobediently* not evangelize? Though I appreciate your emphasis on the fact that **God must initiate and call unto salvation**, you must ***equally emphasize*** and study the verses which call men to believe (and *evangelize* with a purpose)!

- I REGULARLY ATTEND CHURCH, “TITHE,” AND TRY TO BE NICE TO PEOPLE. Great, but **that’s never gotten anyone to heaven, in and of itself.** You can’t outsource YOUR job to professionals.
- I’M TOO BUSY. **Anyone who is too busy for a daily Quiet Time or to evangelize, is MORALLY too busy, and is giving God their second best.** That decision amounts to idolatry and NOT loving God as number one (Mt. 22:35-39). Perhaps you should re-establish your values or **learn to say ‘no’** more often. You have not yet committed to Christ as Lord if *ANYTHING* takes *higher priority* to an obedient walk with Him. (**Col. 3:5**)
- I EVANGELIZE BY MY GODLY LIFESTYLE. Your lifestyle can **never speak** the content of the message of the cross, nor does the Bible anywhere tell you that your obedient walk with Christ **IS evangelism**. What “message” would the world get from the lifestyle of Gandhi or the average Mormon? The message would be VERY ethical but **would send them to Hell**—absent **the message** of Jesus Christ! **See Also:** Relational Evangelism Errors
- THE PASTOR DOES THAT. I’m *glad* he does, but you encounter many people he will never see, and he was called of God to **raise you up** to *do the work* of ministry. (Eph. 4:11-13)
- I’M A SENDER, NOT A GOER. Regarding *career foreign mission work*, that’s likely **true**, but regarding **EVANGELISM**, you’re ultimately either a DOER or a “sin-ner.”
- INVITE PEOPLE TO CHURCH. **Great, but that’s NOT EVANGELISM** for YOU. Even if the Gospel is preached there, **YOU are called to share**, and it’s no legal loophole from obedience to pawn your job off on the professional! *Don’t hide behind the preacher*—**God can see right through** your covering.
- I’VE DONE THAT BEFORE. Great, that’s like saying you have **breathed before**. It’s a *continuous command* and habit—**not a ONE-TIME thing**, then you’ve done your part for life. **People are still lost and dying**, beyond just the *one or two* people you may have reached.
- WHAT WOULD PEOPLE THINK OF ME—THAT I’M SOME SORT OF “RELIGIOUS FANATIC?” Far be it from you to *be any holier* or *different* from the world and culture (sarcasm, if you didn’t notice). Again, according to Gal. 1:10 one cannot be said to be a disciple or bond-servant of Jesus Christ (i.e., fully *committed* to Him) if there is *anything more important* to them than God.
- ALL OF AMERICA HAS HEARD. **Research does not bear you out**, and even if she had fully heard, we are not instructed in the Bible to leave it at that. If we care that men get saved and go to heaven, we will **try to share as many times as they are willing to hear!** Research says that the average American hears the Gospel **7 times** before they respond, so with as few believers as we have working in evangelism, **how MUCH MORE work is needed** to blanket our country SEVEN times! **We need you on the team!** Christianity is no *bench-warmer’s spectator sport*. There’s an *eternal war* going on, and the frontline troops *get tired*, and need **reinforcements**. After all, it is **not right** to have a ratio of 1:20 frontline troops to *auxiliary/support personnel* (i.e., 5% evangelize while 95% don’t).

- ALL AMERICA HAS THE GOSPEL AVAILABLE TO THEM. Doctors can set up shop on any street corner, but **that alone will help NO injured parties.** The benefit of their skills must *reach the hurting*, and the Bible *clearly* teaches that every Christian is to **take the life-giving Gospel message to every lost person** in the world.
- I DON'T WANT TO OFFEND ANYBODY. In the Bible, there are **two types of offenses**—morally offending people by our sinning against them—which we should **NOT** do, and “offending” over-sensitive consciences, or emotional preferences, as in bringing up “religion” with someone *disinterested* in hearing about that subject. That offending, if not done in a morally offensive way, is **totally expected to occur**, and IF anyone ever voices a desire to not continue to speak of eternal things, God has already told us what to **do**—**shake the dust off our feet and get going to find a prepared heart willing to listen!** You are not guilty of any sin or moral problem before God if that “*emotional offense*” occurs. As long as you witnessed with integrity and ethics and have not offended because you were rude, evil or obnoxious, you have *done well*. Some people consider it rude to ask ANY personal questions. **Take that risk**—they need the Gospel *whether they know it* (or want it) *or not*.
- I WILL SOMEDAY. Really? Does the track record of your life so far (as many years as you have been saved) give evidence you are moving toward opening your mouth with the Gospel? **WHAT'S TAKEN YOU SO LONG** since you were saved? The Bible describes people evangelizing very close to the time of their conversion, and those who were resistant, God in His sovereignty brought to evangelize through **outside PERSECUTION** (See: the book of Acts).

The **NORMAL** Christian life is to *evangelize*. To keep this *greatest gift* inside shows serious spiritual illness, and a dangerous spiritual artery blockage only the Holy Spirit can cure. Rest assured, the 5% statistic is a **moral and sin problem** within the American Church, for which pastor-leaders bear the ultimate human responsibility and for which judgment (though not hell, of course) is **VERY POSSIBLE**.

God motivates us from GRACE, and it is a privilege to be able to share your faith! **Just ask those who have evangelized—the joy is something you cannot understand until you participate.** However, grace can be *abused*, when we simply hope that believers respond to the Spirit's leading, even though years pass without evidence that they increase evangelism efforts. Based on Jesus' promise, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men,” if one is not fishing (i.e., evangelizing), how closely are we following? **The greatest way we can show LOVE to a lost world is to evangelize them!**

- PERHAPS ONE IS UNSAVED THEMSELVES. How can someone tell another the answer to life if they have *not experienced* it themselves? If you have never evangelized, have you ever been saved?
- I NEVER THINK ABOUT IT. You escaped Hell by someone telling you the Gospel but you never think of doing the **same** for somebody else? Begin today—**THINK (and Act) ABOUT IT!**

ULTIMATELY, evangelismlessness is a **SPIRITUAL/HEART MATTER**, and we do the **DEVIL'S WILL** when we don't speak. The devil didn't *make you do it*—he convinced you and is **getting victory** over you in this crucial area of your (Christian) life! His *greatest*

*victory* would have been to stop the cross, so he's had to resort to **Plan B**—Stop the Church from implementing its **effect**, through stifling evangelism!

## 7a. Pastor Methods to Evoke Lay Evangelism

I have watched many pastors wash their hands of culpability for their congregation continuing to hardly evangelize by having offered a course in evangelism to all who are interested (guess how few that yields!), preaching the Gospel at the end of sermons and at least one sermon a year on evangelism. What ministers have tried for 30 years **HAS NOT WORKED** to nudge the **5%** statistic. As a leader, you must **do more** and **try MORE** things.

**YOU CAN'T PREACH YOUR WAY OUT OF THIS PROBLEM**—sermons **MUST** be **followed-up on**—**INDIVIDUALLY**—for sermons can never replace the role of Christians **laying God's word on their hearts** and having **godly** Christian *friends* lovingly holding them **ACCOUNTABLE** to apply what was preached (often called "*Relational Discipleship*").

We can't **just** blame our congregation or use the 'you can lead a horse to water but can't make him drink' rationale. **Followers follow LEADERS.** Are **YOU** evangelistic, openly, boldly, regularly, enthusiastically, publicly, and perhaps most importantly OUTSIDE your church, where it can be *more difficult* and is more relevant to laymen's lives? **VERIFY** that change is happening to this **5% blithe**. God's word preached does not come back void, but that same Bible also gives **OTHER** methods for securing **cooperation**. You are making a **LIFE-LONG** commitment to **lead**—not planning a temporary church emphasis to put a "*band-aid*" on the problem.

Being just one person, a nobody at that, by God's grace and on several occasions God has stirred many pastors, Seminary students, Bible College students and laymen to go out evangelizing with myself through what He laid on my heart to do and tell them. You can do **at least as much, and more** because of your public position of 'authority! Rebellious **sin** is the only reason these ideas will likely NEVER be implemented by churches, because *ignorance* of possible solutions cannot be claimed after reading this web site (and other, readily available publications).

Whether we disagree over the "tone" of this exhortation or methods suggested, it boils down to: Are you committed to **literally COMPLETING** the Great Commission in an **objectifiable** and organized way? If you **are**, you will try, work and endure until God blesses your efforts with fruit. PLEASE don't hide behind the many modern methods which can **complement** but **never substitute** for **humans evangelizing humans**, such as laymen inviting the lost to church, advertising, praying only for the losts' *emotional problems*, blast emailing tracts (or other technologies), doing good deeds toward and making friendships with lost people **without ever SPEAKING the Gospel to them**, to name a few.

Some methods God has *laid on my heart* (many of which have been **successfully** used) include the following:

1. On a given Sunday morning, once all the people have arrived, **close down shop** and **go evangelize!** Announce with **joy** that the church is committed to seeing people won to Jesus, and that every person CAN do it, in God's power, then hand out simple Gospel tracts and instruct them to orderly depart and distribute the tracts to local home door knobs or individuals. If they find people *awake*, tell them to say something like 'our church wants to give you a gift. Thank you.' *Discuss their results* the next Sunday.

2. Have an **inspirational sermon** on evangelism, and extend it to a church-wide three hour retreat or weekend conference focusing on hearing Bible verses and learning other thoughts on evangelism **motivation**. This could include projecting beautiful *nature scenes* and *upbeat music* in the background, but is primarily a time of prayerful reflection and introspection where laymen **HEAR** God's promises and instructions on **evangelism**.
3. Use the Bible Fellowship/Sunday School Assignment entitled, "**On Hell**," in **EVERY** Sunday School class! It works, and a *trusted class leader* can give the lesson in sincerity and with credibility **IF** they are evangelistic.
4. Preach a sermon on the need for and priority of evangelism, then state your **confident expectation** that *everyone* listening is *interested in lost people being saved* and that you want every one of them to share the Gospel with one person this week. Hand out a **tract to guide** their efforts, and the next Sunday devote the **entire service** to testimonies of *results*—good or bad (i.e., lessons learned and *improvements to be made next time*).
5. Solicit the involvement of other cooperating local churches to **help** your evangelistic members to **reach every person in a given neighborhood**, for *starters*. Then **BROADCAST THAT 100% COMPLETION SUCCESS ANY WAY and EVERYWHERE** you can *to encourage other churches to do the same*. Volunteer your evangelistic members to reciprocate near the churches that cooperated!
6. Have the pastor and every staff member, deacon, Sunday School leader and administrative person (and any other '**leaders**') ask five church members each to **go evangelize with them**. **You'll be surprised HOW MANY will follow** your authority, enthusiasm and lead! I've used this method **MANY times** to lead pastors, Seminary and Bible students and several laymen, so don't tell me it can't be done or 'won't work.' Don't avoid trying something just because you *never have before*!
7. Enlist an *Evangelist*—**NOT** to preach the Gospel to invited lost people—but to **inspire** believers with his *zeal*. Catch the evangelism spirit yourself—it can become contagious. Don't announce beforehand that a *guest speaker* is coming or *what he will speak on*, unless you want to give the devil an opportunity to keep **hardened laymen** at *home* that week.
8. Get creative, pray, and come up with **other methods**. Add your own personal touch in using these ideas. Try **MATURING UP your membership** through "*relational discipling*," as a maturer believer *might* feel more inclined to DO this aspect of his faith than one *more carnal*.

**Bottom line**, if you are not **enthusiastically evangelistic**, how do you expect lay people to be? **REMEMBER: If you haven't tried it, you don't know how it can work**, and only the devil's *doubt* will prevent pastors from trying different things. The Lord knows we've tried too few and our *results* have been too **abysmal**!

## 7b. Laymen Methods to Evoke Pastors' Evangelism

I have sought to influence Church leaders for over 25 years to **fulfill** the Great Commission. Their **resistance** has been palpable (as detailed in our upcoming **YouTube**

video—Search: “Church Conflicts,” or “James Meroney”). Just some of those methods I encourage you to *emulate* are:

1. Personally asked, and went out door-to-door evangelizing with pastors (one very famous), Seminary and Bible College students.
2. 4,000 **emails** to 500 of the largest churches world-wide (primarily the USA), with only 2 replies!
3. *Hand-written notes* (to evangelize *more*) left in offering plates when visiting churches.
4. Voicemail left at the church where I was married at (when voting on a multi-million dollar building program), encouraging *at least* 10% of that amount to fund **1040 Window** evangelists.
5. *Applying to church positions* (as my resume details these priorities). **Feel free to send my resume anywhere** (if you lack the credentials to be taken *seriously*)!
6. Gospel Signs saying “Go Evangelize” and “Disciple Your Church Members” taken to churches, Promise Keepers and the National Day of Prayer (pictures in our Appendix).
7. **This website logo’d** on a business casual shirt worn at church (to influence laymen).
8. Handouts to Sunday School leaders exhorting the laymen to implement **3 mile evangelism plan** and church-wide discipling, if the staff won’t soon. I ensured it got to *staffers* too, as it was never expected that many laymen would be zealous to implement what the ‘father ducks’ wouldn’t.
9. **Volunteering** to teach and lead evangelism and discipleship. At my *most recent church*, **eight times** they found reasons why this could not happen, perhaps because they feared I’d teach, among other things, our “On Hell” message.
10. Personally distributing our “**Prioritized Pastor’s Pledge**” to pastors in your own ‘Jerusalem.’

**Bottom Line:** If they know you’re *serious*, **won’t back down**, don’t care about being popular or receiving donations and *will go public* about the problem, sadly, that reality is often a major factor in their agreeing to make some changes (as at my current church). You won’t be appreciated, but they might respect you (Ac. 5:13, and you know you’ll be pleasing God!

## **8. A Local Church Plan of Evangelism**

(A handout I pray you'll *print* and/or *email* to your pastor!)

## LOCAL CHURCH EVANGELISM PLAN

**Pastor:** In order to be *fully obedient*—at least in our own “Jerusalem”—please patiently read and prayerfully consider implementing the following ideas.

### **1. Develop, Commit To and IMPLEMENT a Plan to Reach Every Lost Person Within a Set Distance of Your Church (2 to 5 Miles) As Soon as Possible (No Later Than 2 Years).**

Depending on the size of your church, your geographical reach could vary **from 2 to 5 miles**. This does not mean that all church members, attendees or visitors come from that zone, or even that your church’s “**target market**” is that community. It is, however, a significant and efficient way to initially *organize* the great task of **ensuring** that we **reach ALL lost people with the Gospel as quickly as possible**. It is certainly a “field” for which your church is *responsible* before God, as no other church has as close a connection (at least geographically) to that field (except for other Christian churches in that area which you may consider *uniting with* to **complete** the project).

You should be able to complete this goal **within 2 years**, *hopefully sooner*, depending on the number and intensity of workers (See #2, below). The larger your pool of *willing* and recruiter believers, the larger your efforts can be, or the quicker your *own field* can be reached.

It is *essential* that you **document results**, so you are **certain** that EVERY lost person over the ‘age of accountability’ has heard an **accurate** presentation of the Gospel in the power of the *Spirit* a minimum of one time, (or at least was offered the Gospel, if they refused to hear). This can be in the form of **names** or merely a description of address residents (Ex.: 2 parents, 1 child). Such a plan needs to be executed every three years or so to thresh the harvest sufficiently often.

**AFTERWARDS**, other methods of *showing love*, involving them in your church, and re-evangelizing them can occur. **AFTERWARDS**, you can monitor move-ins and move-outs, births, deaths and children reaching a maturity level where they need to be reached, in that area.. But at a minimum, **GOD WANTS ALL LOST PEOPLE TO HEAR THE GOSPEL OF JESUS, A.S.A.P.!** (Mt. 28:18-20; evangelism preceding baptism and discipling)

### **2. Get as Many Christians as Possible Involved in This 100% Great Commission Completion Project in Your Area!. Broadcast Your Results to Stimulate a GLOBAL MOVEMENT!**

*Biblical* MOTIVATION, through **claiming promises** and *educating* as to the Bible’s teaching on evangelism, is an aspect of *evangelism training* with is usually **sorely lacking**, and perhaps most needed. **It is naïve to think Christians don’t need to be “inspired,”** and an ERROR to teach that this is *emotional manipulation* or beneath the dignity of our people! The historically stable percentage of Christians who evangelize (**i.e., 5%**) shows that the methods we have used in the past have not been very successful!

Pastors, **utilize** every **biblical** and **effective** method to solicit participation, *prayer-backed*, and learn what the Bible teaches about motivating on this subject.

Spread your own motivation and zeal to others or **find people to get you that way** (if lacking) by *catching their contagious* perspective on evangelism.

Consider handing out the following two surveys, and **follow-up** on them both *individually* and *collectively*. Ask members to commit to evangelize *at least all* in their “Personal Plan of Evangelism” levels 1-6, as God leads, A.S.A.P., and *kindly* insist that they *follow through* with action.

***Don't be content*** with the very SMALL percentage of church members who evangelize, or “graduate” from EE or CWT (or other evangelism programs). Don't leave this essential function to the whims of whether members ever **choose** to join such programs, (or whether those programs' participants **apply** what is taught, **AFTER** they complete the program!)

**Lead by example**, hang around *zealously evangelistic* folk, meditate on the importance of evangelism to God and the lost—Hell is real and waiting for them!; Develop biblical *urgency*, **take others evangelizing with you**, and **do not evangelize quietly** or *only inside* your church. As a great brother in the Lord, Jason Bessire used to say, “Live Out Loud!” Let your whole church be made aware of your personal efforts at purposefully and **regularly** LEADING out in evangelism and **more of them** will become comfortable getting on the *bandwagon* and following your lead!

Feel free to and *please do* godly and humbly **PROMOTE** having completed evangelizing *everyone* in your area, to encourage other churches to do the same (and assist them in that process, if *led* to be that selfless and biblical).

### **RECRUITING WORKERS CAN BE ACHIEVED BY MANY METHODS, INCLUDING:**

- 1) Prayer (the backbone of the entire operation).
- 2) Utilizing EE and CWT and similar program participants and graduates. It is **not enough simply to make programs AVAILABLE** to church members! Leverage relationships to ensure this blessing gets inculcated as a *habit* in each member's life!
- 3) Utilizing Church staffers and lay **leaders**.
- 4) Church leaders themselves leveraging relationships to **invite** and **exhort** people to evangelize. Make it such a *prevailing habit* in your church that those who don't evangelize feel in the minority for a change!
- 5) Evangelizers taking resistant believers with them to **observe and catch** the spirit of evangelism.
- 6) Evangelism **motivational sermons and retreats** (feel free to use this web site's materials).
- 7) Execute EE, CWT and other evangelism programs, including ‘borrowing’ para-church organizations' workers and participants (Ex.: Campus Crusade, the Navigators, etc.).
- 8) Seminary and Bible school students and Professors (from ALL theological disciplines).
- 9) **Tract distribution** by *weaker* believers not yet willing to speak the Gospel.
- 10) Using **professional Evangelists**. (Ex.: conducting festivals, crusades, or merely in-house motivating)
- 11) Workers from other cooperating churches.

- 12) Identifying all saved people in the area so the precious time and energy of limited workers is not spent trying to “evangelize” them.
- 13) “Multiplication Evangelism:” Those who have been reached are taught to **reach and teach** those they reach to **reach and teach, and so on.**
- 14) Other: Study God’s word and *other ministries*. Imitate the good and **be creative!**

REMEMBER TO PROMOTE **COMPLETION RESULTS** TO OTHER CHURCHES, TO MAKE THIS PLAN A **WORLD-WIDE MOVEMENT**, CHURCH BY CHURCH!

3. **To Complete the Great Commission OUTSIDE Your Area, Choose to Adopt an Indigenous Evangelist (i.e., “National”—Native to That Country) in the “10/40 Window”—the Least Evangelized and Likely Most Dangerous Region on the Planet.**

According to the experts it will take an additional **40,000 missionaries**, at **\$15,000** per year to reach that area and *complete* the Great Commission. This averages out to only an **annual additional \$375 for every American church!** It is reasonable to expect that churches with above the national *membership average* would be able to proportionately give *beyond* this amount. [Be A Part of It,” pp. 35-36, by Robby and Jackie Butler (U.S. Center for World Evangelism: Pasadena, CA), 1996; numbers needing inflationary adjustment]

This \$375 would be used to fund full-time indigenous evangelists in the 10/40 window—the most needy area for hearing the Gospel. So long as these funds went *directly* for the employment of these evangelists, including recruiting, training and managing their evangelistic efforts, the *specifics* of how a church can budget this item is left to that local congregation. PLEASE don’t be so **ARM’S LENGTH** apart from **direct involvement** that you simply budget more funds for some national denominational organization to *alone* know exactly where and how your additional \$375 is being *used*.

What would one church’s foreign missions obligation be? **Sponsor** part or all of a 10/40 Window Missionary’s salary or adopt a foreign country neighborhood or zip code for *short-term* mission trips.

In Summary, **Take the Great Commission Literally, Seriously and Urgently!**

Think and pray about whether your past and current efforts ensure that **all** hear, or not.

It’s Not Whether We Can, But **Whether We Will**, Which is In question!

--James Meroney (M.Div., J.D., M.B.A.)

**P.S.:** I have attached two surveys I *hope* will help you lead your congregation to a *deeper walk* with Christ and begin to *manifest* itself in ***regular personal* EVANGELISM.**



## CHURCH-WIDE DISCIPLESHIP SURVEY

In an ongoing effort of your church staff to ensure we are “pleasing God in all respects,” and faithfully fulfilling our calling to shepherd His flock toward maturity in following Christ, we have prepared this survey as a guide, both to assess the spiritual condition of our church, our own effectiveness in doing our job before God, and as a tool to help you further your personal relationship with Jesus Christ and learn how it can be strengthened to the glory of God.

(Hebrews 10:24)

**\*\*\*Please Return a Completed Form in the Offering Plate in the Next 3 Weeks\*\*\***

**Thank you!**

**Instructions:** Prayerfully consider, then honestly answer the following questions.

NAME (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

1. Are you certain that you have received Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of all your sins (and are therefore a “Christian”), or are you unsure? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If you are a Christian...

2. On a scale of 1 to 10, how important is your daily walk with Jesus Christ, 10 being very important to you? (Please circle)      1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10
3. Define “Christianity” and “the Christian life” (i.e., life after one is saved) in your own words. What are the elements which make it successful? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. How often and for how long do you spend time with God in prayer and Bible study (i.e., a “Quiet Time”)? How regularly? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Do you believe that attending Church, possibly Sunday School/Adult Bible Fellowship and Giving (or “tithing”) is the essence/core/HEART of being a Christian? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Do you know what spiritual gift (or gifts) you possess, and do you regularly use them in a ministry for God? \_\_\_\_\_
7. How many Bible verses do you know from memory, and how many have you targeted to memorize this year?    Approx. \_\_\_\_\_ Memorized and Approx. \_\_\_\_\_ Targeted this year.

(Over, Please)

8. Would you say you have a good understanding of the Bible, or in general, parts of it, select subjects, or hardly any of it? Would you like to know more, sooner? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
9. If being a Christian was compared to a baby being born and then growing, how would you describe your stage of spiritual growth? How long have you been a Christian to have grown that amount? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
10. Do you feel that God LEADS you, that you know His will, and that you have experienced His power in your life? In what ways has His power been made known to you? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
11. How often do you tell people how to go to heaven? What things are keeping you from doing this on a more regular basis, say at least once a month? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
12. Though we are all imperfect (and always will be in this life) do you see evidence of God making you holier, over time, or would you say you are a little bit on the downslide? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
13. God wants His children to be totally sold out to and committed to Him, and He has prepared an abundant life for those who do.
- a) Are you interested in learning how to “grow up” as a Christian to begin experiencing that life of rewards, blessings, joy and contentment? Yes, no, maybe, or somewhat? \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) If your answer was either no, maybe or somewhat, please list the things that are keeping you from being fully interested in having a closer walk with God. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Thanks for Your Honest Answers and Time Taking This Personal Spiritual Inventory!**

Remember:

It's only what we do with and for God in this life that matters in the long run! Every day not lived close to God is a day missing out on His abundant life, a day of less blessings and rewards (both here for eternity) and a disappointing displeasing of the Father.

*Make and take the time, as you'll hardly ever find the time.*

*It's the most important thing to be engaged in in this life!*

## CHURCH-WIDE EVANGELISM SURVEY

In an ongoing effort of your church staff to ensure we are “pleasing God in all respects,” and faithfully fulfilling our calling to shepherd God’s flock toward maturity and evangelizing the lost, we have prepared this survey as a guide, both to assess the spiritual condition of our church, our own effectiveness in doing our job before God, and also as a tool to help you consider how your relationship with Jesus Christ is being *verbally expressed* to lost people, for their eternal benefit. We want to help you be strengthened in this most important area to the glory of God.  
(Matthew 28:18-20)

**\*\*\*Please Return a Completed Form in the Offering Plate in the Next 3 Weeks\*\*\***

**Thank you!**

**Instructions:** Please honestly and prayerfully answer the following questions, using check marks or words, as called for.

NAME (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

1. In assessing your own participation in world evangelism, which statement best describes your involvement and current state of mind about the subject?:

\_\_\_ I regularly evangelize the lost. About how often? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I occasionally evangelize the lost. About how many people a year do you reach? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I rarely evangelize the lost but I have done so before. How many times in your life would you say you have done so? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I am presently willing to evangelize (i.e., tell the Gospel of Jesus Christ to) lost people.

\_\_\_ I am willing to evangelize (i.e., tell the Gospel of Jesus Christ to) lost people **if**:

a) I could be trained, and learn how better to do it. \_\_\_

b) I were to receive the encouragement of someone to do so. \_\_\_

c) Someone asked me to, and laid out a plan where I could effectively and specifically aid in accomplishing a significant move forward for the cause of Christ in evangelism. \_\_\_

d) The pastor or a staff member asked me to. \_\_\_

e) If someone were to take me out with them and allow me to observe how it is done (without my speaking—only praying, until I am more comfortable). \_\_\_

f) I am needed. \_\_\_ (**Note:** you ARE needed!)

g) I were taught and “motivated” about why it is important and why I am supposed to do it. \_\_\_

h) The methods used were “easy” for me to learn and implement. \_\_\_

i) I grow a little more in my faith. I estimate I would be ready by \_\_\_\_\_ (date). \_\_\_

\_\_\_ I am willing to be made willing to evangelize, so pray for me (as will I) that God would make me willing.

(Over, Please)

\_\_\_ I do not or “cannot” see myself ever evangelizing. I do not intend or plan to, and am unwilling to evangelize. Please state the reasons which are hindering you from making this important step. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Would you like prayer for your decisions in the matter of your level of commitment to evangelism for Jesus Christ? \_\_\_\_\_

3. On the subject of evangelism, **are you personally certain that you have received Jesus Christ** for the forgiveness of all your sins (and are therefore a “Christian”), or are you unsure? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. How did you come to have the certainty that you have received and know Christ personally  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please complete the following chart (at least in your own records), entitled “My Personal Evangelism Plan” to indicate which people you plan to share the Gospel with in the next 2 to 12 months.

**Thanks for Your Honest Answers and Time Taking This Personal Evangelism Inventory!**

Remember:  
It’s the most important activity you can be engaged in unto God for the lost, and God rewards us for our obedience in this area!

## PERSONAL EVANGELISM PLAN

(a practical personal evangelism model, using common lines of relationships, adapted from the book, Concentric Circles of Concern, by Oscar Thompson)

Before God, and trusting His leadership and power, I commit to *initiating* conversations to spread the Gospel to the following people this next year:

**1. Self** \_\_\_\_\_ (If I am unsure whether I will go to heaven, so I will seek out a pastor to speak with)

**2. Immediate Family** (Ex.: spouse, children)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Extended Family** (Ex.: parents, siblings, uncles and aunts)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Friends**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**5. Business Associates or School Colleagues**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Neighbors and domestic workers** (Ex.: maid, daycare, garbage person, mailman)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**7. Strangers**

Name (after reached): \_\_\_\_\_

Name (after reached): \_\_\_\_\_

## 9. A Practical Plan for Great Commission Completion (Within 3 Years)

### 3-YEAR GLOBAL GREAT COMMISSION COMPLETION PLAN

Would you **PLEASE** prayerfully consider what your part might be in a *global* plan to ensure that **EVERY** living lost person **hears the Gospel** (lovingly, accurately and effectively) **ONE TIME** within the next **3 years**? Resist the devil if your *mind* is telling you this is imaginary dreaming or a crazy, “impractical” idea because allowing those thoughts to not be **taken captive** will ALL BUT destine you to **NOT** be someone we can count on in this *venture*! (II Cor. 11:28)

The HEART of such a PLAN would include:

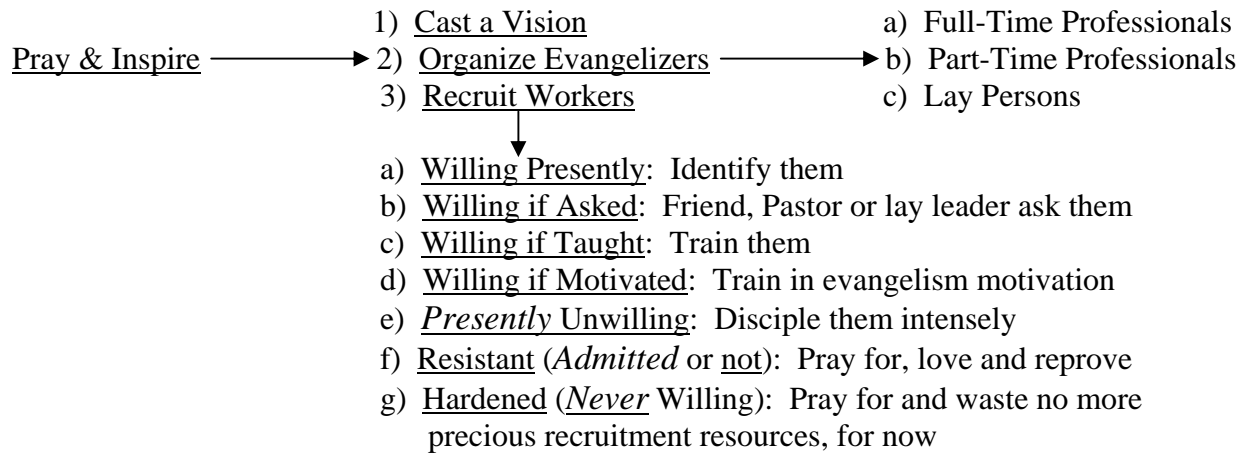
1. **EVERY** local church **completely** reaching **all lost** within **3 miles** of their building, (**See:** Local Church Plan of Evangelism). If ‘**success arrogance**’ prevents any churches from participating, perhaps only the smaller churches would be used of God to get the job *done*.
2. **Helping** other *surrounding* churches do the same.
3. **Broadcasting** results to *inspire* churches further from you across the world.
4. **Recruiting workers** (**See:** Church-Wide Evangelism Survey).
5. **Raising \$375 per church** to cover Missionaries in the 10/40 Window.
6. **Prayer**-backing, and
7. **Organized**—not duplicitous efforts, or *reaching Christians* with the Gospel!

### WORLD-WIDE EVANGELISM NEEDS

(for *literally* **COMPLETING** the Great Commission in **2 to 3 Years**)

1. ‘Vision Spreading and for the real practicality of completing an *objective* plan for **100% fulfillment** the first stage of the *Great Commission*.
2. Prayer-Backing
3. Recruitment of Workers
4. Identify Evangelistic Needs
  - a) **EVERY** *never-reached* person.
  - b) **EVERY** *unsaved* person who has heard the Gospel but **needs re-evangelism**.
  - c) **OTHER** (Think hard and come up with *helpful* suggestions to add).
5. **Money** Raised to Fully Support this Cause
6. All Evangelism Efforts Organized and Coordinated with Each Other (to avoid duplicity, evangelizing Christians and to be as efficient as possible at effectively and objectively **COMPLETING** the Great Commission).
7. Exhorting and Inspiring Believers to Evangelize.
8. Resources Readily Available to Handle Challenges (Ex.: Language barriers, apologetic answers, organized opposition, etc.).

### GREAT COMMISSION COMPLETION NEEDS FLOW CHART



### GENERAL FOREIGN MISSIONS STRATEGIES

The **most needy areas** of the world for evangelism don't happen to be in our own backyard. Below are some **suggested strategies** for reaching people in foreign lands—many of which are hostile to the Gospel. These strategies have been submitted to the Southern Baptist Convention, who informed me that they would not only be seriously *considered* but many *incorporated* into their strategic mission plans, for which I'm eternally THANKFUL.

- **Organize** all existing evangelizers, and train all who are willing to learn how to evangelize. Address the evangelism motivation needs of the *others* in the Church thereafter.
- **Recruit** part- and full-time evangelists (Ex.: *raise funds* to increase their numbers).
- Establish a global **economic warehouse** to support *indigenous evangelists* in the **10/40 Window** only as long as it takes them to raise their own support.
- **Recruit** *college* and *high school* students for foreign missions EVANGELISM work.
- Conduct “**World Events**” (Ex.: hands across Texas, etc.)—be creative.
- Conduct **motivational seminars**.
- I've heard of one 10/40 indigenous evangelist who travels around with an American sermon on an old **record player**, letting that recording speak the Gospel to his people.
- **Video tapes** in homes which have video players. (Ex.: the Jesus Video, etc.)
- Perhaps design **universal sign language** to evangelize people of all languages (Ex.: point to the sky, hands out to receive, picture of Christ—as we portray Him—hands out in prayer?). There ARE **universal gestures** consistently applicable in all cultures, as was detailed in a recent national morning news program (which included an associated web site).
- **Tracts** in all know languages.
- Promote evangelism-inspiring **books** (in *all* media formats).
- Use cheaper methods, and **learn to live modestly** (**See:** Commitment to a Wartime Lifestyle, from the U.S. Center on World Missions), so 10% of present expenses can FUND world evangelism without even having to **crimp your lifestyle**.
- Print out sheets of **Jn. 3:16 verses** in various (either by nationals preparing them, or converting English versions from such web sites as babelfish.com).
- Organize laymen's evangelism efforts **across churches**.

- Use the philosophy to ‘Teach a man to fish’ instead of providing fish to him forever. Applied, **train indigenous Christians** to reach their *own people* with the Gospel.
- Use **technology and media** (to make up for the Church’s lack). A robot, though not *preferred*, would do better than 95% of American Christians!
- Coordinate **city-wide** evangelism efforts, with as many churches involved as possible.
- Do not automatically rule out what seems impossible—**Billy Graham** has conducted crusades in Cambodia, and **Arthur Blessit** in 2000 completed entry in every country in the world (over the life of his ministry). Pray. It can be done!
- Recruit a **huge evangelism army** (seminary, high school, college, retirees, etc.).
- Witness to **culture groups** in your own city (and train them to *reach* their foreign relatives).
- Christians in business, and especially “Christian businesses” need to provide a lot more decent paying **part-time jobs** to **bi-vocational Evangelists!** I have looked for such for years and they hardly exist. What a ministry that would be from *employers*, because to make a decent living our time would *not be as* consumed with lesser things than evangelism.
- Are there any Christians you know who seem **open to evangelizing**, but have not done it yet? Please **give their names** to any evangelistically-minded member of your church staff to *follow-up on*.
- Though there is no explicit promise that Christ will return immediately upon our reaching the world with the Gospel, and knowing He will come at the Father’s appointed date, we can be hopeful that this **could** be the result, which should stimulate us all the more to get the job done quickly. We CAN hasten the day of His return. (II Pet. 3:12, Mt. 24:14)
- Radio evangelism.
- Wycliff and World Bible Society Bible translators increased, to handle the *world-wide need* for their services
- **Videotape skilled evangelists** and disciple-makers to train indigenous ministers. Cambodian Christians spontaneously decided to do that with our mission group—very wise of them!
- Reportedly, some third world countries hire **American ministers** to teach their people how to evangelize, so the trainees can become **MISSIONARIES TO AMERICA!** Is America so back-slidden that the number one missionary sending country in the world now is a **mission field** for those we used to only send missionaries **TO?** [Courtesy of Ronnie Webb]
- One Colorado-based ministry (D.A.W.N.) reportedly has an **evangelism war room**, with multi-colored maps indicating the spiritual need and *conditions* in given areas. Do you know that information about your city?
- We need to be **wiser stewards** in our evangelism efforts and expenditures world-wide. I know of some American-based missionaries who have raised **full-time funds** labeled ‘Missionaries,’ who are only in foreign countries 6 weeks a year! Perhaps they need to fund-raise, and don’t feel called to full-time missionary work, but we can do better than that with the limited funds for evangelism!
- Don’t set up foreign church *polity* exactly like it is in America (necessarily). Let them express themselves in their own cultural traditions, so long as they are **consistent with the Bible.**

- Win a country **one city at a time**—then godly BRAG, to stimulate other cities to **do the same**. I am not speaking of the sinful type of boasting. (II Cor. 12:1)
- **Completely thresh the area surrounding YOUR church**, and then **BROADCAST** those successes everywhere, to inspire other churches, world-wide, to **do the same!**
- Ministries which **start churches** as the result of their evangelism need to have ways to monitor its moral and evangelistic health (pray, write letters, let the local missionary check up on it, re-visit it each trip back, etc.).
- One Minister suggested: “Develop relationships with people. Most witnessing occurs one on one, led by **indigenous churches** and locals. One way to minister there is to have a pastor for a month, then *hand off* the task to another. A common way is to ‘*meet needs they know they have so we can meet needs they don’t know they have,*’ and, without a ministry visa, most 10/40 missionaries will need to be  tied to their vocation, to have a **right** to live in those countries.” --Paraphrase of Keith Parks, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship meeting at Tallowood Baptist Church, Houston, TX 1998

## **Foreign Missions Strategies and Suggestions for Closed Countries**

### **Currently Being Done**

- Evangelistic Crusades.
- Radio Free America-like ministry.
- Television (ex.: TBN).
- Smuggling Bibles and tracts (in various forms).
- Training the “underground church.”
- Evangelizing “foreigners” when out of their country to conduct evangelism when they are back home.
- Evangelizing through believers who will do business in closed countries.
- Having a church within walking distance of every person—already the *goal* of global mission strategists.
- Evangelize immigrants to free world countries (they make calls and trips back “home”).
- Economic and medical aid as an in-road to government permission in sharing the faith.
- Bible story-telling leading to evangelism.
- Train indigenous missionaries and helping to fund them.
- Short-term mission trips.
- Evangelism during crises and natural catastrophes, as appropriate (i.e., **at least** *pray* with them—using Jesus’ name—and leave *tracts*).
- Evangelize entire families, often addressing the father first (in strongly paternal cultures)

### **Continue to or Consider Doing in the Future**

- Full-time missionaries leave the comforts of the United States.
- Prayer for the lost and leaders and evangelizers in those countries. Solicit as **many** to pray specifically as possible.

- Trade one day of full access to America for Muslim witness, for one day in Arab countries for Christian witness (if feasible).
- Social charity work (Ex.: fill pot holes, medicine, health experts/nutrition, end poverty) used in conjunction with right to evangelize) or coordinate with U.S. government agencies (Ex.: Global Vision).
- Smuggle Bibles (with marked Gospel verses or Gospel presentation in leaf) by **car or plane drop**, (Ex.: border ministry), and books interpreting the Bible and explaining the Gospel.
- Access people in *closed* countries through the internet.
- Evangelize and train Christian students and businessmen who plan to go to or work in the 10/40 window for secular reasons.
- Pray for change in closed governments' leaders.
- Have Evangelists continue to try to meet with closed country government leaders.
- Provide physical aid (with tracts inserted).
- Remote control or flying Gospel megaphones? *Think outside the box* for workable, imaginative products!
- Remote control airplane? (Ex.: a drone-like Gospel leaflet dropper).
- Remote-control boats full of Gospel tracts?
- Gospel laser messages in the sky?
- Conduct "world events" in open countries (to make news and possibly get attention in closed countries).
- Hot air balloon evangelism (Ex.: the Gospel message on the side in THEIR language), or stuffed with tracts to be dropped)—likely only in safer countries.
- Fax machine evangelism.
- Voice mail evangelism.
- Internet chat room evangelism.
- Honing Pigeons (or other animals) with tracts on their back?
- Huge lighted cross they can see from their country?
- Missionaries anonymously distribute tracts **at night**? (only safely, of course)
- Government political persuasion to influence closed countries' leaders.
- National celebrities speak of Christ and the Gospel (Ex.: ex-U.S. patriots, abroad or famous nationals).
- Musical concerts interspersed with testimonies or Gospel verses. A secular orchestra was recently was allowed to play in North Korea.
- Preach at the established governmental churches, within governmental guidelines.
- Evangelize nationals in the U.S. and train the converts to evangelize when they return to their home country. (already being done)
- Billboards?
- Chalk board art and drama evangelism?

- Arthur Blessit cross-carrying method (he successfully infiltrated ALL closed countries!).
- Megaphones on cars (Ex.: in Cambodia a Michael Jackson concert was being promoted this way).
- Airplane streamers?
- Airplane tract drops (Ex.: covert airspace, with government awareness—as they may never see the Gospel again).
- Get free and positive publicity at world events, such as the Olympics.
- Increase full-time American missionaries to the 10-40 window (**recruit and pay for them**), and bi-vocational missionaries.
- Re-shuffle the predominantly **95% Christian** workers in North America to balance out where they are more needed. (Hitherto rejected as a predominant strategy by Missions Strategists).
- Neighborhood Bible studies once trust is gained that nationals will not turn you into the authorities. (already being used)
- Religious leaders interacting with other religion's leaders (mutual opportunity to present case and learn from each other—"Inter-Faith dialogues")?
- Musical tour groups doing evangelizing. (already being done)
- Planes skywriting the Gospel (or at least a cross)?
- Evangelize while on vacation or with foreign exchange students.
- Write evangelistic letters to people (if the government does not *sensor* or confiscate mail).
- Chain letters or chain e-mails?
- Door-to-door evangelism, identified as vacationing guests.
- Create a reputation in cities surrounding those areas of the MASSES flocking to Christ (i.e., preach for results and 'revival' which might pressure surrounding closed countries).
- Phone calls (if not *censored* by the government).
- Christians teaching English as a Second Language classes (and evangelizing off hours).
- Christian relatives of family in closed countries try to evangelize them when they have contact and opportunity.
- Slip in religion in school curriculum?
- Christians boycott of goods from closed countries, and seeking other American's boycotting for secular reasons?
- Hire 40,000 indigenous evangelists, and motivate, train, manage and monitor their progress.
- Push for more moderates in closed country government structure.
- Have Christians memorize Gospel verses and re-create them on paper when in closed countries.
- Any other technologies (including UPS package deliveries).
- Try to evangelize the government leadership.
- Technology to produce a tremendously loud message from the skies which many can hear?

- Tracts on oil freighters to and from the Middle East.
- Evangelism *messages* on business documents.
- Donate clothes (Ex.: **shirts with John 3:16** on them, perhaps in English).
- Donate fortune cookies with John 3:16 in them, or other knowingly food stuffs?
- Elect a Christian president courageous enough to privately mention the Gospel to their leaders.
- On foreign hotel stays, leave leaflets as you leave a house or building (to protect yourself from possible harm if discovered).
- Ask nationals of their religious beliefs, and hear them out. Perhaps then they will open up to you to reciprocally hear the Gospel.
- Let the U.S. and European (i.e., Western) Church do **most of the paying** for 10/40 window evangelism, as they can most afford it.

**Be Creative!!!**

**God Can Use Your Renewed Mind to Help Finalize Reaching the Least-Evangelized!**

## 25 EVANGELISM PRINCIPLES I BELIEVE IN

1. With limited resources, don't let the **discipling** of Christians DELAY reaching **ALL** in the world **ASAP**
2. If only given these two options, I'd rather reach all men for Christ and have a smaller number of mature believers than to have a few spiritual giants and **MANY** go to hell untold.
3. Use those willing to be used in evangelism, and **PRAY FOR** (and *motivate*) the others.
4. Evangelize the ripe fruit first, if *possible*.
5. It is *better* to evangelize all men once, than just a few men several times.
6. Evangelism cooperation is better than church competition (i.e., we are *co-laborers*)
7. Until you have **DONE** evangelism, your *criticisms* of or *advice* on methods **don't really count**.
8. Evangelism is like basketball—you learn by DOING.
9. Eliminate as much disorganization and duplicity of effort as *possible*, so ministries **know** who needs to be reached and who is already reaching them (if *anyone*).
10. The Bible teaches a '**go and tell**' *philosophy* of evangelism (vs. a '*come and hear*' one).
11. Evangelism is an **event**, and if it falls within a bigger *process*, that's not your concern—**go TELL!** Evangelism that is never initiated or *intentional* and *purposeful* can only be **accidental** or *non-existent*.
12. Fear of speaking with *strangers* without "befriending" them first, over time, is **NOT** of God, and this issue has nothing to do with your personality or temperament.
13. Most American Christians will **do almost ANYTHING** but evangelize and to avoid evangelizing. Unfortunately, I mean **almost ANYTHING**. Nothing is as **SELFISH** as an evangelistically **mute** believer.
14. It is *easier* to reach the world with everyone doing their part (and we should teach and motivate to that end), but we **cannot count on** that *happening*.
15. If every Christian were to reach the lost and **teach their converts to do the same**, world evangelism could be completed **sooner**, but we **cannot count on** that *happening*.
16. Of all the money pumped into Christianity each year, the **greatest percentage** should be going to **world evangelism**.
17. If we would but **COMPLETE** the **Great Commission** (i.e., reach EVERY soul **one time** with an accurate and empowered message), **we would have the moral freedom** to do all the more entertaining things we **NOW** do more culpably, having **NEVER completed** the task.
18. One of the **main reasons** Christ has not yet returned is because He is waiting on the Church to **get off her duff** and **COMPLETE** His **Great Commission**.
19. You can do all the **social ministry** and live as ethically as possible, but until you **SPEAK the Gospel** you have neither evangelized, or eternally helped a lost person.
20. Evangelism is defined as lovingly speaking the Gospel message to lost people in the power

of the Spirit, praying, hoping, intending and inviting that person to *respond*.

21. It is easier to brand a *zealous* lay evangelizer a “**fanatic**” than to face and ‘**fess up**’ to your own sinful evangelismlessness!
22. It doesn’t matter if a lost person indicates they are interested in spiritual things or not—they **NEED** Christ, and you are obligated to *lovingly* share Him unless they verbally inform you they will NOT listen to anything more. This is not ‘cramming the gospel down their throats,’ but being graciously PERSISTENT.
23. One may be able to take evangelism to an extreme (i.e., the proverbial ‘witnessing to a light pole’), but that image is **NOT** America’s predominant concern.
24. **Evangelizing those who have never heard the Gospel is our MOST urgent need.**
25. **Judgment is upon a *group of people* who LET the world go to hell, and do NOTHING about it!**

#### STRATEGY CONSIDERATIONS FOR GREAT COMMISSION COMPLETION

- Start with the willing and **maximize** their usefulness
- Use “Multiplication Evangelism” (at least till it breaks down)
- **Disciple** people into being *evangelistic*
- Catch the fire: **Rub off** on others if you’re evangelistic; if not, hang around those who are!
- Pastors lead by example (**OUTSIDE** their church walls—openly, publicly and **publicize it**)
- For 3 years, re-assign as **many full-time Missionaries** to finish work in the 10/40 Window, or wherever they are needed (IF they feel **led** and are **willing** to do so). Current Missions Strategy does **not** re-direct current Missionaries to the most needy areas, but if for **only 3 years**, and given the eternal and **thorough** purpose for this change, I think that strategy could be temporarily abandoned. **See:** Be A Part of It, by Robby and Jackie Butler, (U.S. Center for World Mission: Pasadena, CA), 1996
- Statistics show that **95% of all Ministers work in North America**—one of the most plentifully-reached (and **affluent**—any correlation?) areas of the world. Any chance any of these Ministers would take a sabbatical or **MANY** short-term mission trips to help where they’re **really** needed? **See:** Be A Part of It, p. 22, by Robby and Jackie Butler, (U.S. Center for World Mission: Pasadena, CA), 1996
- For just **3 years**, couldn’t we prayerfully, lovingly and with intentional prioritization have **every Christian denomination WORK TOGETHER** to complete this task? No pride, no ownership, no building construction, no selfish ambition, no claims, no proselytizing to your own ministry, no subject but Christ and evangelism being presented to lost people and no leadership conflicts?
- Use the ‘**teach a man how to fish**’ vs. ‘feed a man for life’ philosophy of ministry (especially by having *indigenous evangelists* **witness** to their own people, and **funded only so long** as it takes for them to be *financially self-sustaining*).
- Create a world-wide *Great Commission Completion* **Money Warehouse** (which

- manages, prioritizes and monitors **results** of it's spending to support evangelizers).
- Recruit explorer/outdoorsmen types to reach physically difficult to reach peoples (including either linguists, or **technology** to *connect* linguists to those they discover).
  - Identify all existing born again believers, so we don't *waste* resources trying to evangelize them (each church, individually, can use their *membership rolls*—updated with this web site's **Evangelism Survey** results for those who are members, yet *lost*). **See:** Church Evangelism Survey
  - Where **language barriers** arise, consider some of the following ideas (many of which *I used* in Cambodia):
    - a) A national interpreter
    - b) Gospel Tracts
    - c) Find English as a Second Language teachers to help
    - d) Find **English-speaking** nationals to help (the Lord led me to a man reading an English Dictionary who was pleased to translate, for it aided his English proficiency
    - e) National children are eager to help (consider comic book tracts). I didn't care if they were saved or not—only if they were **willing** to pass on a message where there were **so few workers**, because God's word doesn't return void
    - f) **Learn 20 crucial Gospel words in their language**. I used to know 20 words in the Cambodian language. Ex.: Christ, sin, heaven, hell, pray, trust, love, etc.
    - g) Wear a **T-shirt** with which communicates the Gospel to them, and point to it for them to read if ever *by yourself*
    - h) Train nationals to evangelize when you're gone from short-term mission trips
    - i) Consider the use of megaphones, public campaigns (Ex.: Billy Graham-like Evangelists or **local national celebrity Christians**), or 'world event,' ETC.
  - QUIT confusing emotional bonding through **charity** work to the lost as an *influence* or required prerequisite to evangelism! If you have **God's power**, you'll see all that's required of us is to lovingly **SPEAK!** Using our donor- (vs. God-) limited resources on any good activities which delay or increase the cost of completing the Great Commission within 3 years thereby makes them impediments and hindrances to that goal.
  - Though perhaps a *great strategy* for indigenous evangelism, **quit considering our Western work done** once a church has been "planted" within a given "**people group**." **Christ didn't die for "people groups"** but **INDIVIDUALS**—and **ALL** of them! Make plans that are more specific toward reaching everyone within that "people group." The apostles didn't "*plant*" churches—they **evangelized people**, who then *gathered into* churches as a result.
  - Consider creating a global war room to **track evangelism results** and needs.
  - Target strategic cities for *full completion*, so results will be more naturally **broadcast** elsewhere (Ex.: London, Beijing).
  - Consider '**world events**' to get attention to this 3-year plan, such as public Bible burnings (to emphasize our rarely using them anyway, yet only symbolize such by burning **non-useable books**).
  - Use **advertising** and **technology** to their *fullest* in this global campaign.
  - Identify Christian apologetic and world religion evangelism experts to be '*on call*,' as needed.

- Have a **one-time FUNDING** drive to **fully pay** for this **one-time** Great Commission “harvesting” project.
- *After* the job is done, **monitor**:
  - a) **New births**, needing evangelism when ‘*of age*.’
  - b) People needing **re-evangelism** (especially those facing **old age**)
  - c) People **needing discipleship**. Start with the majority of **existing** believers!
- **Recruit Missionaries** (Ex.: Bible Colleges, High Schools, Seminaries, etc.; it helps a lot to **have funding raised** to get their *attention* for an **only 3-year** stint). Many young **Mormons** take two years out of their young work lives to **serve their faith**. Secular analogies exist in the **Peace Corps**. **Why can’t the Church lift a finger** for *one last-minute*, possibly **last ditch** effort at Great Commission **completion** in our day?
- JUST for three years, consider either **temporarily curtailing** or at least **not increasing** **social ministry/charity** activities and **funding UNTIL** *every human has been reached* with the *Gospel*.
- Christian **discipleship** efforts, though **extremely beneficial**, might need to be **maintained** at **present level** for **the 3-year period**, as all efforts **but evangelism** can take needed resources away from that **objective** (knowing **discipleship will increase workers in the medium- and long-term**). If this **offends** those doing discipleship work, **ADD to** your work, but **also add more evangelism**—you’ll need to **cut back your paid employment**, perhaps, but what a **valuable sacrifice** I feel confident you likely **won’t make**.

I hope this web site is **proof** to disciples I am **ALL for what you do!** I simply fear this particular bullet point will be **criticized** as an **infringement** on their ministry focus, but before you criticize the suggestion—**have you presently reached every existing believer with Christian discipleship?** If not, why are you mad at me for suggesting you **roll up your sleeves** and **evangelize too** BEFORE you return to that **third stage** of the Great Commission which you **weren’t fully fulfilling** anyway?

**Maybe we could ‘target’ every existing believer for DISCIPLING  
AFTER we reach the *entire* world for Christ,  
as our *next* big project!**

**World SOCIAL MINISTRY projects could follow.  
Think BIG. Act BIG. We serve a very LARGE God!**

We have to do them all *contemporaneously*, but we should especially **focus** on **completing evangelism** in **3 years**.

- Conduct **city-wide** and **country-wide** Great Commission completion *efforts* (and **broadcast** successes to *inspire* other **cities** and **countries** to **do the same**).
- **Evangelism resources**, as mentioned in this document, generally refer to “manpower, money and materials.”
- ETC. (Many *follow-through* activities will be **needed**, but NOT until **stage one** is **100% completed**—**literally reaching every** human with the Gospel)

**A GLOBAL PLAN UTILIZING ONLY THE CURRENT 5%**

We *hope* and *pray* and trust God for increased workers, but in our planning we must *baseline* with how the 5% who currently evangelize could get the Great commission task completed without increased resources.

### **Strategic Needs:**

1. Communication (**organize** and reduce *duplicity* of efforts and *competition*)
2. Money (I pray this web site and Plan of Action increases awareness of your needs)
3. Technology (**use** all that can be effective and suggest inventions for what's needed)
4. Commitment: Agree to NOT do lesser things for 3 years (and stay close to God)!

### **Specific Plan:**

I am almost certain the Great Commission will **only** be completed—if ever—by the 5% of evangelistic believers! We can pray and motivate and encourage more participation, but the American Church is hardened possibly beyond repair or remedy—though **all things are possible** with God bringing a change some would call “revival.” We should pray and prepare ourselves for such, but also have a solid contingency plan if things continue as they recently have.

BEWARE—**many** believers, when asked to participate in evangelism, will oppose and be defensive against you—even your *completely positive* methods. Some of the most sanctimonious “reasons” will be offered to **justify** her non-involvement, and some of the greatest spiritual warfare will be had if you take on this *behemoth* rock of *resistance*.

Expect severe assessing of every move and motive, every attempted theological argument against your results, methods, “tone,” and at the least a general “difference of opinion” we must agree to *disagree over* as the final way of ignoring and shutting you out of further, future planning consideration. **They need motivation, prayer, discipling/maturing, leadership by example from the top down, and a strong reproof!**

If you ever propose ANY type of DIRECT, *objectifiably* communicated evangelism methods, you will often be shunned as *out-of-touch*, “**ineffective**,” or a radical—by those CLAIMING to represent Christ. Don't even consider pushing it so far as to expect **speaking** to come from their mouths, especially toward a **stranger!** They would just as soon make friends with every soul in the world themselves, personally, than to be so “*offensive*” as to have to have a conversation with someone they **don't know**—especially on such a “*touchy*” and out-of-the-ordinary conversation piece as **spiritual things!**

Can't you see the **devil** in all this resistant behavior, and how he is achieving his greatest victories by keeping you content in your **silence**—for such oh so very ‘holy’ of intentions and “reasons” (i.e., excuses). If you can't see this, I pray for God to miraculously **remove the scales** from your eyes and for you to BEGIN to read His word, praying Ps. 19:18 *every time* you do!

Because completion of the Great Commission is urgently needed, and knowing the present, general evangelistic hardness of at least the American Church, the following plan is provided should utilizing the presently willing be our **ONLY, last hope** for achieving that objective:

1. Find the willing, in ALL countries.
  - a) Professionals and lay evangelizers (i.e., already doing the work—trained and experienced).
  - b) Willing if trained

- c) Willing if asked
  - d) Willing if motivated
  - e) Willing if *any other contingencies* are met
2. Provide them **technology** which can expand their reach and help them “*duplicate themselves*” (Ex.: megaphone, signs, billboards, tracts, phonographs/cassette players, videos, internet web site, public viewing area for a film, marked Bibles in their language, etc.), and **pray** for their every move.
  3. Organize their efforts, *unless* doing so takes away from already limited resources.
  4. Conduct inexpensive evangelism, since most Christian **monies** go to support church operations—not evangelism, per se.
  5. As always, trust God in these activities, and for **results** even in *places* we may **not complete** His Great Commission (though EVERY effort needs to be expended).
  6. **OTHER:** This plan is **not exhaustive**, and if you have any ideas to better utilize our carnality-limited resources (spiritually unlimited, though rarely fully appropriated), I’d love to hear your comments and add valuable suggestions.

## 10. Contact 'Us'

### **Have You Decided to Trust Jesus Christ for Your Eternal Salvation?**

Do You Have Questions, Comments or a Speaking Opportunities you need assistance with?

Please fill out the following information, and I will *attempt to respond as quickly as possible*.  
Should a subject receive enough inquiries, this web site *may be updated* to address new topics.

- Do you have comments about the web site? Please let us hear from you. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## 11. About ‘Us’ (Ex.: Personal Testimony, Evangelism Experience and Resume, References)

Thank you *sincerely* for bearing with the length of these materials, and I *pray* the Lord impresses on your heart the biblical centrality of these most-needed ministries—**Evangelism, Relational Discipleship, and “Body Life”**). I also hope He convicts you to **IMPLEMENT** them to the glory of God.

--James E. Meroney, New Millennium Commentary: New Testament, © 2008

### PERSONAL TESTIMONY

I was **saved** at age eight and became **totally committed** to Christ at age eighteen.

Having experienced the gracious love of a persistent Christian as a Freshman in College, who showed me interest and kept **insisting** I have a *Quiet Time* with him, my somewhat *rebellious will* finally **consented**. Though having gone to church all my life, for the **first time** I understood that my relationship with Jesus was to be maintained and developed, and that *Christ-like character* grows from **meeting with Him daily**, in Bible study and prayer. That *intimacy* **SURPASSED** the value of all lessons and sermons I had ever been taught!

After about a month, my commitment to this pleasurable investigation grew, and during the last three years of College, Bible study frequently lasted 3 or more hours a day. It *helped* to seriously date a gal whose denominational beliefs differed from mine, and whose father *challenged* me to **prove-up** what I believed and did not believe!

Shortly thereafter God called me into professional ministry. In 1982, I attended Seminary and earned a Master of Divinity degree in Missions-Evangelism from Southwestern Seminary. Later I studied Theology and New Testament at **Dallas Theological Seminary**.

In 1981 God called me (i.e., laid on my heart) to **write a Commentary** on the New Testament, which I have researched and written the past 25 years. Now over *5,000 pages long*, the Commentary is a verse-by-verse interpretation, explaining various interpretive *options*, and describing the *most likely* and best choices, given standard hermeneutical principles, with *reasons* given for such choices, and extolling both the positives and negatives of the various *alternative* interpretations.

To supplement this understanding, a **Topication** was concurrently written (rough-draft), in which **EVERY New Testament verse** (and *select* Old Testament verses) on **EVERY** New Testament **subject**, alphabetically listed, has been gleaned, and put into categories teaching the **Same, Similar, Different or Seemingly Opposite** thing as the other verses, then summarizing that topic in a **range** of organized sub-teachings and **harmonizing** those subjects where *seemingly opposite* teachings are found. This Topication provides the “**Forest-like**” understanding of a given Bible topic, when one reads a controversial or difficult verse, while interpretation in the Commentary is more of a “**Tree-like**” view, with the ability to cross-reference that *fuller* subject when faced with any *specific* verse on that topic.

The most important portions of these two books are the topics of **Evangelism** and **Discipleship**. Having spent **YEARS** in personal and public evangelism, having been disciplined by

2-3 people and associated ministries, my materials are the result of **YEARS** of intense search for the **most immediately and significantly impactful** subjects on Evangelism and Discipleship found in God's word. This web site is the **BEST OF** all that research!

Having now completed the *rough draft*, I would consider **starting** or **joining** a ministry *actively engaged* in COMPLETING the Great Commission. If God should **raise up** enough believers who believe in the contents of this web site, I would be **more than happy** to spend the next 20 to 30 years (full- or part-time) doing **any** and **as many** of the following *evangelistic* activities as possible:

### **POSSIBLE EVANGELISM MINISTRY**

1. **Strategically** engage in Personal Evangelism door-to-door and/or face to face (i.e., where people are):
  - a) With **Pastors** (as I've done several times)
  - b) To **train** laymen (their only observing, smiling and praying—initially).
  - c) With cameras, for *evangelism training* on the internet (Ex.: GodTube, YouTube, MySpace).
  - d) To complete one neighborhood at a time, in a given city or town (possibly videotaping it for internet training and to inspire other communities to do the same).
    - 1] By myself (if *no one else* will join the effort)
    - 2] With evangelizers (my *preferred* manner)
2. **Gospel Sign Ministry**— Take my **Gospel Signs** to public events and religious/Christian events, to promote the Gospel and evangelism. These are 5 metal signs, 3 to 4 feet square, with professionalized exhortative messages either promoting Christian evangelism or stating the Gospel in approximately 15 words. [Web site pictures to be later added].

Already, THOUSANDS have read the Gospel at many events (usually 3,000 or more attending), and large Christian churches and events have read strong exhortations reproving our 5% evangelismlessness *disgrace*.

I'd be willing to do this **full-time**, if needed and effective. **Arthur Blessitt** started his ministry with such a method (for a lifetime)! They could be taken to:

- A) Churches—the Major 25 across Dallas-Fort Worth (My two sons and I did this at one of Dallas' **largest churches** yesterday, for 1.5 hours, 2 hours after my 5 year old got saved! (*imagine that*—my **5 year old** the day of his conversion has done **more for evangelism** than **most American adult Christians!**).
  - 1) Saturday Nights (alternating between my Sunday School class)
  - 2) Sunday Mornings (as I attend church on Saturday evenings).
  - 3) Wednesday Evenings?
- B) Denominational Events (Ex.: Pastor's Conferences), and
- C) Major "Christian Events" (Ex.: 6 Flags Christian Day, Promise Keepers, National Day of Prayer events, Christian rock concerts, big events at churches, etc.)
- D) Major Secular Events—Texas Motor Speedway, State Fair, Mavericks' playoffs, Cowboys' opening game, political events, parades, (See: internet), Byron Nelson Golf Classic, etc.
- E) Major Traffic Build-Up/Street Corners (Ex.: rush hour)
- F) Major Companies (as the majority arrive to or leave from the parking lot/garage).

3. Get *video* of the Gospel Signs—but more importantly **personal evangelism experiences**—on my Web Site, U-Tube and God.tube (Digital Video), for training and motivational purposes.
4. **Recruit Gospel Sign holders** to man multiple church parking lot exits and exhort and evangelize at multiple, simultaneous churches. (i.e., I have signs to evangelize the lost, and signs to exhort Christians to evangelism—two ministries at one public location!).
5. Conduct **motivational seminars** for evangelism.
6. Meet with pastors to encourage execution of and offer a plan to reach every lost person within 3 miles of their church.
7. **Recruit evangelizers** in a given city to *converge* to **complete** the first stage of the Great Commission in **one neighborhood at a time**, and BROADCAST those successful results to encourage others to do the same (using various media).
8. **Recruit, train and manage** evangelism results of the additional **indigenous evangelists** needed in the **10/40 window**, to ensure monies are not being squandered and that their efforts are as effective and *efficient* as possible.
9. Serve as Interim Pastor or Substitute (i.e., fill-in) Pastor to exhort to and **train on evangelism**.
10. Send materials to many churches suggesting they **consider starting a Minister of Evangelism** (and Discipleship) position—on a TEMPORARY basis, or working for up to 3 churches at a time in these two vital ministries.
11. **Apply** for Pastor positions, in order to implement the Pastor Priority Plan listed in the “Bless the Evangelists!” section of this web site.
12. Speak as a *special speaker* to **every** Sunday School class in my home church (for starters). Unfortunately, possibly I have volunteered to conduct my “**On Hell**” lesson to take classes out evangelizing immediately, and am not willing to reach just a **hand full** who might be *interested* in evangelism, my services have yet to be needed. I’ve also volunteered to help **implement** the 3 mile Local Church Plan for Evangelism, with no reply, to date. Our head Pastor has been wonderful in preaching significantly on our need to evangelize—I’m simply seeking **accountable implementation** of his sermons!
13. Complete and publish my fuller book on *evangelism* and *discipleship* (and the New Testament) for more **wide-spread** publication of the need for these two ministries.
14. Associate with **Evangelism Associations** to try to coordinate efforts to avoid *duplicity* and flood an area with the Gospel (Ex.: live, teleconferenced, multi-venued crusades).
15. **Raise \$375 per American church** to fund the 10/40 evangelists needed to complete the Great Commission in this *least evangelized* part of the world.
16. Improve this web site with more of my and others’ evangelism materials, including upgrading the Apologetics section.
17. Promote prayer-backing of world evangelism, and encouraging pastors in person to adopt a church-wide personal recruiting campaign to take laymen out evangelizing with them.
18. **E-mail chain letter** (and fax and/or voice mail) campaign to reach Christians with evangelism exhortation and lost people with the Gospel.
19. Midnight **Door Hanger tracts** (for more efficient distribution, given so **few** workers), or leaving evangelism exhorting tracts on church cars.

20. **Organize ‘world events’** to get *media attention* for Christians standing for evangelism and promoting the Gospel message.
21. **Teach ministers** evangelism (including motivation).
22. **Preach Crusades** or doing “front man” duties for Evangelists.
23. Coordinate Great Commission **completion projects** for individual churches.
24. **Speak on evangelism motivation** at churches, seminaries, and groups of believers, pastor conferences, denominational gatherings, etc.
25. Possibly **teaching Evangelism** at 3 local seminaries, Ad Junct (i.e., part-time), or one-time speak at Bible Colleges and Seminary chapel services).
26. Coordinate follow-up efforts and enlisting a **prayer-backing** campaign.
27. **Coordinate** laymen evangelism efforts to avoid unnecessary *duplicity* can be avoided. Find and organize the efforts of evangelizers per given churches and attack one neighborhood at a time—(Broadcast the results!). Find Evangelism Explosion-type (i.e., actual evangelizers) people in DFW (then other cities) and take a neighborhood for the Gospel or conduct a public evangelism event.
28. **Identify saved people** in areas, so we know who not to “target,” in order to maximize limited evangelism resources.
29. Lead short-term mission trips. Recruit and train indigenous evangelists while there.
30. Increase the efficiency of Evangelists (i.e., strategic planning).
31. **Take this ministry to other cities** via the **internet** and **traveling** for speaking engagements! One of my most revered Bible teachers just implemented live weekly **video-teleconferenced** teaching sessions. Perhaps this technology could be used to exhort cities in evangelism—*remotely(?)*.
32. **Other.** Doing any other significant duties (utilizing any skills or experience I have) **directly causing increased evangelism** efforts and affecting results. I will take your **suggestions** and **comments** into consideration to add to these duties, should I have the privilege of so doing.

If you’re embarrassed about *personal evangelism* representing your church, rest assured **I never tell any lost person anything about any church**—unless they ask for a suggested church to attend after they get saved. If they ask what church I go to or am from, I tell them I attend church, but am *not here talking about going to church* but **going to heaven**, forever.

[Web site logo’d shirt below:]



# JAMES MERONEY

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## MINISTER

Experienced Bible Teacher, Evangelist, Disciple-Maker and Religious Author. Taught New Testament and Evangelism at an accredited Bible College. Former Youth Pastor. Consulted Pastors and trained laymen in Evangelism and Discipleship. Dual seminary trained, along with a JD and MBA. Authored the 5,000 page New Millennium Commentary and Topication: New Testament. Created WillYouLiveForever.org covering the highest Christian Church priorities.

## VISION

If there is *one church* in America that humbly believes that practicing church God's way is more blessed than any other way, I would be honored to be considered for the position of Pastor. Whether a church aspires to become a mega church, or anything less, and whether or not they add modern architecture, ambiance or amenities, if they are committed to relationally discipling all their saved church members (defined at [www.WillYouLiveForever.org](http://www.WillYouLiveForever.org)), evangelizing all lost people near their building ASAP, biblically incentivizing their members to be evangelistic, implementing the biblical "one anothers" of Scripture (including during the worship service), helping the poor, teaching Spirit-led grace giving (the only standard for the believer) and living with an openness to interacting with other denominations, such a church would be most spiritually blessed, and I would love to be part of it!

## EXPERIENCE

- Evangelized thousands at public events with a Gospel Signs ministry. Exhorted Hundreds of believers to evangelize with other Evangelize Exhortation Signs. (2002-2008)
- Wrote a 5,000<sup>+</sup> page New Testament Commentary and Topication, funded by working as an Attorney, Management Consultant and Advertising Broker (P-T 1996-2004, F-T 2007).
- Taught Bible College students as Ad Junct Professor of Evangelism and New Testament at a local accredited Bible College--the College of Biblical Studies, Houston, TX.
- Personally evangelized hundreds of lost people one on one.
- Trained people in door-to-door evangelism (recruiting from business contacts, friends, family, seminary students, Christian lay persons and church staff members. (1999-2000, and sporadically since then)
- Personally volunteered to lead and encouraged pastors of six large West Houston churches to implement a plan to reach all lost people in West Houston as soon as possible. (1999-2000)
- Taught Discipleship materials to Cambodian pastors, and daily evangelized in Phnom Penh, Campuchia. (Global Missions Fellowship, November 1-12, 1996)
- Engaged in personal evangelism in Huntsville, TX prison crusades. (Prisoner's Bible Institute, 1985-1986)
- Discipled and taught teenagers as a Southern Baptist Youth Minister (1985-1986), and several adults. (1997-2000)

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- Mission Trip to California Baptist College in College. (1978)
- Taught college Bible studies (1979-1980), and evangelized my Professional Business Fraternity, as Chaplain. (1980-1981)
- Licensed to the Ministry by First Baptist Church, Houston, TX (August 13, 1980)

**EDUCATION**

- ◆ M.Div., Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, TX (1985)  
Dean's List  
Graduate Studies: Dallas Theological Seminary, Houston Extension Campus (1996-2002)
- ◆ J.D./M.B.A., Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX (1993)  
Licensed to the State Bar of Texas (Inactive)  
Legal Research Board  
Mock Trial Octafinalist  
Moot Court Octafinalist
- ◆ B.B.A., Baylor University, Waco, TX (1981)  
Dean's List  
Sigma Iota Epsilon Business Honor Society  
Alpha Kappa Psi Professional Business Fraternity (Chaplain)

**EMPLOYMENT**

**RELIGIOUS AUTHOR**

- Plano, TX 2009-2011
- Authored a mainstream, Bible-based political book resolving Congressional disputes with time-tested common sense solutions, entitled, Dumb as a Donkey, Fat as an Elephant: Ending Business-as-Usual-Politics, currently being marketed to national Publishers.
  - Wrote six books on the New Testament, politics and business innovation: Discern Your Future: Practical Prophecy for an Unsuspecting World, and New Testament Synthetic Charts, Bi-Polar Politics and Manic-Depressive Voting: The Lightning Rod Issues That Electrify US, Design Your Future: Innovation Strategies for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Economy, Idioms for Immigrants: The Slang-uage of the American Dream,

**RELIGIOUS AUTHOR & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONAL**

- J & D Interests, Superior PG, Inc., et al, Houston, Texas 1996-2008
- Authored the New Millennium Commentary and Topication: New Testament.
  - Bi-vocationally supported writing through public speaking as an Advertising Broker.

**MANAGING ATTORNEY**

Swisher & Associates, Houston, Texas 1995-1996

**MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT**

Ernst & Young LLP, Houston, Texas 1993-1995

**YOUTH MINISTER**

First Baptist Church, Deer Park 1985-1986

## THANK YOU'S

*Special thanks* go out to the *exceptional* discipleship I received from association with people teaching materials from **Alpha and Omega Ministries**, Austin, TX, **The Navigators**, **Campus Crusade** for Christ, and the **3-day crash course** I received from **Rev. Tom Eckman** (while he was sick—picking his brain every night past midnight; my **BEST** source for my initial discipleship knowledge). I was also extremely blessed from the *teaching* sermons of Dr. **John R. Bisagno** (1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church, Houston, TX), and the maturity and **Body Life** sermons taught at the *mature* church, Highland Baptist Church, in Waco, TX., by **Rev. Don Crossland**, during College!

**Second only** to the thanks I give the **LORD** for saving me at age 8, is that I express for my family, especially my **adorable wife**, who has **stuck with me** through the *struggles* of and *opposition* to researching my 5,000 page book! The verse is true, **some people meet angels unaware**—I just happened to be **aware** of it, and **married one**.

**God bless** my *three adorable* children, as well, whom God has **blessed** me with, as it has not been a *money-maker* to spend **7 years full-time writing**, funded by *part-time* employment. Y'all's **sacrifices** will be **rewarded in heaven**, and *hopefully* here as well, soon.

THANK YOU ONE AND ALL!

As the old song says, “*I’m not religious*—I just **love the Lord**.”

## REFERENCES

I have a select few *well-established, well-known* and extremely **mainstream** and **godly conservative** Ministers who have agreed to be references for me in the past. However, because some of the things said on this web site are “**CONTROVERSIAL**,” as they *challenge Christian status quo* and actually **reprove** some of our most *abhorrent* sins which hurt God and lost people, **I have chosen to take the heat** for these words, and not drag these blessed men into frays they may not have known could be coming.

I truly believe *any* issues raised in this web site are **serious** and **important**, and are too often **ignored** or **overlooked** to **the detriment of the Church’s spiritual health** (or I would not have written them). I will never discuss on this web site (though perhaps in e-mails) *differences* or *disagreements* less important than my **3 key issues** complained about concerning American Christianity—**little to no** EVANGELISM, DISCIPLING or “BODY LIFE.” Also, the above-mentioned references can be made available if any **church feels led** to consider myself for a **Minister of Evangelism and Discipleship** position.

## **Biblical Evidence for a Prophetic Voice (SO Needed today!)**

In case you’re wondering, I AM aware of the adage, ‘You can catch more bees with honey than you can with vinegar,’ have read Proverbs 15:1, and I have read Dale Carnegie’s **How To Win Friends and Influence People**. It does NOT bring me personal joy to have to be the mouthpiece of such negative news!

Unfortunately, today in America, if something is true but of a serious nature or especially if it’s negative, the public generally rejects it. How would the prophets of old speak warn Americans

of impending doom? It is not what they want to hear, and though we need to hear it we reject what we do not want to hear.

If you never hear these passages in a church sermon, do your own Bible study on the following references:

Mt. 3:7, 12:34, 21:12-13, 13:57, 23:33, Lk. 6:26, Ac. 5:31, Gal. 1:8-10, 2:11-13, II Tim. 3:16-17, 4:1-5, Tit. 1:12-13, ETC.

For but *one* example among many, John the Baptist **served God's purpose** and met the need of his day, though few would accuse him of being an encourager or edifying believers. We're all gifted and called *differently*—**don't miss God's message** for you because you prefer (but don't need and can't handle *just*) a softer touch!

If you're a **pastor** and *offended* by my **TRUTHFUL** criticism of *many* churches, you can prove yourself innocent of matters raised by starting today on a 3 year 3 mile *thorough* evangelism campaign around your building, and be well on your way (if not *finished*) reaching every *saved* church member with **relational discipling** by then. If not, the message clearly applied to you—you just didn't *like* or *want* to hear it, though very needed and *well-earned*. **If any pastor in America heeds this warning** of *urgent* need to implement these priorities, and completes them in the next three years, I hope—though you may feel led to a different style—you'll **help us cure the Church of this 5/10/13 ill** after you yourself see the *value* in our biblical solutions proposed.

**Reader Beware:** If God ever leads you to reprove the Church for its long-standing departure from the top priorities described in this book, you will likely be accused of being 'harsh, divisive, arrogant, judgmental, mean, critical, hypocritical and a fault-finder (if not a false prophet). Just please and obey the Lord, know there are rewards for suffering and that church-as-a-business personnel will keep profits flowing at the expense of hearing the TRUTH.

## 12. Evangelism Methods

I am not ‘pushing’ a particular “**method**” of evangelizing. I AM saying that if you are a Christian, **purposefully, intentionally and consciously SPEAK** the Gospel to a **human being today!** How you do that and how you get into such conversations is *between you and God*. I can teach you how I do it, and experts write “Relationship Evangelism” books on how you can get to that point weeks down the road, but I will **not argue with ANY MEANS you use** to effectively and **ORALLY communicate** the Gospel with a lost person. Do it TODAY! (and many times thereafter—a life-time, lifestyle habit you *need* to develop, and are *eternally, temporally* and **greatly** rewarded for).

**Biblical Evidence for DIRECT Evangelism:** Jn. (3:1-21), 4:7-42, Ac. 2:14, 22, 3:12, (4:1?), 4:8-13, (19-20), 31, 5:28-29+, 42, 6:(10), 7:2+, 8:4-6, (12), 25-31, 35, 9:19b-20, 22, 27-28, 10:28+, 34, 11:(1), 19, 21, (24), <12:24-25>, 13:5, 14-16+, 46-49, 14:1, 3, 7, (9), 21-22, 25, 15:<13>, 35, 16:13-14, (25?), (30-32), 17:1-4, 10-13, 16-19, 22+, 18:4-5, 8-9, 11, (13), 19, 19:8-10, 20:(18-21?), 21:(20-21), 22:1+, 23:1+, 24:10+, 25:8+, (11), 26:1+, 27:<10, 21+>, 28:17+, etc.

Of course, once you fully evangelize an area, you wouldn’t use direct evangelism again—**as a whole church**—for years. That would be *foolish*. It’s just the **foundation** we haven’t laid in 30 years.

### **Sample Evangelism Methods:**

(Stimulate your own ideas through this list!)

Having a church’s primary evangelism method be giving invitations after sermons is like Coca Cola trying to reach everyone in the local market near their headquarters by hiring a public speaker to address Coke employees and any visitors who happened to be there. The majority of their ‘prospects’ will never visit. **–J. Meroney**

1. Phone banks calling with the Gospel (like political campaign volunteers).
2. Technology: Web sites, faxes, Gospel signs, person to person.
3. Business cards with the Gospel on them.
4. Tracts placed on cars in public parking lots.
5. Messages atop barn roofs for low-flying airplanes?
6. **World events**—farmer crop circles (Jn. 3:16) in 10 places (Ex.), or ‘Hands Across the World’ event.
7. Scrolling church signs (with the Gospel message)—2<sup>nd</sup> Baptist, Houston, ex.
8. Blimps scrolling the Gospel message.
9. Airplane streamers.
10. Skywriters (Jn. 3:16 by way of a cross).
11. Cable TV ads.
12. Radio commercials.
13. TV commercials (Billy Graham, ex.)—why not during the Super Bowl in 3 unique and split up 10-second ads (something DIFFERENT)? (Ex.: 1. JESUS; 2. LOVES; 3. YOU themes).

14. Tract in a bag, weighted with rocks on peoples' yards.
15. Free newspaper or magazine, delivered.
16. Email with Message. Subject title example: "Daemon source, 'message not delivered'" subject, with a play-on-words that *Demons* convince Christians not to deliver the Gospel message.
17. Accessories: Lapel pin, cuff links, tie tacks, logo on business shirt ("Receive Jesus" ex.).
18. T-shirts with the Gospel on them (non-code languaged and unambiguous).
19. Midnight tract distribution or door hangers (church name on them?).
20. Video distribution (Jesus Video ex.).
21. Bumper stickers and car window decals.
22. Jn. 3:16 car license plates (i.e., customized).
23. Printed Gospel on church buildings' side (professionally done and sophisticated—we do it on downtown Dallas buildings for secular products).
24. Billboard campaigns with the Gospel on it! **Don't try to be clever but clear** (ambiguous and clever attempts exist).
25. Contact with e-mail via MySpace.com and switchboard.com, or anywho.com.
26. You-Tube video of preachers? (ex.: **GodTube.com**).
27. Text (and Instant) message **chain letters** of the Gospel?
28. Auto-generated phone messages to phone answerers or their voicemails: "You are loved, so don't go to hell when you die; pray to receive Jesus for the forgiveness of all of your sins!" Politicians and companies (even libraries and churches) do it—why not evangelizers?
29. Get free phone books for all major cities and/or look up emails of residents using Google or Yahoo or Anywho.com phone books.
30. Find Christian "relationship cogs ('network nodes') per city and church to forward Gospel e-mails and Christian evangelistic tracts and emails to their contacts.
31. God—Family—Career Values Buttons on briefcases (red, white and blue).
32. Reach non-e-mailers other ways.
33. *Brief* Gospel messages in a nutshell: Pray to Receive Jesus—All Your Sins forgiven! Or "Receive Jesus—Sins Forgiven!" in whatever format you can think of.
34. Gospel tracts in Christmas letters.
35. **Dr. Roy Fish** taught a concept called "salty talk." If it is your outgoing personality to do so, he recommended throwing in a few clever statements in conversation to get the other person to ask about spiritual things, like, "that's about the *second most important* decision you'll ever make" (regarding a conversation about marriage or career). He also bridged conversations into evangelism, using analogies, like talking to a baker about the Bread of Life, etc.
36. **ETC.:** Let your *regenerated* mind go wild with **ALL you can do for Jesus!** (Individually and collectively)

A friend offered a great, wise response to a "no soliciting" objection: If something is worth dying for, it's worth living for. I have something that consequential to speak to you about. –  
**Nitin Christopher**

# 13. Apologetics

## 13A. Simple Apologetic Responses

### Simple Apologetics Answers

The study of “**apologetics**”—objective, external evidences to attempt to prove Christianity or disprove allegations attacking it—can get very *complicated*, and many books have been written handling individual *intellectual questions* of lost people. If one is to **evangelize with confidence** as a **HABIT of life**, he will *do well*—if he never studies anything else in Apologetics—to memorize or *paraphrase* the following three alternatives (or combinations thereof) for use in *real life*:

1. **“I don’t know but I will try to find out.” Until then...** [return to your Gospel presentation]—and do try to find out.
2. **“That’s a good question and good answers exist...**  
but unless getting the answer right now is precluding you from hearing how to go to heaven and not hell, let me continue with what I can tell you... [return to your Gospel presentation]
3. **“I don’t know, personally, but what I do know is...”** [return to your Gospel presentation]—anticipate and welcome a possible follow-up question re-addressing their issue.

## 13B. Simple Responses to Other Religions

### Possible Responses:

1. **It’s good to hear you fear God and try to please Him!** As a [Buddhist, Muslim, etc.] **are you sure that if you died today you will go to heaven?**

I am not presenting religion, but a **personal and eternal relationship** with God. Christ provides salvation to **all men** as a GIFT which none of us can ever deserve, or **work for**. His standard is **PERFECTION**, and He does not balance out our good and bad deeds, or allow anything **evil** or **unclean** into His *perfect* heaven. Only when we receive **Christ’s perfect status**, by being **forgiven of all of our sins** can we go there—because of **Him**, and *not* ourselves.

2. **May I ask you... In YOUR faith, do you know for SURE you will go to heaven?**