



Understanding Evangelism

- Godliness requires that we **discipline** ourselves in the **practice** of evangelism.
- Among the reasons we don't speak of Christ more often is **fear**.

EVANGELISM IS EXPECTED

All Christians are not expected to use the same **method** of evangelism, but all Christians are **expected** to evangelize.

What is evangelism? Communicating the **gospel**.

Anyone who faithfully relates the **essential** elements of God's **salvation** through Jesus Christ is evangelizing.

Why is evangelism expected of us? Jesus **commanded** us to witness.

Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47; John 20:21; Acts 1:8

While it's true that God gifts some for ministry as **evangelists**, He calls all believers to be His witness and provides them with both the **power** to witness and a powerful **message**.

EVANGELISM IS EMPOWERED

Sometimes we fail to speak of Christ out of **fear** of **rejection**.

In some cases, the **method** of witnessing we're asked to use causes our **evangelophobia**.

Often, it's the **seriousness** of evangelism that frightens us from engaging. The **eternal destiny** of the person is the issue.

Many Christians feel too **unprepared** or simply have too little **faith**, thus are terrified of entering into such an eternally important situation.

We need to understand that sharing the gospel in itself is **successful** evangelism.

In this regard, we're like the postal service: success is measured by the **careful** and **accurate** delivery of the message, not by the **response** of the recipient.

THE HOUSE OF HOPE MACON

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We are not all empowered to evangelize the same way, but by the **Holy Spirit**, all believers have been given **power** to be witnesses of Jesus Christ.

It is the **gospel** that is the power of God for salvation and not our own eloquent power or **persuasiveness**.

There is also a power for evangelism in living a **sincere** Christian life. *2 Corinthians 2:14-17*

The most powerful ongoing Christian witness has always been the **speaking** of God's word by one who is **living** God's word.

EVANGELISM IS A DISCIPLINE

Evangelism is a natural **overflow** of the Christian life. We should all be able to talk about what the Lord has **done** for us and what He **means** to us. *Matthew 5:16*

Unless we discipline ourselves for evangelism, it is very easy to **excuse** ourselves from ever **sharing** the gospel with anyone. *Colossians 4:5-6*

The goal with unbelievers is to **dialogue** with them in a way that their **hearts** and **minds** might be opened to the gospel.

The best way to turn conversations toward **spiritual** matters is to ask the person how you can **pray** for him/her.

While some find evangelizing easier through **speaking**, others may find that they evangelize more through **servicing**.

Whether through serving or speaking, witnessing must be by **design**, not by **default**.

The more we are **like** Christ, the more we will tell **of** Christ and His **message**.