

Witnessing & Evangelism

Many churches have grown, become bigger and better accomplished great things, and given millions to foreign missions, but still haven't been a lighthouse for lost souls.

We've become ingrown and tagged as a "hotel for saints" instead of a "hospital for sinners".

Whether our emphasis is street ministry, door to door witnessing, or just sharing with a few close friends, the church is still responsible to be a living testimony, the light of the world, and the salt of the earth (Matt. 5:13-16). God is calling us to infiltrate society in government, business, the media or anywhere possible as a witness for Him. Our days of seclusion are over; let's compel them to come into God's house from every walk of life (Luke 14:23) and He will add to the church daily. The apostle Paul said he would win men by "whatever means possible" and be "all things to all men, that he might win a few". Ministry today has unlimited opportunities to share the gospel through avenues unknown to past generations. Let's take the divine mandate to reap the harvest in these last days.

MASS EVANGELISM, and CRUSADES VS. ONE-ON-ONE PERSONAL WITNESSING

The Bible says that the disciples multiplied and God added to the church daily. (x +)

We know that the Devil seeks to subtract from the church and divide the believers (- %)

The average crusade or revival in the past, would bring in about 100 converts a year to a local church. Approximately 50% would stick with it and the others would "fall away".

That totals 500 people in 10 years. On the other hand, if one person wins a friend to Christ every year, and that person wins a friend to Christ every year, and so on... We would have 1,023 believers added to the church in ten years. Statistics show that when a friend or relative wins someone to the Lord and spends personal time with them, they are much more likely to "stick with it". The end-time harvest was not meant to be gathered "commercially". In other words, Billy Graham and TBN are not designed to be combines! The harvest must be "handpicked". God will not subcontract to migrant workers. The job belongs to His people and we must take a personal responsibility to do the work. We know that almost everyone likes to fish, but no-one wants to clean them. The church must "mend our nets" by keeping what we catch and be willing to get a little dirty in the process. 95% of all Christians have never won 1 person to Christ in their entire life. 5% are doing all the work.

World population and Christianity:

Tasha's Research:

• How many people are there in the world today? Over 7 billion people. (7,121,281,003) • How many people die every year?

Approximately 56 million people

• How many people in the world are professing Christians?

2.18 billion. (Approximately 32% of the world, leaving 68% or about 5 billion people of the world as Non-Christian)

How many people will die each year without knowing Christ? 38 million people will die without knowing Christ.

• Every month 3,166,666 people die without knowing Christ.

• Every day 105,555 people die without knowing Christ.

• Every hour 4398 people die without knowing Christ and

• Every minute, approximately 73 people die without knowing Christ.

• And for those who just like math, approximately 1 person dies every second without knowing Christ.

•So remember that number for how many people die every day without knowing Christ? Can anybody tell me? If you are taking notes, you'll know that it is, 105,555.

So I want to give you another number... 49,855...

Does anyone know what that number is? It's the population of Enid. I want you to envision that for a moment, a people group twice the size of Enid walks into eternity NOT KNOWING CHRIST. Two whole cities the size of Enid just gone. It's staggering.

So Let's talk about Enid.... Let's assume that because we live in the Bible Belt, our stats are a little better than the worlds stats of 32%. In fact, I did some research. According to Wikipedia, about 61% of people in Enid claim some type of religious affiliation. in reality, there are approx 100 churches averaging around 100 people per church which gets us to approximately 10,000 people attending church on any given Sunday. That's approximately 20% of the population of Enid attend church. Now let's subtract that number from the population of Enid and we get 39,000 unchurched residents in Enid. So there is a range of people attending church 20% to the percentage who on the census marked the box that they are religious at 61%. Now We know that 29,000 people are not attending church here. So we actually have two groups of people to talk about.

The first group is the unchurched group of people who say they have a religious affiliation 19,000.

Then there is the second group of people who claimed no religious affiliation. 19,600 people. This auditorium seats about 100 people. We have two services and average about 150 on any given Sunday. Our numbers are decent compared to the average church. We are over the average, but those aren't the numbers we want to focus on. I'd like us to focus on the numbers that matter to Jesus. The 39,000 people in this city who are unchurched or not Christian. Not so we can judge them but that we can lovingly invite them in to our faith community and ultimately to invite them to accept Christ. If you mistakenly believed in the past that we are somehow in a competition with the church down the street then you are very wrong. There are literally thousands of lost people in this city who aren't attending church and are just waiting for someone, anyone to just care enough to reach out and build a relationship with them.

- raise your hand if you know more than five people who are not Christian? Ten people? 15 people? 20 people? How awesome would it be to leave that kind of spiritual legacy? To know that you invited one person and the reaching effects of it. Jesus told the disciples to go into all the world making disciples. The disciples were 12 ordinary men. Fishermen, tax collectors, doctors, carpenters, common laborers. That tiny little group of men set the world on fire. And why? Because they knew that Jesus was not just their friend but their risen savior and Lord. And all but one, was martyred for it. But, you say, what can I do? I encourage you to make a list right now of five people you know or kind of know and start building a friendship with them. Let your life and the love of Christ shine thru you. Pray for God to provide an opportunity. People's lives are broken, they are in crisis, many are at the end of their rope. Some are just dissatisfied with life. You pray and I promise you God will provide the opportunity.

- I had a great friend. He was actually the life groups pastor at the church where Marshall and I met. And he led the life group that Marshall and I got to know each other. But he and his wife were passionate about evangelism. They found out their new neighbor was Muslim and from a different country. They hung up a map in their house and circled the country their neighbor was from, they researched the culture and religion. They prayed sincerely for their neighbors, they built a relationship with them. Invited them for meals. I've never known anyone so intentional about building a relationship so as to witness. We would come to life group and

there would always be an extra empty chair. We would at some time during the group be drawn to discuss the empty chair. This empty chair represented a lost person. Somebody out there was meant for that chair and they weren't going to make it if no one asked them. We prayed over the empty chair. There are empty chairs here. Definitely chairs in first and second service. They should be full. We should be bursting at the seams with new believers. Write your list. Go after them.

The course will teach us:

1. We have an urgent responsibility
2. We have a happy message
3. We have God's help
4. We have a unique circle of influence
5. We have unlimited resources and opportunities

We will learn to:

1. Give a personal testimony publicly
2. Recite a memorized scripture outline
3. Adapt the message to our audience

CONTAGIOUS CHRISTIANITY

* CONTAGIOUS = Transmissible by direct contact with something; to carry, spread, or rub off on.

1. Not everyone is called to be an Evangelist.
2. Everyone does have the responsibility to be a witness.
3. If I am something different, or have something they want, they will come after it.
4. My quality of lifestyle represents the character of God
5. People disregard an imitation, but long for anything authentic (real or sincere).
6. If my relationship with God is NATURAL, people will believe it. If my religion is routine, they ignore it.

DEFINING THE MISSION

EVANGELIZE - To preach and convert

WITNESS - One who can give a firsthand account of something seen heard or experienced / one who furnishes evidence

TESTIFY - To make a statement, to declare publicly, to state the facts under oath

* We take the name of the Lord "in vain" because we witnessed it and won't testify about it!!! *
Some act as though they have been put through the "WITNESS PROTECTION PLAN". (they've been given immunity, they're incognito)

THE RESPONSIBILITY

Matt. 9:36-38 - When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 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."

2 Peter 3:9 - He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

Matt. 28:19 - 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,

Matt. 24:14 - And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

Mark 16:15 - Go throughout the whole world and preach the gospel to all mankind.

Ezek. 3:18-19 - When I say to a wicked man, 'You will surely die,' and you do not warn him or speak out to dissuade him from his evil ways in order to save his life, that wicked man will die for his sin, and I will hold you accountable for his blood. But if you do warn the wicked man and he does not turn from his wickedness or from his evil ways, he will die for his sin; but you will have saved yourself.

Matt. 4:19 - "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men."

Acts 1:8 - But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Matt. 10:32-33 - "Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven. But whoever disowns me before men, I will disown him before my Father in heaven.

1 Peter 3:15 - ...always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear.

Prov. 11:30 - He who wins souls is wise.

1 Tim. 2:4 - (God) who desires all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth.

Rom. 10:14-15 - 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 they preach unless they are sent?

As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

Isaiah 6:8 - 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!"

Acts 8:30-31 - Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked. "How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

Isaiah 21:6,8 - This is what the Lord says to me: "Go, post a lookout and have him report what he sees" ...I stand continually on the watchtower in the daytime; I have set my post every night.

Luke 14:21-23 - 'Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.' ...Then the master told his servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes and make them come in, so that my house will be full.

Rev. 20:15 - If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire. Rev. 14:11 - And the smoke of their torment rises for ever and ever.

WITNESSING TIPS

1. HELP PEOPLE WHEN IT'S NOT CONVENIENT

The Good Samaritan, A neighbor painting a fence

2. GIVE THEM SOMETHING

Invite them for dinner, Take over a gift

3. LOVE THEM UNCONDITIONALLY

Even if they smell, if their dog gets loose Poor or rich, sinner or religious

4. MEMORIZE AND REHEARSE A PLAN Have a strategy to befriend them

DEFINITION OF STYLES

1. CONFRONTATIONAL - (street witnessing) To engage face to face, to encounter directly.
2. INTELLECTUAL - (at the office, lunch, etc.) Rational rather than emotional. Appealing to or relating to abstract thinking about philosophical subjects.
3. TESTIMONIAL - (speaking opportunity) A declaration of evidence given by a witness.
4. INTERPERSONAL - (group Bible study) Relating to, occurring among or involving several people.
5. INVITATIONAL - (concert, speaker) A request to participate, the enticement or allure of someone's presence.
6. SERVING - (good Samaritan) To work for, wait on & provide goods or services. To assist or meet the needs of someone.

PERSONAL WITNESSING STYLE

3 = VERY MUCH
2 = SOMEWHAT
1 = VERY LITTLE
0=NOT AT ALL

- ___ 1. In conversations, I like to approach topics directly, with out much small talk or beating around the bush.
- ___ 2. I have a hard time getting out of bookstores or libraries without reading or buying something.
- ___ 3. I often tell stories about my personal experiences.
- ___ 4. I am a people person and value my friendships.
- ___ 5. I enjoy including or adding new people to my activities.
- ___ 6. I see needs in other peoples lives that others might overlook.
- ___ 7. I do not shy away from putting someone "on the spot" when it seems necessary.
- ___ 8. I tend to be analytical.
- ___ 9. I often say things like "I used to think that too" or " I once felt the way you do"
- ___ 10. Other people have commented on my ability to make new friends and friendships.
- ___ 11. Even if I have the right answers, I'd rather have someone else do most of the talking.
- ___ 12. I find fulfillment in helping others, often "behind the scenes".
- ___ 13. I do not have a problem confronting someone, even if it may hurt their feelings.
- ___ 14. In conversations, I naturally stay focused on my purpose or object of discussion.
- ___ 15. When I tell people of how I came to Christ, they are usually pretty interested.
- ___ 16. I would rather discuss personal issues than deep theology or doctrine.
- ___ 17. If I knew of a high quality out reach event, I would make a big effort ot bring my friends.
- ___ 18. I prefer to show my love through my actions more than words.
- ___ 19. I believe that real love means telling the truth, even if it hurts.
- ___ 20. I enjoy discussing difficult questions or even a healthy debate.
- ___ 21. I intentionally share my mistakes with others when it will help them relate to a solution I have found.
- ___ 22. I would rather discuss a persons life before talking about their beliefs.
- ___ 23. I tend to watch for spiritual events (such as a concert, or special speaker) to invite people to.
- ___ 24. When people are not receptive to Christian conversation, I try to quietly demonstrate the Gospel by small efforts.
- ___ 25. My motto could be "make a difference or make a mess, but just do something!"

- __26. I often get frustrated with people when they use weak arguments or poor logic.
 __27. People seem interested in hearing stories about my life.
 __28. I enjoy long talks with friends.
 __29. I am always looking for something to relate to the interests of my friends such as books, tapes, or events.
 __30. I feel more comfortable doing something physical to assist someone than getting into a religious discussion.
 __31. I sometimes get in trouble for lack of gentleness and sensitivity in the way I interact with others.
 __32. I sometimes get at the underlying reasons for opinions people hold.
 __33. I am still amazed at how God brought me to faith in Him and am motivated to tell others about it. __34. People consider me to be interactive, sensitive, and caring.
 __35. The highlight of my week would be to bring a guest to a church event.
 __36. I tend to be more practical and action oriented than I would philosophical and idea oriented.

SCORES -

Confrontational Intellectual Testimonial			Interpersonal	Invitational	Serving
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.
13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.
19.	20.	21.	22.	23.	24.
25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.
31.	32.	33.	34.	35.	36.
Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total

WHY DO PEOPLE COME TO CHURCH?

-
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. THEY LIKE THE PASTOR | % _____ |
| 2. HEARD ABOUT A REVIVAL OR CRUSADE | % _____ |
| 3. LIKE THE MUSIC PROGRAM | % _____ |
| 4. GOOD BIBLE TEACHING | % _____ |
| 5. NICE FACILITIES | % _____ |
| 6. LED BY THE SPIRIT HERE | % _____ |
| 7. INVITED BY A FRIEND OR RELATIVE | % _____ |
| 8. ADVERTISING, MAIL-OUT, ETC. | % _____ |
| 9. THE BIBLE SAYS SO | % _____ |
| 10. WITNESSING/VISITATION | % _____ |

HOW A PERSON COMES TO CHRIST

THE BIBLICAL PROCESS:

“Paul planted, Apollos watered, God gave the increase”

1. Someone intercedes for them. (PRAYER)

“I pray also for those who will believe...” John 17:20

2. God prepares their heart. (Often through circumstances, or meeting their needs) “No man comes to the Father unless the Spirit draws him.”

3. Someone witnesses. (Personally, T.V., radio, tracts, etc./they must hear the message) “How will they hear, unless someone is sent?”

4. They make a decision.

“Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord, shall be saved.”

WHATS YOUR FIRST IMPRESSION OF: _____

WRITE THE FIRST WORD THAT COMES TO MIND

1. TRASH COLLECTOR _____
2. BILL COLLECTOR _____
3. IRS AUDITOR _____
4. HOMLESS, UNEMPLOYED TRANSIENT _____
5. CONGRESSMAN _____
6. JEHOVAH'S WITNESS _____
7. UNFRIENDLY NEIGHBOR _____
8. EX-CONVICT _____
9. MUSLIM _____
10. MINORITY RACE _____
11. CAR SALESMAN _____
12. FOREIGNER _____

PREPARATION FOR WITNESS

“In Spirit” “In Truth”

Prayer Bible Study

Compassion Content

(Matthew 9:35-38) (Colossians 4:3)

Cooperation Communication

(Colossians 4:5,6) (Colossians 4:4,6)

PREPARED TO WITNESS

Col. 4:2-6 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 might 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.

1. Cooperation - with the Spirit
2. Content - know the word
3. Communication - make the effort

HOW TO PRAY FOR THE LOST _____
FOR YOU -

1. A burden & a concern
2. Eyes open to see the needs/opportunities
3. Recognize any personal stumbling block
4. A method or strategy
5. Wisdom to know when & how to speak
6. Strengthen your testimony/lifestyle
7. Give you boldness

FOR THEM

1. To prepare their heart
2. Slow them down/get their attention (a supernatural intervention)
3. Would admit their need
4. Send other people to them for confirmation
5. Remove religious confusion
6. Do WHATEVER it takes!

REMOVING BARRIERS _____

1. Prayer
3. Be friendly
5. Don't argue
7. Be sensitive to individual's needs
9. Use language that is easily understood
2. Personal hygiene
4. Be complimentary
6. Keep your conversation Christ centered
8. Be a good listener
10. Lead the person to a point of decision

REMOVING BARRIERS (CONT.)

1. OPINION - A belief or conclusion held with confidence but not substantiated by positive authority or proof "USE HYMN BOOKS, NOT TRANSPARENCIES" "SHOULD'T HAVE DRUMS IN THE CHURCH"
2. CONVICTION - A fixed or strong belief having been personally convinced "SECULAR MUSIC" "CHRISTIAN ROCK" "WOMEN WEARING PANTS" "MIXED BATHING"
3. TRADITION - A custom or practice passed down from a previous generation. The way we do things cause that's the way we do things! "YOU FORSAKE THE COMMANDMENT OF GOD, FOR THE TRADITION OF MEN"
4. DOCTRINE - A principle of truth accepted by a group of people. A statement or policy about teachings. "SPEAKING IN TONGUES" "TRINITY"
5. RELIGIOUS JARGON - A hybrid language specialized for an exclusive group (or clique). Non-sensible, incoherent or meaningless talk. "WASHED IN THE BLOOD" "FILLED WITH THE BAPTISM"

PERSONAL CONVICTIONS - ROMANS 14... Food, holidays, music, clothes, etc....

14:1 - Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on disputable matters.

14:7 - For none of us lives in himself alone and none of us dies to himself alone. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.

14:12 - So then, each one of us will give account of himself to God. Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in your brothers way. 14:20 - do not destroy the work of God for the sake of _____!

14:22 - So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God.

1 COR. 8:9 - Be careful, however, that the exercise of your freedom does not become a stumbling block to the weak.

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9:19 - Though I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as

many as possible. 9:22 - I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I

might save some. 10:33 - Even as I try to please everybody in every way. For I am not seeking my own good, but the good of many, so that they may be saved.

PERSONAL HINDRANCES OR CATALYSTS TO MY WITNESS

(A catalyst is an activating ingredient) _____

1. ATTITUDE - A position of the body or manner of carrying oneself, a state of mind, a feeling or a disposition.

- A. "Know it all -I'm still learning
- B. Self righteous "all have sinned"
- C. Unteachable I'd like to learn
- D. Uncooperative Let me help

2. APPEARANCE - Public view, outward indication or resemblance.

- A. Sloppy Neat
- B. Provocative Conservative
- C. Dirty Clean
- D. Stand out Blend in

3. APPROACHABILITY - Accessable to come near, a way of reaching something, to get in your space, or proximity.

- A. I'm too busy I'll make time for YOU
- B. I'm too important Nothings more important
- C. I'm never here I'm available
- D. I'm in my own world -I care about your world

A SALVATION OUTLINE _____

A. GOD LOVES YOU

B. SIN SEPARATES YOU FROM EXPERIENCING GOD'S LOVE

C. YOU CAN EXPERIENCE GOD'S LOVE BY:

- 1. Confessing your Sins (John 1:9).
- 2. Inviting Christ to enter your life (Revelation 3:20)

YOUR PERSONAL TESTIMONY

Prepare to be able to give it in 5 minutes

1. What I was before I was saved.
2. How I came to know Christ and receive Him as my Savior and Lord.
3. What Christ means to me now.

Suppose you were called to the bedside of a dying man who knew nothing of Christ. He had only 2 minutes to live! What truths about Christ would you share with him?

PREREQUISITES FOR EVANGELISM

1. You must love God. (Matthew 22:37,38)
2. You must love people. (Matthew 22:39)
3. You must have a clear Message. (Colossians 4:4)
4. You must expect God to use you in evangelism. (Acts 1:8, Ephesians 6:19,20)

THE HOLY SPIRIT-CONTROLLED CONVERSATION

1. Identification - Commenting on common ground of experience or interest to initiate friendship.
2. Transition - A comment or question that turns the topic of conversation to a spiritual issue.
3. Presentation - Explaining the gospel message.
4. The Close - Helping a person invite Jesus into his life.

“Do you want to invite Jesus into your life right now?”

“Lord Jesus, I know that I’m a sinner and I need Your forgiveness. Come into my life; cleanse me from all sin; become Lord of my life. I promise to serve You, and tell others of your saving love. Amen.”

CONVERSATIONAL WITNESSING

1. Do you go to church anywhere?
2. Would you consider yourself a Christian?
3. What do you think a Christian is?
4. What do you think it takes for a person to get to heaven?
5. Would you mind if I showed you what the Bible says? A-B-C'S OF SALVATION

A - ADMIT - To accept, agree with or concede as true & valid.

To make acknowledgment of something.

B - BELIEVE - To have firm faith, confidence and trust in the value of something.

C - CONFESS - To disclose or make known something verbally.

ROMANS ROAD – Rom 3:23, 6:23, 10:9 (also 1 John 1:9, John 1:12, Rev 3:20)

WHO SHOULD GET SAVED? WHEN SHOULD I GET SAVED? WHY YOUR WAY?

1. "FIRE ESCAPE" - Afraid of dying, question life after death
"How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation?"
2. NO LIFE & NO HOPE - Depressed, don't understand their purpose or destiny
"I've come that you might have life and have it more abundantly."
3. RUINED LIFE - Motivated by guilt, fear, unforgiveness, etc.
"If any man is in Christ, he is a new creature, the old has passed away and all things are new!"
4. DECIEVED LIFESTYLE - Eat, drink, and be merry...
"There is a way that seems right to a man, but the end is death!"
"A man will say I have much, but God says, you fool, today your soul is required."
5. ANY RELIGION IS FINE - All of them are the same anyway
"I am THE way, the truth and the life. No man comes to the father but by me."
6. I'LL GET SAVED LATER - Wait till I'm old
"Today is the day of Salvation, now is the accepted time"

MY PERSONAL "HIT LIST" / Journal

NAME PH. # DATE PRAYER CONVERSATION

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____