

Evangelism & Discipleship

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Volume 2



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Evangelism & Discipleship Volume II



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*“Send us around the world with the news of Your saving power
and Your eternal plan for all mankind” [Psalm 67:2 | JLB]*



INTRODUCTION



Evangelism is the first step in fulfilling the great commission:

*“¹⁶ Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore **go** and **make** disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ **and teaching** them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age” [Matthew 28:16-20 / NIV].*

The second step is to disciple the souls attached to you. What we just read in Matthew 28 is talking both of evangelism and discipleship. One can't be successfully accomplished without the other. The word **'go'** is Jesus' commandment to actively participate in evangelism; and the word **'make'** is Jesus' commandment to actively disciple, not only the new converts, but to continually disciple those you personally won to Christ – therefore, the Lord continues to say: **'...and teach them...'**; to do what? **'...to obey everything the Lord has taught His disciples.'** Those disciples won soul through stepping out in evangelizing their world; and then discipling those souls to obey everything Jesus had taught them. Then those new disciples in turn done the same thing from generation to generation; and so it still continues today. When you came into Christ, you were reached in one way or the other through evangelism [be it through a stranger, someone you might know, a close friend, a program, or even a family member]. Even if you were, what some people say, 'born into Christianity' [meaning, born into a Christian home], your mother and father spoke to you about Jesus and at the right age you accepted the Lord Jesus as the Lord and Savior of your life. The bottom line is; you are in Christ through some sort of evangelism; and thereafter you were brought into discipleship.

In most cases, the order might be similar to what we see above; but one of the biggest problems in the church today is: Majority of those who participate in evangelism do good in winning souls; but after winning a soul, they don't bring that soul into discipleship – or rather they direct them to a church or small-group setting where other people will disciple those that they won to Christ. Don't think that is ok to win souls and get them to join your church or small groups, pushing your responsibility unto others. You need to participate in discipling the souls you win. You must build relationships through connections in souls you have won. There are seven [7] basic connections [which we will look at later in this volume], which we will briefly look at here:

1. Connection to God
2. Connection to Your Spouse / Friends
3. Connection to Your Family
4. Connection to Your Small Groups [Social / Network]
5. Connection to Church
6. Connection to the Kingdom of God
7. Connection to the World

Evangelism is a model, while Discipleship is duplication - in Discipleship you duplicate yourself in the souls you have won through the things you do; in your commitment, in your relationship with God and with people, the perfection of your heart, and in your service to Christ and others around you - it calls for always checking yourself, because you want to be careful in areas you may be lacking in order not to duplicate your failures in others.

Most importantly; you must understand that every Christian has been called to lead. Soul winning / evangelism is not solely the responsibility of those called to the office of evangelist, or church leadership and pastoral offices; it is a call to every born again Christian – in actual fact, as we read in Matthew 28, Jesus commands us to evangelize our world and also to disciple those we win to Christ; and as we obey this commandment and start winning souls and bring those souls under our wing into discipleship, we start growing as leaders – they followed your words when you reached them through evangelism [be it corporately or as an individual]; and through you they received Christ; therefore, the chances of them wanting to continue to follow you as you follow your leader/s is good – but it all depends on the perfection of your heart [see teaching on ‘God Commands Perfection’].

A church which doesn’t do both evangelism and discipleship is an idle church; and does not fulfill that Great Commission - This is also true in an individual Christian’s life. It’s time that the church start shaking up the world to release its hidden treasure. Jesus purchased the field [Matt.13:44>38]; the treasure is hidden in that field [the field refers to the world]; and we are called to work that field [Matt.9:37]. “*For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed*” [Romans 8:19 / NIV]. At Gospel Addicts Global Church, our continues prayers is based on the founding verse of our ministry – “*Send us around the world with the news of your saving power and your eternal plan for all mankind*” [Psalm 67:2 / TLB].

Take Note: Psalm 67 and verse 2 is our founding verse; and our mandated vision is built on this: ‘*At Gospel Addicts Global Church we develop Ministers for Christian Leading and Leadership; such as Pastors, Teachers, Evangelist, Prophets, and Apostles. We offer Life Coaching in developing individual gifts for the works of the ministry; and Mentorship for Accredited Higher Formal Ministry Training with Endorsements. Being not only an active ministry, but also a proactive ministry; our focus is Jesus, our message is the Gospel, our task is the Great Commission*’

In our Life Coaching programs, we train leaders on a personal level; which largely teach our members the importance of evangelism and discipleship; while in our Mentor programs we equip our members with sound doctrines of the Word of God through Higher Formal Ministry Training. Being a proactive ministry simply means, we apply what we teach as our task is to fulfill the Great Commission. Not every ministry shares the same vision; but every ministry should and must set their focus above all else on the Great Commission – which is: modeling evangelism and discipleship in corporate settings, small-group settings, and in the individual member’s personal lives.

We pray that this book will lead you into fulfilling that great calling of the Great Commission in Jesus Name – Amen!

God Commands Perfection



Majority Christians think that perfection is something we will come into once we are in Heaven, but that is not totally scriptural. Although our life in Heaven will be absolutely perfect, perfection is possible in this life too. However, it is important that we understand what this perfection is - as our comprehension is somewhat not accurate according to what scripture teaches about perfection.

Looking at the very words of Jesus, Jesus spoke about perfection in this life when He said: *'Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in Heaven is perfect'* [Matt.5:48]. What was Jesus talking about? We will examine the scripture in finding out what the Word of God has to say about us being perfect; and to use a relatable example, we will use the topic of money to explain the issues or condition of a man's heart...

A rich young man came to Jesus and spoke to Jesus, telling Jesus all which he has accomplished in his life, asking Jesus then what is it that he needs to have eternal life; and then he asked Jesus: *'All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet?'* [Matt.19:20] – meaning, that he is wealthy; and this portion of scripture indicates that this young man was a good man – but Jesus answered him, saying: *'...if thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me'* [Matt.19:21]. In the sight of this young man, he was living a good life, but he also admit that he is lacking something; however, when he heard Jesus' answer, *'he went away sorrowful, for he had great possession'* [v.22]; and clearly he didn't want to part with it. Then Jesus went on to say something remarkable: *"^[23] Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven. ^[24] And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God."* Jesus did not say that it is wrong to be rich; however, the heart of the rich many times are not perfect, for a rich man's wealth is many times gained through being stingy and holding dear his earthly possessions. We have seen this in our day. Take what has happened worldwide during the announcement of the world Covid19 Pandemic: Rich people gone shopping like never before, stocking up like it's the end of the world; but they would not consider that many poor people were left with almost no food to buy, neither would they consider sharing with the poor – it was a case of 'each man for himself [or at least for his family]. The Bible tells us that *'...the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows'* [1Tim.6:10] – and this is particular so with 'Christians'today. Understanding this then; it is not that Jesus said that it is wrong to be rich, but rather Jesus was referring to the condition of the heart [in this case, the heart of the rich].

A rich man can enter Heaven, but his heart must be perfect – what does this mean? Referring again to the words of Jesus, saying: *'Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in Heaven is perfect.'* Is not our Father in Heaven rich? So what is it then – in John 12 and verse 8 Jesus says; *'you will always have the poor among you.'* This does not mean that the poor will remain poor; but rather, you might come into Christ being poor – that does not mean that a Christian must remain poor [and biblically, a Christian should not remain poor].

As you grow in your Christian life, you are to grow in every aspect of your life, even in wealth. Others will come into Christ [both rich and poor], but as you are changed from glory to glory [2Cort.3:18], your heart must be changed too. A Christian's wealth does not lie in his/her possessions, but in the condition of the heart. You might be rich, but with a giving heart you will be a righteous man/woman. Does not the Word tell us: *'Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again'* [Luke 6:38]. The Lord will not amonish us to give if our giving will not be returned unto us – that is, if being rich is wrong. Understanding this portion of scripture; when we give in our measure, then God will give in His measure – we are talking about two different measures here; and we can't compare our giving to the measure God give with. When God gives back unto us, we will have in abundance, in overflowing, having too much for ourself; because when God gives us in His measure, our gain is not just for ourselves.

What God looks at, is not how much you give, but what is the condition of your heart when you give – for God loves a cheerful giver [2Cort.9:6-7]. Pay close attention to what we are studying here: It's not about money, but what we do with it! It is a principle that works on the conditioning of the heart. We give not because we have, rather, we have because we give – this is a condition of the heart. It doesn't matter if you are talking about material things like money or possession, or actions or emotions – all depends on the condition of your heart. Your deeds can be good and perfect, but if your heart is not perfect in doing, then your doing is done in vain [maybe you need to go back and read carefully what I just said].

There is many ways to give:

- You can give money in tithes, offering, first-fruit, giving finacially to the poor, etc...
- You can give material things like food and clothes to the poor, even shelter...
- You can give hope through ministering to the broken-hearted, oppressed, and depressed,,,
- You can go about evangelizing your world and winning souls...
- You might simply give a smile to someone, lifting the spirit of those who are down...

Whatever it is that you are giving, unless your giving is done with a perfect heart, all your giving will be done in vian.

Let us look at some biblical examples:

"Amaziah was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem twenty-nine years. His mother's name was Jehoaddan; she was from Jerusalem. ²He did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, but not wholeheartedly" [2Chron. 25:1-2 / NIV].

Amaziah did what was right in deed; and the Lord commended him on that, however, the condition of his heart was not perfect. Let us look at another king and what the Lord says about him: *"Although he did not remove the high places, Asa's heart was fully committed to the LORD all his life"* [1Kings 15:14 / NIV]. Asa's deeds were not all perfect, but his heart was perfect. This is 2 kings in their own time; one whose deeds were good but his heart was not perfect; and the other whose heart was perfect but his deeds were not all good. To

understand the difference in this, let us look at David's story; The Lord spoke to Samuel and instructed him to go to the house of Jesse to anoint the new king of Israel; but as each son of Jesse was brought before the prophet and priest of the Lord, the Lord said: 'Not this one.' Then Samuel called for David who was still a young boy out in the field with the sheep; and the Lord said: 'Anoint this one, he is the next king of Israel' – "*But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart*" [1Sam.16:7]. The next king of Israel was to have a perfect heart; and David had a perfect heart. The book of 1 Samuel 13 and verse 14 says: "*But now your kingdom will not endure; the LORD has sought out a man after his own heart and appointed him ruler of his people, because you have not kept the LORD's command*" [NIV].

We see this also in the book of Acts: "*After removing Saul, he made David their king. God testified concerning him: 'I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do*" [Acts 13:22 / NIV] – Yet, even David, having a perfect heart, turned out not to be so perfect in deed, as he saw a married woman [Bathsheba] who he wanted as a wife and ordered that her husband [a general in his army and a 'friend', Uriah] to be put in the frontlines of the army so that he might be killed so that he can have the Bathsheba as a wife [2Sam.11:5-27] – David's deed or action was wrong!

Now let us look at Abram – God called for perfection in deed as well as heart; "*When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless'*" [Gen.17:1 / NIV] – The KJV render the latter portion of this verse more correctly by saying; "...walk before me, and be thou perfect" & the Amp Classic addition adds to this by saying: "...walk and live habitually before Me and be perfect (blameless, wholehearted, complete)." This is the kind of perfection God is calling us to; asking for perfection that works from within; which is the perfection of the heart that works and produce perfect actions.

Although God had commanded that the folks of old be perfect before Him; as a New Creation, the Lord also commanded us to be perfect before the Him – in deed and in heart – "*Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect*" [Matt.5:48 / NIV]. The Lord will not command this if it is not possible for us to be perfect. How is it possible to be perfect in deed and at heart? Well, over and above that the Bible tells us so, we have the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, Who will work out all things in us and bring us into perfection [it is progressive], as we grow in the Lord and allow the Holy Spirit to work in and through us. **Take note:** God is not commanding us to be perfect in an instant, but to allow His Spirit to work in us and bring us unto perfection – for God will work out all things accordingly, for those who love Him. We have more supporting verses on this – Jesus prayed, saying: "*I in them, and Thou in Me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that Thou hast sent Me, and hast loved them, as Thou hast loved Me*" [John 17:23 / KJV].

We have been called and separated from this world, although we still in this world, we are not of this world; therefore, God is calling us out from among the ways of the world, saying to us: "*...you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a dedicated nation, [God's] own purchased, special people, that you may set forth the wonderful deeds and display the*

virtues and perfections of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light” [1Pet.2:9 / AmpC]. This is beautiful, for God did not only call us out to be perfect, but He has also equipped us to be perfect [with His very own Spirit] - asking for perfection that works from within; which is the perfection of the heart that works and produce perfect actions.

We are commanded to love – first to love the Lord [**Luke 10:27**]; and also to love one another [our neighbors; irrespective of who they are] as the Lord loves us [**John 13:34 & 15:12**] - “Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love [**1John4:7-8** / NIV].

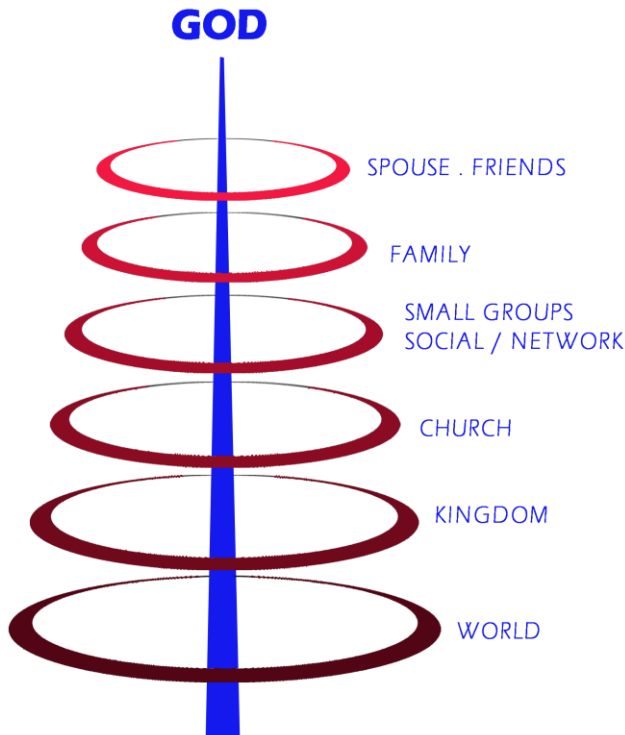
Perfection is very possible if we follow the principles of God, but it is up to us to choose to live our life for God; living accordingly to the principle of **John 3:30-36**; “He [Jesus] must increase, but I must decrease. ^[31] He that cometh from above is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth: He that cometh from heaven is above all. ^[32] And what He hath seen and heard, that He testifieth; and no man receiveth His testimony. ^[33] He that hath received His testimony hath set to his seal that God is true. ^[34] For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him. ^[35] The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into His hand. ^[36] He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him” [**KJV**]. This is enough for me to seek and to live in this perfection; and we will do good if we study the principles of love as seen in **1 Corinthians chapter 13** [don’t just read through it, but truly study it; not just to know it, but to apply it and live by it] – Hallelujah!

God is asking for perfection that works from within; which is the perfection of the heart that works and produces perfect actions in love. We can give that to God; Amen!

The Seven Connections



Connections are important in the human life; and when we talk about connections, we talking about relationships, communion, friendships, and general interactions. In our church, we refer to these relationships as the seven connections. All seven connections rely strongly on how we communicate with God and our world; how we talk, how we listen, and how devoted we are to God, His Word, and one another.



As seen in the image on the left, we have a vertical line connecting all our basic connections in our Christian life – with God at the top and also at the centre of all our connections.

First of all, we have a Vertical Line which represents our connection and relationship with God; but this same connection is also see Horizontally [we will take a look at this a bit later].

Horizontal Connections:

- | | | |
|---|--|----------|
| 1 God | 2 Spouse / Friend | 3 Family |
| 4 Small Group / Network [social] | 5 Church | |
| 6 Kingdom [connected to other Christians in and out of your church] | 7 World [the unconnected world – evangelism] | |

Our connection with God reflects in 2 aspects we see in Prayer

- 1] Talking = Prayer
 - 2] Listening = Studying the Word
- ...and Combined it gives us Devotions

Looking then at our Seven Connections; where God is above all and also at the center of all, we see that;

1. **Our connection with God:** calls for an intimate relationship, which involves not only dedicated time in prayer, but also a continues prayer life. As much as we can set quite time apart for prayer [and this is vitally important], prayer can be done anywhere at anytime. We are to communicate with God continuously throughout the day, for God is not only with us, but by the Spirit, God is in us. Our connection with God can be simple, but must remain intensively intimate through talking to God [be it in getting ready to go somewhere, while traveling, during working hours, etc...]; but please note, prayer is a form of communication and when you communicate, you can't do so silently. You might ask, but how do I pray aloud while traveling when others are present. Well, you don't have to talk loud to God, but vocalizing your talking time with God is important; and who cares if people around you think you crazy – you most probably having something they deeply desire, but are not sure how to get it – a real

intimate relationship with God. But prayer is not all about talking, just as much it is not all about asking God for things [we are to praise and worship God, and just have ordinary conversations with God; after all, He is our Father]. Prayer also involves listening; and a good place to learn how to listen to God is by studying His Word. God primarily speaks to us through His Word, but if we don't know the Word, we might just miss it when God speaks to us in our spirit; and at its worse, we can easily be deceived by the counterfeit of God, who is satan. When we talk to God and also listen, we start forming a devotional life, placing God above and central of everything we do – and in that there's blessings beyond what words can express.

2. ***Our Connection with our Spouse / Friends***: also calls for a relationship whereby it is important to talk and listen [well, that depends on what type of relationship you want]. Some people can be genuine in their relationships with others, while some can be very false [even Christians]. For you to built healthy relationships, you must listen well; don't just babble along; but more importantly, have God above and central in your marriage and relationships with friends. A connection with your spouse also calls for time where you'll pray and study the Word of God together.
3. ***Our Connection with our Family***: talking more directly about children in the marriage [if you not married yet, or if you don't have children yet, then refer to yourself as a child in your mother and father's home]. It is important for a mother and father to share the Word of God with their children; and not only share the Word, but pray with your children and share Holy Communion with them at home. Start a family alter, where you have dedicated time where you will join as a family having service at home – pray, worship, and share the Word of God [this doesn't have to be lengthy sessions, but it needs to be meaningful].
4. ***Our Connection with our Small-Groups*** [Social / Network]: as much as we live busy lives in our modern world, we need God above all and at the center of our small-group connections; which includes our social circles and network of colleges. Talking about God to unbelieving friends can be challenging, but it does make a great platform for evangelism. Starting a prayer group at your workplace or school can also become a great platform for winning soul; as outsiders will see something different in the lives of those who have joined you. This also calls for a great opportunity to start a small group setting. A small group setting is church outside of the church building [also called house-church]. This can be very impactful, especially when we study the operations of the first church [who gathered in one another's home for the first 300 years], and they grew in numbers tremendously.
5. ***Our Connection our Church***: Not one single Christian should neglect the gathering of saint [even if you a pastor of your own church, you still need spiritual covering]. Church is not for formality or social gathering; it is a place of corporate worship and anointing. Church is an extension of your every day life as a Christian. It is a place where you corporately fellowship with God; and there's special blessings in this setting; blessings you will not get outside of the church setting.
6. ***Our Connection to the Kingdom***: Outside of your church setting [the corporate gathering / the building] there are other Christians too. Some folks in church carries on like the church where they fellowship is the only true church; and when they meet other Christian they immediately invite them to join their church – like they evangelizing Christians instead of the 'lost' world all around us. It is important to have connections

with fellow Kingdom children, however, it must be healthy connections where we can share spiritual truths with one another; and have fellowship with like-minded people.

7. ***Our Connection with the World*** [the unconnected ‘to God’ world]: If you have quest it, then you right – our connection to the world is first and foremost our platform for evangelism – our field for soul-winning. There’s not must more to say about this; accept that the way we live our lives in the world will determine how effective we will be in soul-winning [referring to our teaching: God Commands Perfection]. You can’t be effective in soul-winning if your deeds and heart is not perfect before the Lord – you don’t want to duplicate bad habits or a dirty heart in others and say: ‘I have won that soul.’ Evangelism is just that; you are duplicating yourself in those you win to Christ; first by evangelism and also by discipleship.

Like Jesus said in Matthew 13:31; ‘...the Kingdom of God is like a mustard seed...’ Yes, it might start small, but it has the potential to grow into a large tree; and every tree has the potential to become a forest.

Referring to the Seven Connections Picture: Note how the circles get bigger as you go down; your influence keeps growing when you have God above all and center to everything. We said earlier that our connection to God is both Vertical and Horizontal, as we keep connecting to God upwards, we also keep connecting to God has we go sideways in our relationships with people – it forms a cross; and that’s what I want to illustrate to you next.

You most probably seen this illustration before, but it was a bit different. I prefer it the way you see it on the right.

The canyon at the centre is that gap in life known as sin; which leads to condemnation. When we keep God at the center and above all in our relationships, then we can build meaningful and fruitful relationships based on God’s truth. Place yourself on a horizontal line with your spouse, family, friends and other people all around you in your world. No one should think better of themselves as the next



person; we are all fashioned in the image and likeness of God. Jesus died for the whole world to be saved; the only difference with those in the world and you who are born again is; they are not aware that Jesus already saved them – that is where you come in, to educate them so that they might receive what has already been given – but how you do it is of vital importance – that’s what we going to look at next in our segment: Modeling Evangelism.

Before we move on; have another look at the canyon and the cross. I said, place yourself on the horizontal piece, with you on one side, and other people on the other side. The cross beam represents the gap in relationship; and also represents the bridge between us and our

relationships. Your cross beam depends on the state of your heart [or perfection of your heart. Notice, the vertical beam is center; and represents God at the top and sin at the bottom. I want you to note the significance of the vertical beam – not only is it central in our relationship between us and others, but it places God above and central in the relationships we are to build. Also, and although the bottom of the vertical beam represents sin; it also represents God in the midst of our sinful nature; creating an escape from our own destruction. Sometimes the ‘best Christian’ falls into temptation and sin; and sometimes not realizing it and other times willingly. Which ever way; when we have God at the center of our being, or have drifted away, we can always turn back and find God right there, waiting for us to turn to Him in repentance and He will forgive us. Now this does not justify us in any way to sin and know that God will forgive us; but rather, if for whatever reason we do sin, we do have a way out – Jesus Christ!

The cross bridges the gap between us and other people; it also reinforce God at the center of all our relationships; and lastly, it gives us authority over sin, to pin it at the bottom of our life while we can enjoy a save passage between the world and the Kingdom of God – and lastly, it closes the gap of us falling into the pit of destruction.

Modeling Evangelism



In opening this segment, I would like to start of with some quotes which I think you will find quite interesting.

'Evangelism is not so much about reminding people about how lost they are; but how loved they are'
- Randall Worley

'To evangelize does not mean to win converts... but simply to announce the Good News, irrespective of the results'
- John Scott

'Evangelism and Missions are not imperiled by the biblical truth of election, but empowered by it, and their triumph is secured by it'
- John Piper

'The mark of a great church is not its seating capacity, but its sending capacity'
- Mike Staahura

'At the end of the day, the biggest obstacle to evangelism is Christians who don't share the Gospel'
- Albert Mohler



Jesus was [and still is] the greatest soul winner; and we will do well if we learn from Jesus as the disciples of Jesus learned – and we can see the fruit of Jesus' mentorship on evangelism in the Acts of the Apostles. Jesus modeled evangelism in such a way that His disciples [the Apostles] understood the importance of the Great Commission as we see in Mathew 28:16-19&20; *'Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: [20] Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen' [verse 19 & 20].*

The bottom line of evangelism is simply sharing the Good News; and there is no better way than that what Jesus has modeled: That He [Jesus Christ] was made sin for us, so that we may have right-standing with the Father and be reconciled to God. While some are called to a fulltime ministry of evangelism, we are all called to share to Good News with others in one way or the other – this is fulfilling your personal call as a Christian according to what we all have been commanded to do after that of the Great Commission – no one is exempt from soul winning. Take note: Evangelism is sharing the Good News, not the news of condemnation; it's a message of unconditional love, not telling people that they going to go to hell. This is the fine line between evangelism and discipleship. Evangelism is sharing the Good News because we love people as Jesus loves us. Discipleship is where we mentor disciples; we teach them greater truths; and when needed, we use the Word of God for correction and rebuke. When we look at evangelism in the perspective Jesus view the world, then we will understand why we are commanded to share Good News.

As a parent, you don't condemn our babies for they don't have the intellect to understand the greater functions and morals of life. In the same way, we can't condemn people of the world, because they don't yet have the spiritual intellect and understanding of greater functions and morals of the spirit – they are likened to babies; and we are responsible to teach them all those things we know. However, first we need to win them to Christ; and when they are brought in, then only can we start to disciple them through modeling discipleship [which we will look at in the next segment].

Enough said on this for now, let's turn to the scripture which are our model transcript to effective evangelism [we will use the NIV for this portion].

1] **Evangelism is about increasing God's renown:** *'Give praise to the Lord, proclaim His name; make known among the nations what He has done' [Psalm 105:1]*. Throughout the Old Testament, God sets Himself above all other gods. He creates a nation with the intent that its people will make His name known among the nations and share the great works He has done. These great works culminate in the reconciliation of the cross and in His defeat of death in the Resurrection. I can imagine no greater motivation to make His name known; as we see David's motivation in Psalm 67 when he writes; *'Send us around the world with the news of your saving power and your eternal plan for all mankind' [Psalm 67:2 / TLB]*.

2] **Evangelism is wise work:** *'The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life and the one who is wise saves lives' [Proverbs 11:30]*. When this Proverb was written, the idea of "saving lives" had more to do with delivering them from evil paths which lead to death. In light of the Gospel, it takes on a whole new significance. When considered within the context of Christ's work, the fruit of the righteous is quite literally a tree of life and the work of saving lives from eternal condemnation.

3] **Evangelism** [although we are commanded to do so] **depends strongly on our obedient and willingness to go:** *'Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"' [Isaiah 6:8]*. God never force us to serve Him, but He continually offers us a choice. In this verse we read in Isaiah, of the prophet having a vision of the Lord in His throne room. This sobering vision helped propel him to volunteer to share the Lord's message. We, too, are motivated in direct proportion to our experience with God. If we struggle to find the inspiration to share the Good News, perhaps it's time to pray for a deeper understanding on the revelation of God's glory and holiness as given to us in scripture.

4] **Evangelism is simply telling others what God has done for all mankind:** *'In that day you will say "Give praise to the Lord, proclaim His name; make known among the nations what He has done, and proclaim that His name is exalted" [Isaiah 12:4]*. Much of the Book of Isaiah operates as a twofold prophecy. It has immediate import as a prophecy about Judah, but also points at the coming Messiah who will deliver Israel; and subsequently all humanity. Here Isaiah speaks of an evangelism that works in both timelines. Judah will be able to proclaim what the Lord has done to deliver the nation from its sin, and God's future people will be able to exalt God's name for what he's done for mankind.

5] **Evangelism points to the world's only source of salvation:** *"Turn to Me and be saved, all you ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other" [Isaiah 45:22]*. In this verse, God turns His focus on Israel's surrounding nations who fashion idols to worship. Instead of worshipping idols they can carry with their hands, God encourages these nations to turn to Him for hope and salvation. This is an appropriate reminder to all of us who follow the Lord. There is still only one God and one salvation. There is no other! However, we are not to bombard the lost in the world by telling them their flaws, rather we are admonished through scripture to share Good News, which primarily is sharing the love of God with all people, irrespective of the race, age, gender, or status in life.

6] **Evangelism is a divine responsibility:** *'Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. When I say to a wicked person, 'You will surely die,' and you do not warn them or speak out to dissuade them from their evil ways in order to save their life, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. But if you do warn the wicked person and they do not turn from their wickedness or from their evil ways, they will die for their sin; but you will have saved yourself' [Ezekiel 3:17-19]*. In this passage, God gives the prophet Ezekiel the task of being a "watchman" for Judah. The main point of this commission is that Ezekiel would deliver God's message and warnings faithfully. A sobering element of this calling is the knowledge that when Ezekiel neglects to share the Lord's warning for Judah's wickedness, he will share in the doom. This passage should shake us in the foundations of our Christian lives. We, too, are watchmen of sorts. We have a message of salvation to deliver, and some responsibility lies on the messenger who neglects to give the message – therefore, we should not be idle bench warmers in the church gathering, but also actively step out into the world and tell the lost about what we found in Jesus Christ – that is salvation which has been freely given to all men; and are obtained by believing and confessing the Lord Jesus [**Rom.10:9-10**].

7] **The Evangelist makes God's greatness known:** *'And so I will show my greatness and my holiness, and I will make myself known in the sight of many nations. Then they will know that I am the Lord' [Ezekiel 38:23]*. God says again to Ezekiel, like seen in the Old Testament theme that He desires for Israel and the prophets to be the vessel that communicates God's greatness among the nations in and through His people. It's always been God's desire that He would have a people through whom the rest of the world would be blessed as they made His virtues known; and it is no exception with us – but this strongly depends on how we live as vessels for the Lord to express Himself through us to our world.

8] **Sharing God's goodness with all of creation:** *'My name will be great among the nations, from where the sun rises to where it sets. In every place incense and pure offerings will be brought to me, because my name will be great among the nations,' says the Lord Almighty' [Malachi 1:11]*. The Old Testament closes with the book of Malachi saying again; it's God's desire to be known among the nations. The picture of God's goodness being known everywhere is demonstrated as the rising and setting of the sun. We, too, bear a responsibility to share God's goodness to all mankind - everywhere the sun touches; as the book of Malachi was the last time the Lord would speak to the folks of the Old Testament for 400 years; then the Messiah is born and the New Creation is birthed to carry this Good News to the ends of the earth.

9] **Our own goodness in the Lord is a form of Evangelism:** *'Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven'* [Matthew 5:15-16]. Why don't people light a lamp and put it under a bowl? Because it's wasted effort and kills the light. If you light a lamp, you're bringing light to your home. Here Jesus reminds us that He doesn't want to waste His efforts either. Our lamps have been lit with the intention that we would give light to others as well. It's important to note that, in this instance, our good deeds are the light He is talking about. When we do good works, we give credence to the gospel. It's not just the evil that we do that works against the Gospel, but also our unwillingness to do good which is a hindrance to the Gospel.

10] **Prayer is an important part of Evangelism:** *'Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field'* [Matthew 9:37-38]. In a world full of hungry people, is there a more heartbreaking picture than ripe fruit rotting on the vine because there just aren't enough harvesters to bring it in? The same is true in a world full of pain and heartbreak. The Gospel desperately needs harvesters to share the message with those whose hearts are ripe to receive the Good News. Global stats on Christianity indicates that there's about 2 billion Christians in the world; now imagine if each of the 2 billion reach 4 people each – that is our current world population of 7.8 billion people covered. The Lord has given us the responsibility to make evangelism a priority in our lives, personally as well as corporately. This is more than rushing around telling people about Jesus. It's also about praying that the Spirit will move in other Christians to feel the importance of joining the work of evangelism.

11] **Evangelism promises results:** *'Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest'* [Matthew 11:28]. The Gospel isn't something that only pays dividends in the sweet by-and-by. If we simply share the benefits of the Gospel as something that saves people after they pass-on from this world, we're doing it a harmfully to its hearers. The gospel has immediate benefits to those who are weary and broken, and we need to make sure that we are communicating the supernatural strength available to those who submit to the Lord. The Good News is more than salvation for the afterlife, it is hope for now, it's a new life now.

12] **Evangelism – 'A Golden Standard':** *'Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age'* [Matthew 28:19-20]. When we read this passage, we need to read it as Jesus' commandment, not just a friendly suggestion as it seem many as taken it for. There isn't a person who has made the decision to follow Jesus who is exempt from this commission. This is about more than just getting someone to pray the "sinner's prayer"; or what I call the Prayer of Salvation. It's about equipping them to grow in grace and truth - and be people who take up this mission themselves. This is the on going process of evangelism which becomes discipleship [more on this in our next segment].

13] **Evangelism is of Vital Importance:** *'Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but*

whoever does not believe will be condemned' [Mark 16:16]. Until we begin to really internalize what's at stake in evangelism, we will struggle to rightly prioritize it. Evangelism is the very fine line between life and death; and it is our lifeline which we are to save others with [as we are already save in the boat].

14] **Evangelism is pleasing to Christ:** *'I tell you, whoever publicly acknowledges me before others, the Son of Man will also acknowledge before the angels of God' [Luke 12:8].* Imagine Christ publicly acknowledging you among the heavenly host for your willingness to identify yourself with Him; and for being His vocal witness here on earth. Jesus will neglect to share His pleasure for every time we've communicated the Good News of the Gospel to another.

15] **Evangelism is not about having good arguments:** *'When you are brought before synagogues, rulers and authorities, do not worry about how you will defend yourselves or what you will say, for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what you should say' [Luke 12:11-12].* Jesus is telling His disciples [and us too] that a time is coming when the cost of sharing the Gospel will be high. He encourages them not to be concerned about what they will say when they're dragged before those in authority; the Holy Spirit will move on their behalf. Sometimes we're so worried about having the right answer to every question that we neglect to open our mouths and simply share the Good News. It's helpful to remember that the Holy Spirit is there helping us to communicate and also working in the hearts of those with whom we're sharing.

16. **Evangelism is Good News shared:** *'For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him' [John 3:16-17].* We're often so focused on what happens to those who deny Christ, that we forget that the Gospel is Good News; and we are called to share the Good News. We're not sharing a message of condemnation, but one of a God who loves humanity so much that He'd be willing to make the ultimate sacrifice so that they could be reconciled to Him.

17] **Our behavior is another form of Evangelism:** There are a lot of philosophies and religions vying for attention. In the end, there has to be something that sets one apart and confirms its truth and value. We'd like to think that the Gospel is confirmed by our lofty arguments. The truth is that it's the Gospel's fruit that proves the Gospel's message; and there is no greater fruit than the love God's people have for each other [and we truly need that in our lives today more than ever]. It's so important that we realize that the opposite is also true. Our inability to love and affirm one another undermines the Gospel's message of reconciliation – and in it itself, we sin against the Word and ultimately against God.

18] **Jesus is the Doorway to our Father:** *'Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me' [John 14:6].* Why is evangelism so important? Because there is no other way to be reconciled to God but through Jesus Christ – Period; that's the Gospel Truth!

19] **Disciples bear fruit:** *'This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing*

yourselves to be my disciples' [John 15:8]. In keeping with John 13:35, it's imperative that we accept that our behavior and our fruit is a form of proof that reinforces our evangelism. The word "holiness" literally means "set apart." We are set apart for God's work, and this will set us apart in our culture. People will judge our words by our works. We need to have fruit that communicates the truth of the very Gospel we preach.

20] Our Evangelism is Empowered: Jesus speaks in future tense of the empowerment that will come through the Holy Spirit. This power will give potency to the disciple's message as they take the Gospel to the ends of the earth. This power that was to be given via the Holy Spirit came soon afterward, and is available to all of us who seek to be obedient to our commission. We have the power we need to fulfill our high calling, because Greater is He that is in us, than he who is in the world!

21] The church is the light of the world: For this is what the Lord has commanded us: *"I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth' [Acts 13:47].* Take note; you are, as an individual and also corporately, the church; being all members of one body, and Christ the head. To the first-century Jew, the idea that God's salvation would extend beyond Israel was completely foreign; and that's despite the fact that God had always told Israel that through them all the nations would be blessed. All of us who follow Christ are part of His plan of redeeming the whole world to Himself. We are the light of the world. There is no plan B.

22] We must push on and finish our task of evangelism: *'However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me - the task of testifying to the Good News of God's grace' [Acts 20:24].* If you're looking for inspiration, tape up this verse all around your home. Paul's single-minded focus to fulfill his responsibility of sharing the Gospel as widely as possible should energize us all. He lived and died for the Gospel; and the Bible assures us that the reward would be glorious.

23] We share God's power through Evangelism: *'For I am not ashamed of the Gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile' [Romans 1:16].* Our willingness to share the Gospel puts us at the mercy of those who may scoff at our devotion. It only takes a couple times of being laughed at, ridiculed, or treated roughly for sharing the Gospel before you're tempted to downplay your faith. Don't be afraid or ashamed. The Gospel is the power of God unto salvation; and those who stand against you for sharing the truth also stands against God Himself.

24] Your Evangelism helps God share His gift of life: *'For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord' [Romans 6:23].* Apart from the Gospel, we would all receive our wages as workers of inequity. Christ's Gospel has the power to swap out those wages for a free gift of eternal life – all we need to do is accept it!

25] Evangelism is a vital part of the salvation process: *'For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. As Scripture says, "Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame." For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile - the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who*

call on Him, for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. How, then, can they call on the One they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the One of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" But not all the Israelites accepted the good news. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?" Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ' [**Romans 10:10–17**]. Do I need say more... God has always wanted a people who labor beside Him. It is entirely possible that God could magically place the message of the Gospel in the hearts of every person, but He doesn't. Why? Because God gives us a freewill to follow Him.

26] Evangelism is not showing how smart you are, neither smart arguments: *'And so it was with me, brothers and sisters. When I came to you, I did not come with eloquence or human wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified'* [**1 Corinthians 2:1–2**]. The New Testament is full of Paul's intelligent defense of Christianity, so it's heartening to hear that his method for evangelism was not based on crafting the most eloquent and air-tight arguments. On the contrary, he came with a simple message of Christ and His sacrifice. The best evangelists aren't the greatest orators; they're the ones who are single-minded in their desire to share what God has done in simplicity of the Gospel message.

27] Evangelism is not always about securing a commitment: *'I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor. For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building'* [**1 Corinthians 3:6–9**]. We share God's message, but God causes it to take root and grow into faith. And even if we don't always get to see the fruit, we can take good pleasure in the fact that we are playing an important role in the harvest. Don't feel like you are failing when folks don't want to commit to the Lord; sometimes we only the seed planter, while some else will come to water that seed – but it is God Who will let it grow to acceptance at the right time. Although this is true; sometimes people think that they must get their lives in order first before they accept Jesus as Lord and Savior of their lives. In such a case, we are to preach to those that it is Jesus Who will cleanse us all; we are to come as we are. If they then still don't want to commit, then don't stress, you done what you needed to do – Praise the Lord!

28] Compassion [not pity] has an important role in Evangelism: *'Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the Gospel, that I may share in its blessings'* [**1 Corinthians 9:19–23**]. God's Word manifests itself differently in each of us. So our goal isn't to get others to conform to our cultural standards as proof of their faith. Rather, we are

sensitive to their traditions and experiences so that we don't insult or confuse them before we've had a chance to introduce them to Jesus.

29] **We must be open to the Spirit in Evangelism:** *'For I do not want to see you now and make only a passing visit; I hope to spend some time with you, if the Lord permits. But I will stay on at Ephesus until Pentecost, because a great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who oppose me' [1 Corinthians 16:7–9].* It was Paul's desire to invest some quality time with the church at Corinth [for discipleship]; and with the issues going on there, it's obvious they needed it. Yet, Paul was aware that the Spirit is making opportunities to share the Gospel in Ephesus, and following the Lord's movement is Paul's priority. It's important to remember that we will be pulled in multiple directions, but we need to follow the Lord's prompting; and not see opposition as a reason to quit.

30] **God makes His appeal through the Evangelist:** *'We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God' [2 Corinthians 5:20].* It's God's desire that the world would submit to be reconciled to Him, and He is making that appeal through us, the church. We are the diplomats that God has sent to represent Him in this foreign territory. Sadly, many Christians don't take up their position as ambassadors in this world – therefore, we ought to disciple our members effectively [we will look at this in our next segment].

31] **Follow your prompting; and allow others to follow theirs:** *'On the contrary, they recognized that I had been entrusted with the task of preaching the Gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been to the circumcised. For God, who was at work in Peter as an apostle to the circumcised, was also at work in me as an apostle to the Gentiles. James, Cephas and John, those esteemed as pillars, gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship when they recognized the grace given to me. They agreed that we should go to the Gentiles, and they to the circumcised' [Galatians 2:7–9].* It's easy to feel God is prompting you toward a specific work and think His prompting is universal. This was a problem that was brewing in the early church. Peter felt called to witness to the Jews and struggled with Paul's contrary calling to preach to the Gentiles. In the end, don't be dissuaded from reaching the people you feel called and empowered to reach – the devil will never call you to reach people with the truth of God's Word; when you hear a voice calling you to reach the lost, it is God calling you – be it in reaching gangsters, drug addicts, prostitutes, etc...

32] **Evangelism is always about God's work and plan:** *'For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast' [Ephesians 2:8–9].* We do well to remember that salvation is not something we earned by the work we've done. In the same way, the successes we see in evangelism are a response to God's grace at work in someone's life, and not because of our works, so we still can't boast, but instead, we boast in the Lord our God.

33] **Salvation isn't the goal of Evangelism, Discipleship is:** *'He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me' [Colossians 1:28–29].* Paul was all about sharing the Gospel, but he never saw

that as his only responsibility. He worked tirelessly to ensure that systems were set up so that people could grow into maturity. This is in keeping with Christ's Great Commission that we not only share the Good News, but that we teach them to do everything that Christ commanded.

34] **Use the Evangelist 'Rule Book':** *'Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone'* [Colossians 4:2–6]. In these four verses, Paul hits on the six elements of responsible evangelism:

34.1. **Pray regularly for opportunities to share the Gospel:** If you're serious about sharing the Good News, you will be asking God to give you more and more opportunities.

34.2. **Be watching and thankful:** Since you're praying for opportunities, you're going to be on the lookout for them, thankful when they occur.

34.3. **Pray for opportunities for others to share the Gospel clearly:** You'll also pray for others to have opportunities to share the Gospel, and that they would do so with power and authority.

34.4. **Be wise about how you treat outsiders:** You'll learn to think of every conversation as an important part of your evangelism. It's not that you're always sharing the Gospel; it's that you don't want to do anything that undermines you before you do.

34.5. **Make the most of every opportunity:** Making the most of your opportunities requires a lot of vigilance and grit. You need to be on guard to recognize your opportunities, and you need to have the resolve to take advantage of those opportunities when they surface.

34.6. **Ensure that your conversations are full of grace [always]:** It's so important that we recognize that our conversations reflect the Gospel; even when we're not talking about the Gospel – because people who know that we are Christian will always be watching us and judging every word and action.

35] **Your life gives your Evangelism traction:** *'For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that He has chosen you, because our Gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake'* [1 Thessalonians 1:4–5]. Fight the temptation to bury yourself in books to empower evangelism. Having a good argument isn't the only facet of sharing the Gospel. We need to come with the power we get from communion with Christ, fervent conviction recognizing that the Lord is already at work in this person's life, and an understanding that the life we live confirms the truth of the Gospel.

36] **Evangelism will face opposition:** *'So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me His prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the Gospel, by the power of God. He has saved us and called us to a holy life - not because of anything we have done but because of His Own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time'* [2 Timothy 1:8-9]. Paul reminds Timothy that the opposition to the Gospel and his imprisonment is no reason to be ashamed. Resistance is to be expected and even if the culture views imprisonment with shame, Paul doesn't want Timothy to shy away

from the potential price of sharing the good news.

37] **Evangelist also invest in their own discipleship:** *‘Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth’ [2 Timothy 2:15].* The believer's process of maturity is ongoing. We always need to be submitting to others in the faith and learning as much as we can, so when the opportunity presents itself, we are handling God’s Word with confidence and power.

38] **Everyone of us is called to do the work of an Evangelist:** *‘But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry’ [2 Timothy 4:5].* Paul finishes his second letter to Timothy with this commission. With all the work that Timothy is called to as a young pastor, Paul wants to ensure that he doesn't neglect the work of evangelism.

39] **Give reason for the hope you have:** *‘But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect’ [1 Peter 3:15].* This verse from Peter reveals how simple evangelism can be. It isn't about arguing someone into submission. It's about **gently and respectfully** sharing why you have your hope is in Christ. It doesn't need to be contentious or difficult. It should be natural and sincere.

40] **Evangelism ultimately fulfills God’s desire to reconcile the world back unto Himself:** *‘The Lord is not slow in keeping His promise, as some understand slowness. Instead He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance’ [2 Peter 3:9].* Even Peter was impatient for the Lord's return, and that was a couple thousand years ago. But the Lord is still withholding judgment because He wants everyone to have an opportunity to enter into relationship with Him. Evangelism is not only the way that we take the Gospel to every living creature, it is the way we help fulfill God's desire.

Evangelism is the commitment to, or act of publicly preaching, the Gospel with the intention of spreading the message and teachings of Jesus Christ. Christians who specialize in evangelism are often known as evangelists, whether they are in their home communities or living as missionaries in the field.



Below, we sharing a collection of verse in parallel to the topic of Evangelism; you can study these verses for better understanding on the importance of Evangelism as a individual [we will quote from the ESV]:

“His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith

with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love” [2 Peter 1:3-8]

“Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God” [Ephesians 5:1-2]

“...And he called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal. And he said to them, “Take nothing for your journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money; and do not have two tunics. And whatever house you enter, stay there, and from there depart. And wherever they do not receive you, when you leave that town shake off the dust from your feet as a testimony against them...” [Luke 9:1-62]

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come” [2 Corinthians 5:17]

“...Now I would remind you, brothers, of the Gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word 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 in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve...” [1 Corinthians 15:1-8]

“...After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of Him, two by two, into every town and place where He Himself was about to go. And He said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace be to this house!’...” [Luke 10:1-42]

“Now when he rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons. She went and told those who had been with him, as they mourned and wept. But when they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they would not believe it. After these things he appeared in another form to two of them, as they were walking into the country. And they went back and told the rest, but they did not believe them” [Mark 16:9-15]

“You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him. An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules...” [2 Timothy 2:1-26]

“And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him” [Matthew 4:19-20]

“The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith” [1 Timothy 1:5]

“And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed” [Mark 1:35]

“And he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised” [2 Corinthians 5:15]

“This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God” [1 Corinthians 4:1]

“For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself?” [Luke 9:24-25]

“By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers” [1 John 3:16]

“If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him” [John 12:26]

“If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat, and if he is thirsty, give him water to drink, for you will heap burning coals on his head, and the LORD will reward you” [Proverbs 25:21-22]

Prayer of Salvation



It is of vital importance to always ask someone if they are born again, even when you know for a fact that they are not; because it comes across as judgmental to those of the world when it seems like we making an assumption. This also opens an opportunity to explain to them the benefits of being born again; but more importantly, that it is by no human efforts that we are born again; Jesus wants us the way we are – that we don't need to sort things out or try to become self-righteous – for only Jesus can clean us [this should be done briefly and to the point – long discussions might irritate people]. Salvation is for today, tomorrow is promised to no man; but even so, not everyone will agree to pray what many calls the 'sinner's prayer', for that soul might not be yours to win [I rather refer to it as the Prayer of Salvation]. Also remember, leading someone in prayer is not a public demonstration of a soul won [therefore we have water baptism]; and in most cases, people who never received Christ but now are ready to do so, they might still be a bit shy. Discreetly pray for people and lead people in prayer by not being obnoxious or ubiquitous; this can seriously drive people away and you might just lose an opportunity to save a soul.

Lastly, it is important to take down contact numbers of such people [don't push them to give you their address; you can work on visiting them at a later stage]. Get their contact number and give them a miss call while you still with them to ensure you have the right number; then make sure that you follow up with them within 24 hours. This soul will become your responsibility to disciple, get them to attend a small group, and again, most importantly, help them to attend a church near them – do your research and start building Kingdom Connections of trusted believers where you can direct people to; but do not pass a soul on – you still have a responsibility in discipling that person even when they join another church or small group setting – that's until they are comfortable in their new setting.

Below is a simple guide to an effective Prayer of Salvation you can memorize:

“O Lord God; I believe with all my heart in Jesus Christ, Son of the only Living God. I believe He died for me and that God had raised Him from the dead. I believe He is alive today! I confess with my mouth that Jesus Christ is Lord of my life from this day on. Through Him and in His Name, I have eternal life; I am born again. Thank You Lord, for saving my soul. I am now a child of the One and Only True Living God!” Hallelujah!

We have based this Prayer of Salvation on the verse found in **Romans 10:9-10**; “*That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. [10] For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*” Take Note: It is important for the person you leading in prayer to actually sound out the words after you. Therefore, break the prayer up in segments for them to repeat – ex: ‘O Lord God... [___], I believe with all my heart... [___], in Jesus Christ... [___], Son of the only Living God... [___]...’ You will say a fragment and allow them to speak it after you, that way they will hear you clearly with understanding to repeat after you.

Sings and Wonders for Effective Evangelism

Mark 16:15-18



“¹⁵And then He told them, “Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone. ¹⁶Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone who refuses to believe will be condemned. ¹⁷These miraculous signs will accompany those who believe: They will cast out demons in my name, and they will speak in new languages. ¹⁸They will be able to handle snakes with safety, and if they drink anything poisonous, it won’t hurt them. They will be able to place their hands on the sick, and they will be healed” [NLT].

We find the Great Commission in the book of Matthew chapter 28 and verse 19 to 20; “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: [20] Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen!” – and this is reflected in Mark 16:15, saying; ‘...Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone.’ The remarkable thing in both Matthew 28:19-20 and Mark 16:15-18 is that Jesus is not sending [or commanding] us to go on our own accord; but He has given us His Spirit to accompany us, to work in and through us; He has given us authority by using His name; and by the work of the Spirit, signs and wonders will follow us – but in this, it is vitally important that we work with discernment in evangelism when it comes to signs and wonders. You don’t want to be casting out demons if the person is not demonically possessed; neither do you want to confuse someone by speaking in tongues if they have never heard of it before, etc...

When it comes to casting out demons, there are a few things you ought to know; and I would like to share my experiences on this for you to better understand these things. If a person is demon possessed, they are many times not aware of it; and in some cases when a person is aware, the demon has such a strong foothold on them that they become afraid for people to pray for them. The Spirit will lead you along in this; and what I’m sharing with you is just a general guideline to some insights; you will need to develop a real intimate relationship with the Spirit to accurately discern His guidance on these issues; however, when dealing with a demonic possessed person, you going to need patience and wisdom. Demons are deceitful spirits; and they will try and deceive a believer in lying dormant, like you have successfully cast it out; yet it is still present. Most importantly, in dealing with possession, you will need to bring such a person first to awareness of their possessions, and then bring them to understanding that all will be well – giving them the assurance of scripture that Jesus wants to make them well.

In many cases I have found that sicknesses and diseases are tied to demonic possession; but at times they simply tied to demonic oppressions. There’s a difference with being possessed and being oppressed. Possession is when a demon has entered the body of a person and gained control over the emotions and intellect of an individual person; while oppression is when demons work from the outside in deceiving people. Of course, it is easier to deal with an oppressed person than what it is to deal with a possessed person; but the Spirit will lead you in doing what’s right – but it will be a willing to learn experience in

bringing the possessed person into acknowledgement of possession and also acceptance that Jesus wants them saved – either which way, this is not just a once of encounter, but on going prayer and ministering to such a soul. This is dealing with the first sign; lest move on to the second sign.

Speaking in new tongues [this is angelic-tongues / language], is something which is done through the indwelling of the Spirit; as it is the Spirit of God Who utters heavenly tongue through us when we give heed to His ministry in our lives. The question is: Can every born again child of God speaks in tongues? Yes, if you believe what Mark 16 tells us, then this is true; but if you don't believe then you might have some difficulty in it. Mark is very direct here by saying: '*...These miraculous signs will accompany those who believe: They will cast out demons in my name, **and they will speak in new languages.***' He couldn't have made this more clear – why we find so many born again Christian who don't speak in tongues is because they have a problem with their believing – and this is something you simply have to make up your mind about – You either believe or not! If you believe, then good; now you only need to say: 'Holy Spirit, I give You free will to use my mouth and utter Your words through me', and then open your mouth and allow the Spirit to speak through you. You can find an article on this on our website, titled: 'The Power of Praying in Tongues' - it will shed a lot of light on this topic. What I do want to stress to you hear is; speaking in tongues before a person said the Prayer of Salvation might just confuse them [many unbelievers haven't experience this]; but once the have received the Lord as Savior of their life and they are filled with the Holy Spirit, then they will be able to identify with tongues – however, it might still be foreign to them. You must, once again, use discernment in this.

The next two sign that will follow them that believe is: '*...They will be able to handle snakes with safety, and if they drink anything poisonous, it won't hurt them.*' Now you might ask how will this help in evangelism; and that's a good question – so let's look at Paul in this... "*And when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks, and laid them on the fire, there came a viper out of the heat, and fastened on his hand. ^[4] And when the barbarians saw the venomous beast hang on his hand, they said among themselves, No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he hath escaped the sea, yet vengeance suffereth not to live. ^[5] And he shook off the beast into the fire, and felt no harm. ^[6] Howbeit they looked when he should have swollen, or fallen down dead suddenly: but after they had looked a great while, and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds, and said that he was a god'* [Acts 28:3-6 / KJV]. Now imagine that; Paul is shipwreck and washed up on an island of unbelievers; and a viper bites him, but it harms him in no way. These unbelievers turns to one another, saying he must be a god; and knowing Paul – this becomes a stepping stone for him to evangelize that crowd. Sometimes we deal with people who strongly oppose the Gospel, or someone with a highly contagious disease; but we don't need to worry about that; for in that moments the Holy Spirit will minister unto us and those things will not effect us or harm us in any way.

Some time ago, when I was working in Lanscape Construction, I was working along side my team in a very bushy corner of a garden; and I didn't notice that I was close to a green mamba [a deadly snake], when one of the labourers noticed it and warned me – but it was

to late, he had stiked my leg. The staff knew how piosonous this snake is; and they wanted to call the an ambulance – however, I imediatelty remembered the story of Paul and continued to work. Then some of the workers was startled and whisperring among one another. When I asked them, they said; ‘look, the pioson is coming out of your leg. This opened an opportunity as they witnessed for themselves the power of God at work; and I ministered to them and led them to Christ – Hallelujah!

The 5th and last sign we see in Mark 16 and verse 18 says: ‘*They will be able to place their hands on the sick, and they will be healed.*’ This is very clear; however, I want to point it out to you incase you missed it – the first and last sign, it says: ‘*They will cast out demons in my name... They will be able to place their hands on the sick, and they will be healed.*’ Notice here: The first sign say that if we believe we will be able to cast demons out in the name of Jesus [we are not to touch the demon possessed; and we see that even Jesus didn’t touch those who were possessed, but only spoke to them to come out]; while if a person is sick, it is written: that we will be able to touch them and they will be healed [here there’s no need to pray for them, but just touch them]. Understand that as a Spirit-filled born again Christian, you are anointed by the Spirit of God and the anointing carries the power to destroy the yoke [*Isa.10:27*]. In this case, the yoke is sickness, and by touching the sick, the anointing in you has the power to destroy the yoke of sickness in a person’s body.

Again, discernment is needed here; and surely the Spirit will lead you in all truth; because some folks is in such deep unbelief on certain things of God that you will need to pray for them; but also, there might be hidden truths in dealing with the sick. Demons are known to cause sickness in people; and if the person we are dealing with is sick because of demonic possession, then we must follow the principles of these signs – which are: 1st cast out the demon, then you can lay your hands on the sick and they will be healed. I’m sure that makes sense to you...

The bottom line here is: Do you believe? I’m sure your answer is yes... Now make up your mind and use these signs for effective evangelism – Amen! These signs are not given for us who believes, but instead, it is given to us for those who don’t believe that they might believe – Hallelujah!

Modeling Discipleship



In opening this segment, I would like to start off with some quotes which I think you will find quite interesting.

'Evangelism is telling people about God's grace; Discipleship is helping them walk in it'
- unknown

'Discipleship is a lifestyle filled with relationships; a life of pouring yourself out to others'
- unknown

'If we don't teach our children to follow Christ, the world will teach them not to'
- unknown

'True discipleship is about inviting someone to the table, providing a feast, and then teaching them to feed themselves so they can prepare a meal for someone else' - unknown

'Salvation is free, but discipleship costs everything we have' – Billy Graham

'Christianity without the living Christ is inevitably Christianity without discipleship; and Christianity without discipleship is always Christianity without Christ'
– Dietrich Bonhoeffer



Again, we will do well if we learn from Jesus as He modeled discipleship in His disciples; and also the way the Apostles mentored their followers, especially the Apostle Paul who mentored and disciplined many others.

For many evangelist; discipleship is something someone else will do; therefore, we will start with the basics and then move on from there... In our ministry we deal with our members as leaders; for every Christian has been called to evangelize their world and to disciple the souls they bring in – this places each Christian at a position of a leader; be it that you have one follower or many, the fact that someone is following, means there's a leader that they are following – and in this case, you the leader they will follow. All our study guides [which are available on our website under our 'Global School of Ministry' pages] is designed for leaders – we will do the same here: we will address you as a leader.

Remember; in this segment we are dealing with discipleship; your evangelism in winning a soul is done, and now you are to disciple those souls you have won... Take note, this discipleship model is useful in both a personal level and corporately. It is important to have a discipleship model because ultimately people can talk about discipleship, but if there's no organized model or strategy to accomplish discipleship, it ends up not happening at all. What is a discipleship model? A discipleship model is a philosophy of how you help

people grow in their faith. There are three major disciple models most churches use to help their congregation grow in spiritual maturity:

1. Life-on-life discipleship model
2. The family discipleship model and
3. The classroom discipleship model

We will look at all 3 of these in perspective of driving your members forward

1. Life-on-life Discipleship Model

The goal of the life-on-life [or one-on-one] discipleship model is to build trusted relationships with other Christians. Trusted relationships are where discipleship begins through admonishing one another, teaching one another, and edifying one another. The life-on-life –or- one-on-one discipleship model is also known as “small group”, “life group” or even ‘home-cell groups.’

A small group is a group of people who get together with the purpose of doing a study to learn together and build relationships with one another. This could be a Bible study, sermon study, book study, or any other type of spiritual study. Small groups also bring us back to the effective times in ministry of the early church, who for the first 300 years met in home-settings and the church grew tremendously during that time – why? Because home-settings is not formal like that of our modern day church settings. In a home-setting members are more comfortable and they can actually interact much more with one another than that of a corporate church setting.

Ministry teams can also be effectively implemented in a corporate or small-group setting; whereby you get like-minded people to congregate together to be part of serving in some capacity together. Some ministry teams churches may have include: prayer ministry, worship ministry, or children’s ministry. Rather than the traditional Bible study or an in-home community group, people in ministry teams are out doing some type of ministry together; and this helps get people involve in different ministry arms within the ministry itself. Of course, here we are speaking about discipleship in the setting of the extended and continuing works of evangelism; getting people together to join in an evangelism team is another effective way to model the lifestyle of evangelism. Within an evangelistic team setting, you can have a lot of clean fun; and by going out on mission based ministry, you model the life of an evangelist; but this does not just involves stepping out into the streets as groups; but you should spend good time together as a team where you can equip your team with sound doctrines on the Word of God to be used in your expeditions [you can use a book like this one you reading now as a study manual to equip your members better].

In general church settings, you can have interest groups where people meet who already have similar interest of heart. It can be a décor and catering team, fun activities for families or kids, other fellowship groups like a teen-group, men’s or women’s fellowship, or even a couples fellowship group. The idea here is to get people connected on a more personal level so that the more mature or seniors in such groups can effectively model discipleship [but be careful that you don’t start forming ‘clicks’ – groups isolating themselves from the general congregation].

2. The Family Discipleship Model

The family discipleship model is when a local church is focused on teaching and equipping a family to be the center for discipleship. This can also be an effective work of an individual, who as a leader, goes and do home visitations; meeting the family in their homes and ministering to them on a personal level. This can be time consuming, so we suggest that you limit this activity to a maximum of no more than 5 families which will be a good number to manage. On the note of a ministry platform, this is where the parents are the primary spiritual mentors to their kids, a husband and wife are discipling one another, or a father is spiritually pastoring his home – and once a week meetings in a church setting will instill sound teaching for modeling this type of discipleship.

3. The Classroom Discipleship Model

The classroom discipleship model is your traditional Sunday school model [Kids or Children Ministry]; a formal classroom setting with a teacher teaching about a certain topic as a curriculum. It is good to teach our children from young in the ways of the Lord; and although most churches are set up in this aspect; nothing is better than training up parents to teach their children in a home setting – being both the parents and teachers in their homes.

There are three types of classroom models churches frequently use [and of course, parents can use these at home too]:

- **Bible Focused Class:** The teacher goes through a book or portion of the Bible in a verbal commentary, verse by verse. A Bible-focused class is essentially exegetical preaching.
- **Topically Focused Class:** The class picks topics relevant to people. This may include parenting, finances, end times prophecy, or other practical things that may apply. It includes topics popular in Christianity.
- **Classes by Age Groups:** If they are under 18, they will be broken up by age input in groups accordingly. The leader will typically teach the Bible in a way that's tailored to that age group.

The bottom line in discipleship is to teach people how to follow Jesus as you were once taught and now is following Jesus. The main awareness in doing this is: Check yourself regularly, because discipleship is duplicating one self in another person. How do you live your life, how do you treat people, what is the condition of your heart, etc... all these things will be duplicated in those who you are discipling – as you are the mentor they will be looking at and they will copy what they see you do! Work the golden rule of Christianity in your love: ***'Love the Lord with all your heart; and also love one another'***

"He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love" [1 John 4:8 / KJV]

Modeling Discipleship is living a biblical true life; modeling how you want to see others serving God according to God's desire and not your own. Everything we do have a reaction; even when we do nothing, people still react to that – so allow your actions to cultivate positive reaction – *"And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" [Galatians 6:9 / KJV].*

Five Principle for Discipleship

from Colossians 1:28-29



“Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: [29] Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily”

- [Colossian 1:28-29 / KJV]

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” [Matthew 28:19]. The command is clear, yet the way live out this command is often based on our own desire and how we want to twist it to suit our own desires.

Paul writes to the Colossian church, *“Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil, struggling with all His energy that He powerfully works within me” [Colossians 1:28-29]* – in this short and insightful portion of scripture, we can draw five principles for discipleship; let’s take a look at them:

1. The Heart of Discipleship: Proclaiming Jesus.

Remember what we said; evangelism is not complete if there’s no discipleship that follows - *“Him we proclaim.”* Discipleship is about proclaiming Jesus and making His name and deeds known. Looking at some major themes of Colossians, we see that: ‘Christ is Lord over all creation’, and that ‘Christ is our redeemer.’ Within this context, Paul writes these powerful words we see in chapter 1. Just before these words, in verse 27, Paul reminds the Colossians that God has revealed the mystery [secrets] of Christ to them and that Christ is personally present with them. *“Him we proclaim” - We proclaim this news;* both to the lost and to the saved.

Discipleship is an outward focused. It is defining the very definition of Christianity in the way we live our new found life in Christ; which is: **‘Christianity is the outward expression of the inner workings of God in a human body!’**

We don’t invest in someone only for the sake of that individual, but we do so with the intentions of multiplying other disciples, that will impact the very souls of our members. We proclaim Jesus to men and women who will go on to proclaim Jesus to the world; and who will go and make more disciples. Discipleship is the foundation of raising up sound leaders, who will lead other in discipleship as they are being led in discipleship – it is a life long and on going process [even to the most senior level]. Even if outwardly we are “proclaiming Jesus” in how we do discipleship, we must make sure that inwardly, our motive is to make much of Him, rather than to make much of ourselves. It is literally more of Him and less of us! The conditioning of our heart, the very perfection God commands, becomes the basis on which we develop discipleship models.

2. The Means of Discipleship: Teaching and Warning with Wisdom.

Scripture has a lot more to say regarding how to make disciples, but Paul gives us some basics in this passage: “warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom.”

Teaching, or instruction, might seem like an obvious component of discipleship. We must train those we lead in the Word of God and show them how to live lives that glorify Jesus. However, this passage reveals that our responsibility is not only to teach those we disciple the right way, but also to warn them when they are going the wrong way. Out of love for those we disciple, we must not be silent when they are living in opposition to the Scriptures.

In this passage, Paul says that we are to teach and train everyone “with all wisdom”. As we see in James 1:5 that says we are to ask God for wisdom, and this is very important. As we disciple others, we must continually seek the Lord’s wisdom and guidance. We must be spending regular time in the Word and in prayer. Any time we teach or warn, we must make sure we are doing so in submission to Him and according to the truth of God’s Word, not our own standards. Galatians 6:1 says that this must be done in a spirit of gentleness and out of love.

3. The Goal of Discipleship: To Present Everyone Mature in Christ.

It is through Christ’s redeeming work that believers grow in maturity. The goal of discipleship, therefore, is not only to make disciples who will make more disciples, but for all believers to become increasingly like Jesus by relentlessly relying on Jesus. True discipleship involves investing in younger believers, walking through life with them, and shepherding them to Christian maturity. Younger believers here does not refer to younger in age, but those who are new to the faith. Discipleship is also compared to parenting. The two have amazing parallels. It is appropriate to view yourself as a sort of spiritual parent to those you disciple. Like a good parent, seek to nurture and love those you lead, and seek to meet their needs and encourage them to live lives worthy of their calling. This doesn’t mean that we are to spoon feed those we are discipling, because a good parent don’t hand feed their children forever, but instead they train them to feed and take care of themselves. They have an ultimate goal of launching their children out into adult life; and in spiritual parenting, we must function in this very sense of being spiritual parents to those we are discipling.

4. The Cost of Discipleship: Toil and Struggle.

Discipleship is to be purposeful, fun, and rewarding; however, like most valuable things, discipleship also requires energy, time, and hard work. In this description of his ministry, Paul uses the words “toil” and “struggle”. The Greek word which is translated as “toil” in this passage means “to grow weary, tired, exhausted”, or “to labor with wearisome effort”. And the word for “struggle” is often used to describe the strenuous exertion that goes into an athletic competition or a fight. Paul fought and labored to the point of exhaustion to present believers mature in Christ. Discipleship cost him greatly, and it should cost us as well – but there is no reason for ‘spiritual burn-outs’ when we go about discipleship with the wisdom of God.

5. The Power of Discipleship: His Energy.

Paul adds a very profound reference to his toiling and struggling by saying: “*I toil, struggling **with all His energy** that He powerfully works within me.*” While discipleship takes a lot of energy, the good news is that the Lord gives us His – and in increasing and

being renewed in this God-given energy, we are to feed on the wholesome and nutritious Word of God which fills us with power to continue. You can't burn your energy in your physical body and not eat to replace that energy – soon you will grow weak as your body continuously draws on energy from within – this is true for our spiritual bodies too; we need to feed it spiritual food. We toil and struggle, yet we have God's Word to depend on. No matter how experienced you are in discipleship, it is crucial that you are constantly coming to the Lord to ask for His energy and power through devoting yourself to studying the Word and in prayer. The more you grow in discipling others, the more you will realise that you must relentlessly rely on the Lord – for in the end, we are all to work out our own salvation with fear and trembling [*Philippians 2:12*], no one can work it out for us.

End Notes



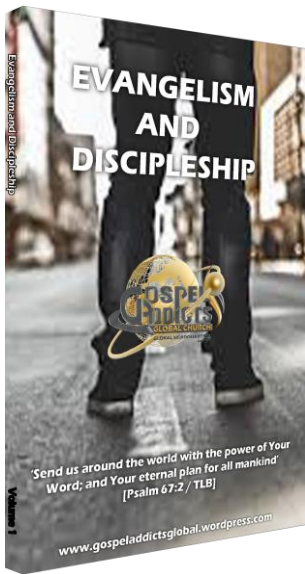
As a Christian author, I spend endless hours in compiling study manuals and ebooks to equip others as leaders to teach their members – and in much of what I write about is found on biblical teachings of on going discipleship. This of course goes and in hand with timeless research and studying the Word of God; and while I enjoy compiling this materials; I can personally say that the greatest reward is in evangelizing and discipling people – seeing how the Word of God and the working of the Holy Spirit in people’s lives transforms them from glory to glory. Nothing can compare to physically sharing the Word of God with others.

I therefore admonish you to get into the Spirit and step out in evangelizing your world and discipling those you win to Christ. Ultimately, experience the working of the Lord in your life as lives are transform in front of your very life – and remember, although we are stepping out in obedience to the Lord’s commandment, it is ultimately the Lord Who is reconciling the world back unto Himself through you.

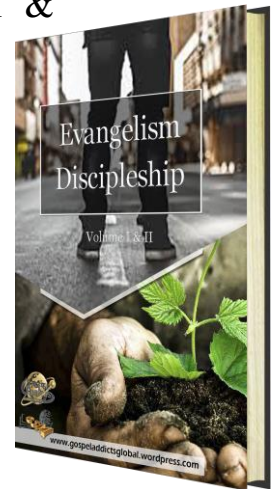
“² [No] you yourselves are our letter of recommendation (our credentials), written in your hearts, to be known (perceived, recognized) and read by everybody. ³ You show and make obvious that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, not written with ink but with [the] Spirit of [the] living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts”

- [2 Corinthians 3:2-3 / AmpC]

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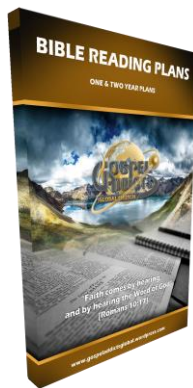
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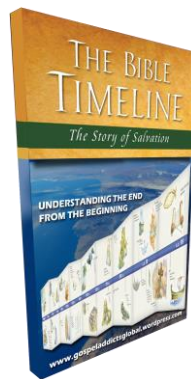
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