

Evangelism Training Manual

EVANGELISM CLASS **By Ryan Tolan**

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INTRODUCTION

For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I may win more. To the Jews I became as a Jew, so that I might win Jews; to those who are under the Law, as under the Law though not being myself under the Law, so that I might win those who are under the Law; to those who are without law, as without law, though not being without the law of God but under the law of Christ, so that I might win those who are without law. To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak; I have become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some. I do all things for the sake of the gospel, so that I may become a fellow partaker of it. (1 Corinthians 9:19-23)

Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest' (Matthew 9:36-38)

There are so many things you will do better in heaven than on earth. Without sin, such things as praise and service unto the Lord will be of the highest quality compared to that done on earth. But, there will only be believers there. It is while on earth, there is still a need for evangelism; it is through its message that people get saved. It is indispensable for the time being.

In fact, the presence of sin creates a demand for evangelism. Still, it seems evangelism is both a primary passionate church endeavor and a victim of much misunderstanding and misapplication. Numerous books and ministries promote varying evangelistic approaches, while some demonstrate a diverse understanding of evangelism itself. But, while one's zeal can incite great evangelistic efforts, zeal without proper understanding and application of evangelism leads to a hopeless presentation void of the power of salvation.

Ultimately, people must both accept the gospel message and proclaim it. An understanding of evangelism helps to evaluate and encourage proper applications of evangelism as well as correct faulty attempts at evangelism. The call for evangelism has the ability to positively impact the church, and society. But, that's where you come in, right?

I. Purpose

The purpose of this evangelism curriculum is to equip Christians with a biblical worldview and skills for evangelism through examining the Bible. A proper understanding of evangelism can be great encouragement for believers seeking to glorify God through evangelism. With this in mind, both the student and those who are the recipients of their resulting ministry are targeted by this study. Therefore, the content of this curriculum is intentional in its teachings, consisting of the reason behind evangelism, explaining what evangelism means, the message of evangelism and ending with how-to-do guidance for practical application.

II. Proper Context

The church is designed to facilitate the maturity of believers (Eph. 4:15-16). Jesus will build His church and has commissioned the church to do His will (Matt. 16:18). Even men like Paul, commissioned to plant churches, commit to the local church. It's the church's responsibility to equip the saints for the work of the ministry for God-glorifying work, including fellowship among believers (Eph. 4:11-12; 1 John 1:1-4; cf. Matt. 5:14; Php. 2:15).

Evangelism is not a task meant for "experts only," but for all believers in an effort to faithfully glorify God. What better way to glorify Him than to guide others to glorify Him as well!? May we be encouraged to glorify God through evangelism!