

Evangelism

"The Ministry of Reconciliation"

Evangelism (pt 1)

What is Evangelism?

1. Showing a person his need for reconciliation with God due to his sin and God's just judgment
2. Declaring what God in His love has done in Christ through the cross and the resurrection
3. Calling the person to repentance and faith in Christ as the only Savior and Lord

Evangelism (pt 2)

Understanding the Nature of Conversion

Evangelism (pt 2)

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing,
in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.
For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bondservants for Jesus' sake.
For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

Evangelism (pt 2)

Nature of Conversion

1. Man's natural condition (v4)
 - "blind" – cannot "see" the light of the gospel
 - "dead" – no spiritual life, no desire for God

Natural man lacks the moral ability to respond in faith to the gospel

Evangelism (pt 2)

Nature of Conversion

2. God's supernatural work (v6)
 - *Regeneration or new birth*
 - the work of the Holy Spirit in changing the heart and giving spiritual life, enabling the darkened soul to see the gospel of the glory of Christ...

Evangelism (pt 2)

"But God...even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ" (Ephesians 2:5)

"And when you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him" (Colossians 2:13)

"He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit" (Titus 3:5)

Evangelism (pt 2)

Nature of Conversion

2. God's supernatural work (v6)

➤ *Regeneration or new birth*

- the work of the Holy Spirit in changing the heart and giving spiritual life, enabling the darkened soul to see the gospel of the glory of Christ...
- whereby a person freely and willingly repents of sin and believes on Christ for salvation

Evangelism (pt 2)

Nature of Conversion

3. The role of evangelism (v5)

- The gospel proclamation is the agency of shining the light of the glory of Christ
- God has appointed the proclamation of the gospel as the means of begetting new birth and faith

Evangelism (pt 2)

Implications for Evangelism

1. Avoid manipulation, deceit and psychological pressure in order to "get a decision"
2. Confidence in the uncompromised message of the gospel as God's means of salvation
3. Encouragement that God will save sinners through the "foolishness of the message preached"