

## Preaching the Evangelistic Message

“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with *them*, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.” Mark 16:15-20, KJV.

How shall they hear without a preacher?

“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” Romans 10:13-17, KJV.

The Gospel is the power...

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.” Romans 1:16, KJV.

God saves through the foolishness of preaching

“For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect. For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where *is* the wise? where *is* the scribe? where *is* the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.” 1 Corinthians 1:17-21, KJV.

Preach—to be a herald, to proclaim, make a public proclamation of truth. The evangelistic message expresses the heart of God towards the person who is without God and without hope in this world. It proclaims the Good News of salvation and explains how to obtain it. Some think it is preaching with fervor and strong emotion. It may or may not be emotional, but it MUST have Gospel content. (Acts 11:14)

Every minister should be preaching evangelistically

“But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.” 2 Timothy 4:5, KJV.

- Most pastors have a mindset that keeps them preaching to the believers
- How I learned to preach evangelistically.

Train yourself to talk normally, from the heart and to the heart.

What is the Gospel?

“Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures.” 1 Corinthians 15:1-4, KJV.

Preach Christ—born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, died on the cross for our sins, was buried, rose again, ascended to heaven, poured out the Holy Spirit, and it coming again.

“Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.” Acts 8:5, KJV.

Introduce yourself. Be human and friendly. Show love for the people. Read a scripture text, often from the Gospel, but it can be OT or about anywhere. However if you use a text from the epistles, be aware that these letters were written to church people. You will have to adapt it to your audience and it could get you off track. Remember, you are talking to people who are not yet in the family of you. Wherever you start, make a beeline for Jesus!

Use the pronoun “you” rather than “we.”

Elements of the Evangelistic Sermon (Tom’s style, learned in India)

#### 1. THE ONE TRUE AND LIVING GOD (Gen. 1:1, Gen. 1:26-28, Exo 20:3)

- Goodness of God in creation
- Man made in His image
- Idolatry is a slap in the face of Almighty God
- Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom

#### 2. THE FALL AND THE SIN NATURE (Gen. 3:1-19, Rom 5:12, Eph. 2:12, Rom. 3:23)

- Holiness of God and incompatibility with sin
- Bad news before the Good News
- Root of all the problems in the world

#### 3. JESUS IS THE ONLY SAVIOR (John 3:1-17, John 14:6, 2Co 5:17-21)

- Billy Graham fails to preach the cross, little results (1 Cor. 2:1-4)
- The opportunity to present the love, mercy and goodness of God

#### 4. RECEIVING JESUS IN YOUR LIFE (John 1:12, Rom 10:9-10, Mar 1:15)

“But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:” John 1:12, KJV.

- Faith and Repentance; be very clear about what you want them to do. . .

Preparing yourself to preach

“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and *be* ready always to *give* an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:” 1 Peter 3:15, KJV.

You need to have a good grasp of the Bible, especially the redemptive truths. Get key scriptures in your memory. Speak extemporaneously from your heart under the unction of the Holy Spirit. Also, prepare your people to proclaim the Gospel. Goal: every member prepared.

You can include your testimony or elements of your testimony. You can also have other people share their testimony before you preach.

An example: The Prodigal Son, the love of the Father, Humanity away from God, the way home, repentance, sonship.