

Go Tell It: A Call for Personal Evangelism

Participant Study Guide

Thursday, September 10, 2020

Series: P.U.R.S.U.**E**. Excellence | Unit: Evangelism

Evangelism. *We are called to **share the Gospel**. This is an individual calling, not a corporate designation. Though we gather to hear, be reminded about, and celebrate the Gospel, we depart empowered and equipped to evangelize.*

Evangelism is a personal enterprise. As much as churches and evangelism-focused organizations provide the relationships and resources to make evangelism possible on a large scale, evangelism continues to be the charge of individual people.

The need for evangelism has become more pronounced during the COVID-19 pandemic. Consider that people's faith has been shaken. Loved ones have died. Uncertainty and anxiety rule the day. Traditional connections with family, friends, institutions, colleagues, etc., have been changed--some drastically and some permanently.

What are some other changes that have increased the need for people to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ?

These changes, and more, have increased the need for certainty and stability. When the comforts of this world are disturbed, people have a tendency to develop greater interest in God--at the very least they start asking more questions about God. During these times, it is good to know that God already has people in place to care for the needs of and the questions. Thank God that God has you! Whether in group settings or by oneself, the work of **an** evangelist remains the work of **a** singular person.

To appreciate the call for personal evangelism, it is helpful to see the connections between personal evangelism and personal purpose, personal responsibility, and personal engagement. Here is what it means to say that evangelism is a personal enterprise.

Personal Evangelism: Understanding Purpose

Just as life is not a mistake, neither is our Christianity. Life comes with purpose, stamped by God on the soul of all who live. Each person, however, journeys to discover their particular purpose. In some respects, the same is true for Christians, with one notable difference. Every Christian shares at least this one purpose: to testify of the Lord Jesus Christ.



- 2 Corinthians 5:18-20 _____
- 1 Timothy 1:8-9, 11 _____

Understanding your purpose as a Christian is knowing that you are called to reproduce. When you don't understand purpose, you invite complacency and lack of commitment.

Do you accept evangelism as your Christian purpose?

Personal Evangelism: Accepting Responsibility

To accept evangelism as your responsibility is to act in the moments, and among the people, when opportunities are presented. When we accept responsibility, we also accept that we are accountable to someone of greater authority who has the right and the power to ask of us: “What have you done with the time and opportunities you have been given?”

- Matthew 28:16-20 _____
- Acts 1:8 _____
- 2 Thessalonians 5:17-21 _____

When you accept Christian responsibility, you own Jesus's assignment for you. When you don't act on this responsibility your job goes undone because you have rejected the Lord's will.

Who will do the work you have been called to perform?

Personal Evangelism: Engaging People

It goes without saying that we cannot evangelize if we do not engage with people. Given our current reality, engaging people has a different feel and look than we have historically known. Still, the call to engage remains. Our call demands it.

- Mark 6:7-13 _____
- Luke 10:1-12 _____
- Acts 8:26-39 _____

To engage people is to allow the Holy Spirit to reach people through your activity. When you don't engage people, you dull your Holy Spirit-sensitivity.

What prevents your awareness of the Spirit in your contact with people?