STUDY GUIDE

Preparing to Proclaim: An Introduction to Evangelism

PRAISE& PROCLAIM



Why ought a Christian believer say proclaiming the gospel is easy?

Why would a faithful Christian believer say that proclaiming the gospel is very difficult?

A GOOD STARTING POINT

What emotion does Jesus display to his disciples when he saw the crowds and knew they were being harassed and helpless?



Compassion

Hopelessness

Disappointment

Why would this be important for evangelism?

How does it make you feel when Jesus says, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few?"

Sad
Guilty
Encouraged
Hard to believe

WARNING #1: REJECTION

Quick Survey Reactions

How can we be shrewd and innocent to spread the Word in our community?

WARNING #3: BETRAYAL

Agree or disagree: Evangelism is more difficult today than it was 2,000 years ago.



FINAL THOUGHTS

What is your key takeaway from this lesson?

What were you reminded of in God's Word that will help you in proclaiming the gospel to others?

EVANGELISM REQUIRES BELIEVERS TO WALK ON WATER

Poll Question Reactions

A BIG STEP OF FAITH

Agree or Disagree: Of all the disciples, I can relate to Peter the most. Why or why not?

THE ROLE OF THE SPIRIT

How can these three gifts of God's Spirit be applied to proclaiming the gospel to others?

Dynamus: Whenever we feel timid, God promises to give us power. This will help me whenever I step out in faith to proclaim my faith to others by: Agape: Whenever we feel timid, God promises to give us love. This will help me whenever I step out in faith to proclaim my faith to others by:

Sophronismos: Whenever we feel timid, God promises to give us self-discipline. This will help me whenever I step out in faith to proclaim my faith to others by:

TRUST GOD'S PROMISES AND IT WILL BE OKAY!

How could the promises Jesus gives us provide encouragement for Christian believers who step out in faith to proclaim the gospel with others?

Matthew 4:19

John 20:21



Luke 11:9

Acts 1:8

FINAL THOUGHTS

What is your key takeaway from this lesson?



WHAT DO I SAY?

Agree or disagree: When a person places too much emphasis on their ability to verbally proclaim the gospel rather than trusting the power of God's Word, it can keep them from participating in evangelism activities. Why or why not?

THE POWER OF GOD'S WORD

If you were only given seven words to proclaim the gospel to your neighbor, what would they be? Remember, you can only use seven words.

REASONS FOR HOPE IN CHRIST

You walk into an elevator with another person and the door shuts. The awkward silence ensues while you both stare at the numbers above and wait for your floor to arrive. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appears and tells you to share a message about your Savior to the stranger next to you before the elevator door opens at the top floor. You have thirty seconds. What would you say?

BUT WHAT IF I SAY SOMETHING WRONG?

For each role below, select if it should be assigned to you or God.

Whose responsibility is it to be the messenger in evangelism?
Whose responsibility is it to be the converter in evangelism?
Whose responsibility was it to create the gospel message?
Who's responsibility is it to provide a spirit of love?
Whose responsibility is it to provide a spirit of love whenever we feel timid?
Whose responsibility is it to provide a spirit of power whenever we feel inadequate?
Whose responsibility is it to provide a spirit of sophronismos whenever we feel intimidated?

God

Me

FINAL THOUGHTS

What is your key takeaway from this lesson?



WHO'S SUCCESS?

Agree or Disagree: We sometimes place too much emphasis on attracting people to come to church in place of delivering personal messages about the risen Christ.

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

Where does Jesus call his disciples to sow gospel seeds? What should this mean for our evangelism activities?

Agree or disagree: Evangelism success ought to be based on activity that Christian believers can control, not results.



PROCESSING DISAPPOINTMENT

Agree or Disagree: It is okay to be disappointed when results from our efforts to proclaim the gospel don't match our expectations.

THE BIGGEST BARRIER TO OVERCOME IN EVANGELISM

Guilt does not motivate us to proclaim the gospel, because God is not going to love us less if we don't participate – nor love us more if we do. What does this statement say about God's love for you?

EVANGELISM USES WORDS

Agree or disagree: Jesus tells us to "let your light shine" in the world. It's important for people to see good deeds from a person who professes faith, but it is not a substitute for proclaiming our faith.

SUCCESS IS DEFINED BY ACTIVITY

Brainstorm 3-4 different evangelism activities you or your congregation could implement to plant more gospel seeds. Consider both new activities or ways you might transform existing programs or events to have a stronger focus on evangelism.

PROPER RESPONSES

Use the space below to reflect on the scenarios in this topic and how you might process disappointment in light of what we've learned about evangelism.



FINAL THOUGHTS

What is your key takeaway from this lesson?