

# ***Evangelism***

***What Is It?***

***How Do We Measure It?***

***What Should We Do?***

# ***Purpose of This Study***

- The aim is not just to come up with “good ideas” or “brainstorm” about many ways we could possibly evangelize
- Rather, the purpose is to promote discussion based on Scripture to determine what we should do **collectively** in order to reach the lost with the gospel

# ***Purpose of This Study***

- To motivate constructive critical thinking—in view of Scripture—about what we have been doing and to think seriously about the actions we should take going forward
  - To evaluate and to analyze methods of the past and how Scripture may be able to correct our thinking to help us become more effective in the present and for the future

# ***Evangelism: What Is It?***

- We talk about evangelism, but it may mean different things to different people—so we should see what God says it is and how we should respond to God's Word
- Individually:
  - (1) What does evangelism mean to you?
  - (2) How have you been engaging in evangelism individually? In other words, what are you doing by yourself to evangelize?

# ***Evangelism: What Is It?***

- Collectively:
  - (1) How have we been doing evangelism collectively as the body of Christ? In other words, what are we doing together to evangelize?
  - (2) How can we work together as a congregation to evangelize?

# ***Evangelism: How Do We Measure It?***

- Effectiveness
  - How would you define “effective”?
    - By the number of baptisms or numerical growth?
    - By doing God's will in initiating discussion of the Scriptures (1 Cor. 3:6)?
  - What are we doing collectively that you consider to be effective evangelism?

# ***Evangelism: How Do We Measure It?***

- Effectiveness
  - An activity is not necessarily effective just because we think it is a good thing or because we enjoy doing that activity
  - We must not immediately identify an activity as being “effective evangelism” just because it involves teaching or preaching
    - It may simply be an activity we've traditionally called “evangelism”

# ***Evangelism: How Do We Measure It?***

- Effectiveness

- There is an old saying, “If you always do what you've always done, you'll always get what you've always got”
- If we don't see the results God wants us to see, are we willing to try doing something more in harmony with the Scriptures?

# ***Evangelism: What Should We Do?***

- Find patterns of evangelism in Scripture
  - See how we might effectively imitate those patterns
- To participate in collective evangelism, individually we must be armed with enough knowledge that we can engage the lost in a discussion of Scripture
- Pray for boldness that we might imitate the evangelism of first century Christians (Acts 4:29)

# ***Evangelism: How Did Jesus Do It?***

- “And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom . . .” (Mt. 4:23)
- “Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom” (Mt. 9:35)
- “Now when he had departed from there, he went into their synagogue” (Mt. 12:9)
- “When he had come to his own country, he taught them in their synagogue . . .” (Mt. 13:54)

# ***Evangelism: How Did Jesus Do It?***

- “Then they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath he entered the synagogue and taught” (Mk. 1:21)
- “And he was preaching in their synagogues throughout all Galilee . . .” (Mk. 1:39)
- “And he entered the synagogue again” (Mk. 3:1)
- “And when the Sabbath had come, he began to teach in the synagogue” (Mk. 6:2)

# ***Evangelism: How Did Jesus Do It?***

- “And he taught in their synagogues . . .” (Lk. 4:15)
- “. . . . And as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day . . .” (Lk. 4:16)
- “And he was preaching in the synagogues of Galilee” (Lk. 4:44)
- “Now it happened on another Sabbath, also, that he entered the synagogue and taught” (Lk. 6:6)
- “Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath” (Lk. 13:10)

# ***Evangelism: How Did Jesus Do It?***

- “These things he said in the synagogue as he taught in Capernaum” (Jn. 6:59)
- “Jesus answered him, ‘I spoke openly to the world. I always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where the Jews always meet, and in secret I have said nothing’” (Jn. 18:20)

# ***Evangelism: How Did They Do It?***

- “So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house...” (Acts 2:46)
- “And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ” (Acts 5:42)
- “Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word” (Acts 8:4)
- “Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues . . .” (Acts 9:20)

# ***Evangelism: How Did They Do It?***

- “And when they arrived in Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. They also had John as their assistant” (Acts 13:5)
- “But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day and sat down” (Acts 13:14)
- “Now it happened in Iconium that they went together to the synagogue of the Jews, and so spoke that a great multitude both of the Jews and of the Greeks believed” (Acts 14:1)

# ***Evangelism: How Did They Do It?***

- Acts 17:1-17
- Acts 18:24-28