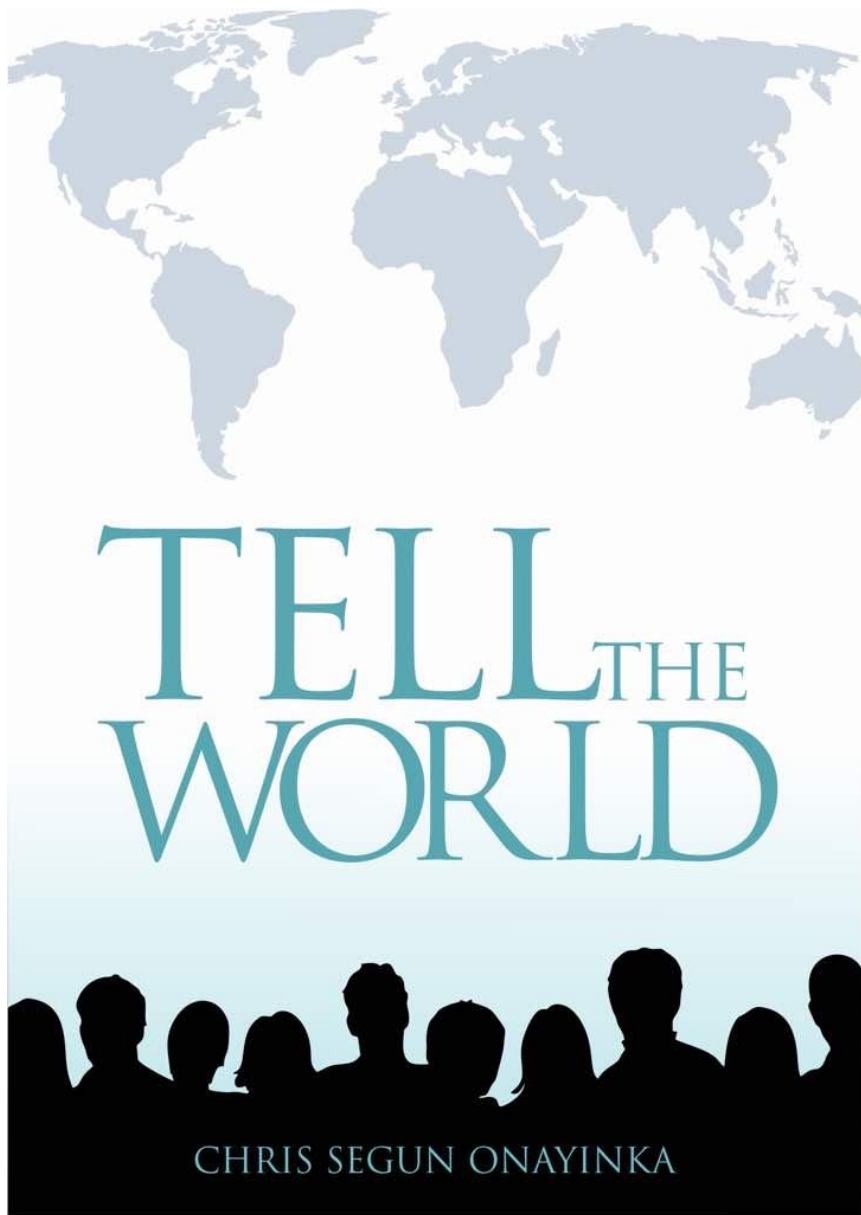


Chris Segun Onayinka



Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are taken from the **King James Version** of the Bible.

Other scriptural quotations listed are stated as:

- Amplified Bible (AMP)



Copyright ©2018 Saints Community Church  
a.k.a Chris Onayinka Ministries (No. 6, Oweh Street,  
Yaba, Lagos, Nigeria.)

[www.saintscommunity.net](http://www.saintscommunity.net)

All Rights Reserved

Reproduction of text in whole or in part without the express written consent by the author is not permitted and is unlawful.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### CHAPTER ONE

Evangelism and You.....	4-10
-------------------------	------

### CHAPTER TWO

How Am I Concerned?.....	11-21
--------------------------	-------

### CHAPTER THREE

What Exactly is this Message?.....	22-29
------------------------------------	-------

### CHAPTER FOUR

Where and When Should I Preach?.....	30-46
--------------------------------------	-------

### CHAPTER FIVE

The Role of Prayer in Evangelism.....	47-58
---------------------------------------	-------

## **CHAPTER SIX**

Add These to your Evangelism.....59-66

## **CHAPTER SEVEN**

The Unbeliever is Willing, Now What Next?.....

.....67-81

## **CHAPTER EIGHT**

You Have Not Wasted Your Time!.....82-85

# CHAPTER ONE

## Evangelism and You

### What is Evangelism?

Evangelism in its simplest sense is taking the good news to the unsaved. The focus of the gospel of Jesus is to the lost, hence, the reason for evangelism.

**Mark 16:15** And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

Evangelism is looking at the world through God's eyes and doing exactly what God did; reach out with the hand of salvation. Evangelism is going after the unregenerate with the message of God's love and a burning desire to see them respond

**John 3:16** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

**Jude 1:23** And others save with fear, pulling *them* out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

Evangelism is leading the wandering back to God. It is lifting them out of darkness by the power of God, into God's own light.

**John 8:12** Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

Evangelism is letting men know that eternal life is available to all and for all who believe.

**John 10:28** And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand.

**John 3:16** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

**John 10:10** The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.

**Romans 6:23** For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Evangelism is getting the unreached to know that they can be reconciled to God, have peace and be in harmony with Him.

**Romans 5:1** Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

**Romans 5:11** And not only *so*, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

**Ephesians 2:14** For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition *between us;*

Evangelism is taking your place as a partner and co-labourer with other believers to draw near, those who are far from God, trusting absolutely in the Holy Spirit's convincing power

**Ephesians 2:13** But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

**Ephesians 2:17-18** And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. Vs 18 For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

**John 16:8** And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: **Vs 9** Of sin, because they believe not on me; **Vs 10** Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; **Vs 11** Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

**Ephesians 2:10** For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Evangelism is creating in that unbelieving one, a consciousness and an awareness of God's divine love, leading him to accept God's outstretched hand of fellowship

**Romans 3:24** Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

Evangelism is God and you working together to make the world vitally saved.

Now, a vital question that comes to the mind is; **How is evangelism done?**

The act of evangelism is carried out through the process called “preaching.”

**Mark 16:15** And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

Here, Jesus gave instruction on how the gospel of Christ is to be made known to the lost. It is via preaching.

The word “preach” was translated from the Greek word “kerusso”, which implies to proclaim or announce. So, in evangelism we announce/proclaim to the unsaved the gospel of Christ. In evangelism, there is a definite approach in fulfilling the task. It is by preaching, hence, am not expected to subject it to human ideologies of drama, comedy etc. It is by preaching.

The prophet Isaiah’s prophecy concerning Jesus’ earthly ministry affirmed that he was sent to preach.

**Isaiah 61:1** The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to *them that are* bound;



The word “proclaim” as used in the above text implies to announce.

**Luke 4:18** The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, Vs **19** To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

Jesus affirmed that he had been sent to announce the deliverance to the captives... and also the acceptable year of the Lord. Hence in his earthly ministry, he preached.

**Matthew 4:17** From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

**Mark 1:38** And he said unto them, Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also: for therefore came I forth.

Jesus just as he preached, he also sent out his disciples to preach.

**Matthew 10:7** And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand.

**Mark 3:14** And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach,

**Luke 9:2** And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick.

The gospel was preached by the apostles in the book of Acts.

**Acts 4:2** Being grieved that they taught the people, and preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead.

**Acts 8:5** Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.

**Acts 9:20** And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.

**Acts 14:7** And there they preached the gospel.

Paul also affirmed that he preached the gospel.

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:1** Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; VS 2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. Vs 3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; Vs 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

Because preaching does not appeal to the senses of the intelligent, Paul described how some people described it as foolishness.

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1:18** For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

The word “foolishness” in the above text was used as a figure of speech. It implies that when the gospel is preached, some laugh at it and reason about how someone could be saved just by the preaching and believing of the gospel. However, the messenger must learn not to succumb to people’s views/opinions. The messenger is meant to carry out the task as specified because the moment the method of conveying is changed, the message also literally changes.

So, evangelism is therefore not subject to man’s invention or innovation. The preaching of the gospel is a deliberate message that has its method of communication. The gospel is definite and so is the preaching of the same.

## CHAPTER TWO

### How Am I Concerned?

Following the understanding of your salvation, it means that you have believed in your heart the Lord Jesus and confessed his Lordship over your life.

**Romans 10:8** But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, *even* in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; **Vs 9** That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. **Vs 10** For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

It also means that you have, as a result of this, received eternal life.

**John 3:16** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

**John 1:4** In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

**John 4:14** But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I

**shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.**

**John 6:47** Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.

**John 10:10** The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.

**John 10:28** And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand.

Having received eternal life, you have been born again (regenerated), not from a mortal origin, but from one that is immortal, by the ever living and lasting Word of God.

**1<sup>st</sup> Peter 1:23** You have been regenerated (born again), not from a mortal origin (seed, sperm), but from one that is immortal by the ever living and lasting Word of God. (AMP.)

This is what qualifies you to be a herald of the good news of Jesus Christ. It is the reason life can be reproduced in another heart when you preach.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:17** Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. **Vs 18** And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; **Vs 19** To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto

himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

The unregenerate cannot preach the Gospel for this message of reconciliation has not been committed to them. The Gospel has been committed to the saved. The blind cannot lead the blind; neither can the lost show another the way. Jesus rebuked the Pharisees and teachers of the Law, calling them blind leaders of the blind. This was because they did not have a precise understanding of the Law that they taught, advocated and sought to uphold. As a result, their leadership was a burden to the people. They could not perceive the path of life, much less lead others to walk in it.

The unbelieving one does not know who to call on. He does not know what to believe because he has not heard what to believe. This in turn stems from the fact that nobody has preached to him though God has sent many.

**Romans 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. Vs 14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? Vs 15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!**

**Matthew 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:**

The unreached will remain that way until someone reaches out to them. The world will continue in darkness and death until the light of the glorious gospel of Christ shines on them. They will always carry on without God and without hope until the Word of truth is preached, to translate them into the kingdom of God's dear Son.

**Ephesians 2:12** That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

**Colossians 1:13** Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son:

You, however, have become alive unto God

**Ephesians 2:1** And you *hath he quickened*, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

**Ephesians 2:14** For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition *between us*;

Now you are in tune and in perfect harmony with Him. God can therefore communicate His thoughts to your heart unrestrained. The person who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with Him.

**1st Corinthians 6:17** But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.

You can be sure that the foremost thought in God's mind, is the thought of the unreached. This is made obvious by the fact that He gave his all as seen in John's synoptic account.

**John 3:16 For God so greatly loved and dearly prized the world that He [even] gave up His only begotten (unique) Son, so that whoever believes in (trusts in, clings to, relies on) Him shall not perish (come to destruction, be lost) but have eternal (everlasting) life. (AMP.)**

God dearly loves and dearly prizes the unsaved. He did not wait to hear the world cry out for salvation, rather, of his own free will He set about, carrying out the Redemptive plan and called out to all when it was done. But God shows and clearly proves His (own) love for us by the fact that while we were still sinners, Christ (the Messiah) died for us.

**Romans 5:8 But God shows and clearly proves His [own] love for us by the fact that while we were still sinners, Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One) died for us (AMP.)**

God takes no pleasure in the death of the sinner and therefore constantly searches for hearts that burn ceaselessly like His, with a passion for the lost, with whom He can work effectively, by His Spirit. He has shown us His love by sending Jesus to die for us. Now we ought to show our own love for him by taking the Message of salvation to the world.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 1:4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be**



**partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.**

You dwell in His Presence, walk daily (as you are being taught) in the knowledge of His Word and bask in the richness of His Love. Now, God expects you to share these with others who have not.

Remember you are to love as Christ has loved you. This simply means that you are to do much, tell much and share much about what Christ has done for you. God wants you to be aware and conscious of His thoughts concerning the unsaved and as His son, be devoted in carrying them out.

His thoughts have been made known in His Word as we see in Paul's letter to Timothy, which tells us that God wishes all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth.

**1st Timothy 2:4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.**

You therefore have a responsibility like he said... Go into all the world and preach and publish openly the Good News (the Gospel) to every creature (of the whole human race).

**Mark 16:15 And He said to them, Go into all the world and preach and publish openly the good news (the Gospel) to every creature [of the whole human race]. (AMP)**

This scripture is understood to explain that the "great commission" includes you because you are also a disciple of Jesus having believed in his death, burial and resurrection of Jesus. By this act of faith, you have received the message.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:17** Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.* Vs 18 And all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

There were only 11 Apostles present when He spoke these words, yet we see various accounts in the Book of Acts where many more people (disciples, Apostles, devout men) went about preaching the glad tidings of the Good News.

**Acts 5:14** And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.)

**Acts 8:4** Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.

**Acts 8:35** Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. Vs 36 And as they went on *their way*, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, *here is* water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? Vs 37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Vs 38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

**Acts 5:15** Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid *them* on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them. Vs 16 There came also a multitude *out* of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick

folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one.

Acts 9:17 And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, *even* Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost. Vs 18 And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized. Vs 19 And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus. Vs 20 And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God. Vs 21 But all that heard *him* were amazed, and said; Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests? Vs 22 But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ. Vs 23 And after that many days were fulfilled, the Jews took counsel to kill him: Vs 24 But their laying await was known of Saul. And they watched the gates day and night to kill him. Vs 25 Then the disciples took him by night, and let *him* down by the wall in a basket. Vs 26 And when Saul was come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him, and believed not that he was a disciple. Vs 27 But Barnabas took him, and brought *him* to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had

preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Vs 28 And he was with them coming in and going out at Jerusalem. Vs 29 And he spake boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus, and disputed against the Grecians: but they went about to slay him. Vs 30 *Which* when the brethren knew, they brought him down to Caesarea, and sent him forth to Tarsus. Vs 31 Then had the Churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied. Vs 32 And it came to pass, as Peter passed throughout all *quarters*, he came down also to the saints which dwelt at Lydda. Vs 33 And there he found a certain man named Aeneas, which had kept his bed eight years, and was sick of the palsy. Vs 34 And Peter said unto him, Aeneas, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole: arise, and make thy bed. And he arose immediately.

Acts 11:15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning.

Acts 14:3 Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands.

The scriptures say that God was with them, confirming his word with signs and wonders. The signs and wonders attested to their ministry.

Mark 16:20 And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with *them*, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

Today as well, as disciples of Jesus He expects no less from us. "...Go into all the world..." remains an evergreen instruction. This means to go out to where the sinners are. It is not necessarily to travel outside your country, state or locality but rather to locate the unbelieving ones around you, the very ones you come in contact with every day- those who reside near you. It means you should start right where you are. Quit waiting for the sinners to come to you. The instruction from the Lord is to go to them. Search them out. Go into the villages, the nooks and crannies.

Too many believers waste precious time waiting to get out of their countries before they start to herald the Good News. Such people when asked reply that they are sent "to the Nations" and therefore do no work in their immediate environment.

Dear One, if you believe that God has sent us to the unbelieving ones and that we have them around us most of the time, then you will also believe that He expects us to start with them and right away too. We meet them as we commute to school, work and the market places and sometimes on our way to Church! It is sad to note that because of some believers' unawareness of this grave responsibility of the Great Commission do not preach the gospel.

The Gospel has been committed to your trust. You have to see and handle it like you were the only one God depended on to spread the Message. It should be done wholeheartedly and consciously. Some believers preach the gospel but are not

committed to it. They do not therefore persist in their preaching and (or) in their praying for the lost, until he accepts and believes the Message. They give up on the sinner far too easily. All that is needed sometimes to get him to make a decision is a few more minutes spent preaching to him; other times it may be a few more hours of intercession and supplication, or a few more visits. Your persistence, coupled of course with your prayers, would cause the importance of your Message, to dawn on him- that way, you would have gotten the job done. So great was Apostle Paul's commitment that, he said (inspired by the Holy Ghost), "...woe is me if I preach not the Gospel."

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 9:16** For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!

This means that you should not go on without a sense of remorse if you have shirked this responsibility. You should repent and be determined to do what is right. To repent is to take your mind off one thing and resolutely fix it on another.

## CHAPTER THREE

### What Exactly is this Message?

This Message of which we speak is the Message of Love.

John 3:16 tells us how God greatly loved and dearly prized the world that he gave Jesus. He gave him to be our substitute, to take our place (in identification with the sin nature) and to pay the ultimate price- Condemnation and Death- for our sin.

**1<sup>st</sup> John 4:10** In this is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation (the atoning sacrifice) for our sins. (AMP.)

It is of utmost importance for the announcer of the message to know exactly what he has been sent with. The gospel must not be innovated, it is not subject to human opinion. It is not historical facts being proven, archaeological facts being discovered, scientific confirmation or human ideology. It is victory over death endorsed by the spirit. The message is definite; it is the truth and will remain rightly so. It is not subject to time, seasons, changes, opinions, etc.

It is about the sufferings of Christ and the glory that followed.

**Luke 24:25** Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Vs 26 Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?

**1<sup>st</sup> Peter 1:11** Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.

- Sufferings of Christ (incarnation, temptations, death, burial, descent to Hades)
- Glory that followed (resurrection from the dead, ascension and being seated at the right hand of the Father)

The prophets of the Old Testament spoke concerning this and Jesus affirmed the fulfillment of the same while teaching his disciples.

**Luke 24:25** Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Vs 26 Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?

**1<sup>st</sup> Peter 1:11** Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.



Paul affirmed that the message he preached was about the fulfillment of what the prophets prophesied concerning Jesus' redemptive sacrifice.

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:1** Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; **Vs 2** By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. **Vs 3** For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; **Vs 4** And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

The power of the gospel is the resurrection of Christ from the dead. Hence in the message, there is availability of life to all and for all who believe and accept Him. Jesus came so that we might have life and be abundant.

**John 10:10** The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.

**1<sup>st</sup> John 5:12** He that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

It is the Message of Reconciliation

**2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:18** And all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; **Vs 19** To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not

imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Vs 20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech *you* by us: we pray *you* in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

The world needs to know that God wants them to be reconciled to HIM. They need to know that He no longer holds sin against them and that they can come just as they are and accept His Grace which has appeared to all.

**Titus 2:11** For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men

This Message is also that of sonship. God desires to make men sons, by freely imparting His nature into them. He desires to give them a whole new incorruptible origin (1<sup>st</sup> Peter 1:23, James 1:18) which is the result of a new creation in Christ.

**James 1:18** And it was of His own [free] will that He gave us birth [as sons] by [His] Word of Truth, so that we should be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures [a sample of what He created to be consecrated to Himself].AMP

The Gospel is the Message of Truth. The Gospel is the absolute reality about man's need for Redemption and God's solution- The Cross. This message tells how there is salvation in and through no other Name under heaven given among men by and in which men must be saved but the name of Jesus Christ.

**Acts 4:12** Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

He is the Way, the Reality, and the Life and no one has access to the Father except through Him (John 14:6). We learn from 1<sup>st</sup> John 2:21 that there is no falsity in the truth. The next verse says, "...Who is (such a) liar as he who denies that Jesus is the Christ (The Messiah)? Is the antichrist (the antagonist of Christ), who (habitually) denies and refuses to acknowledge the Father and the Son.

**1<sup>st</sup> John 2:21** I write to you not because you are ignorant and do not perceive and know the Truth, but because you do perceive and know it, and [know positively] that nothing false (no deception, no lie) is of the Truth. Vs 22 Who is [such a] liar as he who denies that Jesus is the Christ (the Messiah)? He is the antichrist (the antagonist of Christ), who [habitually] denies and refuses to acknowledge the Father and the Son. Vs 23 No one who [habitually] denies (disowns) the Son even has the Father. Whoever confesses (acknowledges and has) the Son has the Father also. Vs 24 As for you, keep in your hearts what you have heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the first dwells and remains in you, then you will dwell in the Son and in the Father [always]. Vs 25 And this is what He Himself has promised us--the life, the eternal [life] **AMP**.

The devil is the father of lies. He is the originator of it; he leads men to think that God wants nothing to do with man. However, the gospel debunks this in showing God's love in

that he wants all men reconciled to him in his son. The Message of the Gospel runs as a thread all through the scriptures and is referred to and described in various ways, with various expressions:

The Good News:	Mark. 14:9, Mark 2:10, Romans 1:16
Glad Tidings:	1 <sup>st</sup> Corinthians 9:16, Galatians 1:7, Colossians 1:23
The Gospel of Christ:	Romans. 1:16, Galatians 1:7, Galatians 1:12
The Word of faith:	Romans 10:8
The Power of God:	Romans 1:16, 1 <sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1:18, 24
The wisdom of God:	1 <sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1:2
The Word of Life:	Philippians 2:16
The Message of Reconciliation:	2 <sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:19
The Truth:	2 <sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 13:8, Galatians 2:5, 3

Jesus declared in Luke 4:18-19 that “The spirit of the Lord is upon me because He has anointed me (the anointed one, the messiah), to preach the good news (the gospel) to the poor. He has sent me to announce release to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to send forth as delivered those who are oppressed (who are downtrodden, bruised, crushed and broken down by calamity); To proclaim the accepted and acceptable year of the lord (the day when salvation and the free favours of GOD abound)” (also Isa 61:1-2) AMP .

**Isaiah 61:1** THE SPIRIT of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed and qualified me to preach

the Gospel of good tidings to the meek, the poor, and afflicted; He has sent me to bind up and heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the [physical and spiritual] captives and the opening of the prison and of the eyes to those who are bound, Vs 2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord [the year of His favor] and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn,

Jesus declared that He was anointed to preach the Gospel to the poor. He did the perfect will of the Father throughout His earth-walk and He is described as the sole expression of the Glory of God, the perfect imprint and very image of God's divine nature.

**Hebrews 1:3** He is the sole expression of the glory of God [the Light-being, the out-raying or radiance of the divine], and He is the perfect imprint and very image of [God's] nature, upholding and maintaining and guiding and propelling the universe by His mighty word of power. When He had by offering Himself accomplished our cleansing of sins and riddance of guilt, He sat down at the right hand of the divine Majesty on high, AMP.

This will is redemption for all men from the kingdom of darkness.

Colossians 1:12 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Vs 13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son: Vs 14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, *even* the forgiveness of sins:

The Gospel proclaims God's love, and not condemnation. This Gospel indeed is life to the dead. In a word, the Gospel is God's one and only solution to humanity's problem. It is all the Power of God to save man.

**Romans 1:16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

The message and its method of communication are both given, hence, both are to be strictly adhered to.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### Where and When Should I Preach?

Considering the gravity of the Message and the implication if men do not get to hear it and believe, the Gospel should be preached everytime and everywhere. It should be preached without season and ceasing.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:2** Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 4:4** In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. Vs 5 For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

The implication when men do not hear and believe the gospel is that they will go on living aimlessly. They will be brought into the world, live in it and pass on without God and without hope both here and in eternity, despite all God has given and done to save them.

**Ephesians 2:12** That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

They cannot be saved however, just by themselves. They need to hear the Gospel, but they will not hear it if there is no one to preach it to them and no one will do this if they are not sent.

**Romans 10:13** For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. **Vs 14** How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? **Vs 15** And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

Thank God for the numerous sent ones (this includes you) whom we have all over the world.

Apostle Paul in his second letter to Timothy, reminds us that God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power and of love and of a calm and well-balanced mind.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 1:7** For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Hear what he said in the next verse.



**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 1:8** Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;

He urges us to testify of the Lord without shame. He warns us at the same time to expect some suffering which include embarrassments, insults, threats, opposition, physical punishments etc., but encourages us to take them all in the power of God.

Sometimes in the work of evangelism, you would meet people who would talk rudely to you, threaten you, throw you right out of their homes (or shops), hit you or even curse you. There is the story of one who had water in which fresh pepper had been washed, poured on him in the course of preaching the gospel, but this sure is nothing compared to the imprisonments, whippings, hunger etc., which the apostles endured.

**2nd Corinthians 11:25** Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep;

**2nd Corinthians 12:10** Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

**Philippians 1:12** But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things [which happened] unto me have

fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel; **Vs 13**  
So that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace,  
and in all other [places; ] **Vs 14** And many of the brethren  
in the Lord, waxing confident by my bonds, are much  
more bold to speak the word without fear.

**1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:21** For even hereunto were ye called: because  
Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye  
should follow his steps:

All these and even more could happen, but thank God we can  
face them, overcome them, and rejoice despite them, being  
fully aware that He is with us when we are faced with such.

**Matthew 28:20** Teaching them to observe all things  
whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you  
always, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.

Thus, we must never be ashamed to declare the gospel of  
Christ to the sinner.

**Romans 1:16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ:  
for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that  
believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

We must be ready to preach Jesus in our neighbourhoods,  
streets, schools and classrooms, in taxis and buses, in market  
places, from house to house and just about everywhere.

## PRACTICAL EVANGELISM:

Wherever I find myself, be it in my regular home, school or work area, or if I get to travel out of my state or locality, the thrust of the gospel is committed to me. This will apply whether I am in a local Church (helping to grow the influence of the Church) or starting a new work in a new location, or even simply fulfilling the great commission.

**Matthew 28:18** And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. **Vs 19** Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: **Vs 20** Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, [even] unto the end of the world. Amen.

**Mark 16:15** And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. **Vs 16** He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. **Vs 17** And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; **Vs 18** They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. **Vs 19** So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. **Vs 20** And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with [them,] and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

From the above texts, it is evident that evangelism involves the preaching of the gospel which is the message of Christ's resurrection.

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:1** Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; **Vs 2** By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. **Vs 3** For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; **Vs 4** And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

Now, Jesus' commission in **Mark's** account stated above elucidates our responsibility.

*...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature...*

The first instruction is to **GO!** Hence, evangelism or reaching the unsaved happens when we go. That means that my responsibility is to take the gospel to the unsaved man. The term "every creature" implies **all the world / all nations**.

The practicality of this can be seen in **Verse 20**

**Mark 16:20** And they went forth, and preached **everywhere**, the Lord working with [them,] and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

**Everywhere** will refer to every opportunity to preach.

## HOW CLOSE AM I TO THE UNSAVED?

As close as my workplace, lecture hall, football field, bus in transit, street, market place, etc. Wherever people abound, so will the unsaved. This follows that upon receiving the great commission, their response (which ought to be the same every believer's response) was to go and fulfil what they received.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:18** And all things [are] of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; **Vs 19** To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. **Vs 20** Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech [you] by us: we pray [you] in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

It is our responsibility to preach, so men can be saved. The state of unsaved man is death, and the gospel of Christ is the solution.

**Isaiah 53:6** All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

**Ephesians 2:1** And you [hath he quickened,] who were dead in trespasses and sins; **Vs 2** Wherein in time past ye

walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: **Vs 3** Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

**1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 1:9** For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; **VS 10** And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, [even] Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

**1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 2:1** I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, [and] giving of thanks, be made for all men; **Vs 2** For kings, and [for] all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. **Vs 3** For this [is] good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; **Vs 4** Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

**John 3:16** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. **Vs 17** For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. **Vs 18** He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

God's desire is that no one perishes, so, preaching the gospel deals with the eternity of men. Hence in preaching, no one is left out as all men are loved.

**Mark 16:15** And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. **Vs 16** He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

The instruction was to “**go to all**”. There are men who have not been reached. In other words, a man may be unsaved because he has not heard the gospel.

**Romans 10:8** But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, [even] in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; **Vs 9** That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. **Vs 10** For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. **10:11** For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. **10:12** For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. **10:13** For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. **10:14** How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

**Titus 1:3** But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour;

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1:21** For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.

## WHERE TO EVANGELIZE?

Every believer is given the commission to go!

**Mark 16:15** And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. **Vs 16** He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

We are the ones who have been sent to preach the gospel!

**Romans 10:14** How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? **Vs 15** And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

Thus, as the sent, we are all told to go and proclaim the gospel to everyone. We evangelize publicly on the streets, in the buses, and from house to house.

**Acts 20:20** [And] how I kept back nothing that was profitable [unto you,] but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house,



Evangelism is done with simplicity of words, which is the facts of what Christ has done.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:18** And all things [are] of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; **Vs 19** To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

Evangelism should be done in any place where you find sin and iniquity.

**Ephesians 2:1** And you [hath he quickened,] who were dead in trespasses and sins; **Vs 2** Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: **Vs 3** Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. **Vs 4** But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, **Vs 5** Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

**1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:24** Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

Evangelism should be done in any place where you find oppression of darkness and sickness.

**Acts 8:5** Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them. **Vs 6** And the people with one

accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. **Vs 7** For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed [with them:] and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed. **Vs 8** And there was great joy in that city.

**Acts 4:4** Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand. **Vs 5** And it came to pass on the morrow, that their rulers, and elders, and scribes, **Vs 6** And Annas the high priest, and Caiaphas, and John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the kindred of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem. **Vs 7** And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this? **Vs 8** Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel, **Vs 9** If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole; **Vs 10** Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, [even] by him doth this man stand here before you whole.

Any place where there is the ignorance of the Gospel.

**Acts 16:30** And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? **Vs 31** And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

**Vs 32** And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house.

**Acts 19:2** He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.

**Vs 3** And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. **Vs 4** Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. **Vs 5** When they heard [this,] they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

The first thing Paul did in Ephesus was to get them saved. Thus, the first contact we want to have with people is to get them to receive salvation.

## COMMON EXCUSES WE MUST NEVER GIVE:

Common excuses we must never give:

- Type of area you reside in.
- Lack of time and being busy with your job.

- Lack of boldness.
- The assumption that everyone is saved and has heard the gospel.
- “I am not called” and “I do not have a teaching and preaching ministry”

**Acts 8:5** Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.

In Philip's case, just like believers scattered abroad in **Acts 8:1-4**, he took the initiative as he saw that as an opportunity to preach the gospel.

Again, in context of the same Chapter

**Acts 8:26** And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert. **Vs 27** And he arose and went: and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship, **Vs 28** Was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet. **Vs 29** Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot. **Verse 29** is instructive as Philip was told; *...join thyself to this chariot.* **Vs 30** And Philip ran thither to [him,] and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest? **Vs 31** And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him. **Vs 32** The place of the scripture which he

read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth: **Vs 33** In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth. **Vs 34** And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man? **Vs 35** Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.

He preached Jesus to an Ethiopian eunuch.

The statement “...**join thyself to this chariot...**” can refer to opportunities that present themselves on a daily basis for the preaching of the gospel.

He said 'can I come up to you?'

That is, Philip used the platform presented to him, to preach the gospel. He showed us in **Acts 8** that all of us have different platforms with which we can preach the gospel.

There are people in your school, on your streets... Platforms created by associations, relationships, social media (Facebook, twitter, Instagram), etc. If you know God's purpose for your life, you will know how to use your Facebook account, twitter account, or how to use your time amongst men. It will be evident in how you carry and present that message of reconciliation with every opportunity that you have to tell men about Jesus.

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1:18** For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. **Vs 21** For after that in the wisdom

of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.

**GOING FOR EVANGELISM is a spiritual exercise,** therefore there are things that you need to do before you start out. It is vital to pray for boldness.

**Acts 4:29** And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, **Vs 30** By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus. **Vs 31** And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

The gospel of Jesus should not be preached with timidity, fear, or in cowardice. The boldness that would accompany your speech and deeds as you evangelize should mark you out as a disciple of Jesus, just like it did the early apostles. Now when they saw the boldness and unfettered eloquence of peter and John and perceived that they were untrained and unlearned in the schools ... they marvelled; and they recognized that they had been with Jesus

**Acts 4:13** Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

You do not have to possess a long list of academic qualifications to preach the gospel effectively. The apostles (Peter and John) were obviously bold despite their lack of education; they preached the gospel and got spectacular results.

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 2:1** And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. **Vs 2** For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

Even though Apostle Paul on the other hand was educated, he did not go about preaching the gospel with the consciousness of it, neither did he seek to display knowledge, rather he stuck to and was conscious of his message- Christ and his death on the cross. So, whether you are educated or not, what GOD expects of you as you go is to be focused.

# CHAPTER FIVE

## The Role of Prayer in Evangelism

Prayer is a definite activity. When we pray, we have an audience with God

**1<sup>st</sup> John 5:14** And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: **Vs 15** And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

**1<sup>st</sup> Peter 3:12** For the eyes of the Lord *are* over the righteous, **and his ears *are open* unto their prayers:** but the face of the Lord *is* against them that do evil.

Prayer is the bedrock of Christian ministry. Jesus was given to prayer.

**Luke 5:16** And he withdrew himself into the wilderness, and prayed. **Vs 17** And it came to pass on a certain day, as he was teaching, that there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by, which were come out of every town of Galilee, and Judaea, and Jerusalem: and the power of the Lord was *present* to heal them.



**Mark 1:35** And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.

So were his apostles

**Acts 6:4** But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

They taught and instructed believers to do likewise

**Acts 1:14** These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

### **The place of prayer is the place of boldness**

One of the major reasons many believers do not preach the gospel is lack of boldness. In prayer, we receive utterances to boldly declare the gospel. In Acts 4, the Church prayed for boldness to preach the gospel.

**Acts 4:4** Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand. **Vs 5** And it came to pass on the morrow, that their rulers, and elders, and scribes, **Vs 6** And Annas the high priest, and Caiaphas, and John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the kindred of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem. **Vs 7** And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this? ... **Vs 18** And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus... **Vs 23** And being let go, they went

to their own company, and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said unto them. **Vs 24** And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, thou *art* God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is... **Vs 29** And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, **Vs 30** By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus. **Vs 31** And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

Paul also asked the Church to pray for him to receive utterance to boldly declare the gospel.

**Ephesians 6:18** Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; **Vs 19** And for me, **that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,**

**Colossians 4:3** Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds: **Vs 4** **That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.**

When there is an opposition to the gospel, our response is to pray. Just as in Acts 4, they were given to prayer and the result of their prayer is seen below.

**Acts 4:31** And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. **Vs 32** And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any *of them* that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. **Vs 33** And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

They did not pray for the opposition to be taken away, rather they prayed for boldness. This led to the salvation of many more. If we must have effective evangelism, we must be given to prayer.

### **The place of prayer is also the place of direction**

Evangelism is a supernatural activity. Whilst the believer must take natural initiatives such as going to where sinners are (classrooms, marketplace, the street, etc), we must also be sensitive to the leading/promptings of the Spirit. In the place of prayer, the believer receives direction on where and when to go.

**Acts 10:9** On the morrow, as they went on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city, Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour: **Vs 10** And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a trance,

Peter received leading by revelation in the place of prayer. This led to the salvation of Cornelius and his household.

Paul was a man given to prayer.

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14:18** I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all:

**1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 3:10** Night and day praying exceedingly that we might see your face, and might perfect that which is lacking in your faith?

Paul received direction on where and when to preach the gospel per time.

- Paul had a vision to go to Macedonia to preach

**Acts 16:9** And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us. **Vs 10** And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.

- Paul was pressed in the spirit to preach to the Jews.

**Acts 18:5** And when Silas and Timotheus were come from Macedonia, **Paul was pressed in the spirit, and testified to the Jews *that Jesus was Christ.***

- Paul purposed in the Spirit to go to Jerusalem

**Acts 19:21** After these things were ended, Paul purposed in the spirit, when he had passed through Macedonia and

Achaia, to go to Jerusalem, saying, After I have been there, I must also see Rome.

Philip was also led to preach to the Ethiopian Eunuch.

**Acts 8:26** And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert. **Vs 27** And he arose and went: and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship, **Vs 28** Was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet. **Vs 29** Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot.

Evangelism must be deliberate; however, we can find out in the place of prayer specific places to go at specific times.

**Prayer makes power available to heal the sick.**

**James 5:16b** The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Jesus prayed, and power was made available to heal the sick

**Luke 5:16** And he withdrew himself into the wilderness, and prayed. **Vs 17** And it came to pass on a certain day, as he was teaching, that there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by, which were come out of every town of Galilee, and Judaea, and Jerusalem: and the power of the Lord was *present* to heal them.

Whilst healing is not the message, it creates attraction and audience for the message.

**Acts 3:1** Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, *being the ninth hour.* **Vs 2** And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple; **Vs 3** Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms. **Vs 4** And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us. **Vs 5** And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them. **Vs 6** Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. **Vs 7** And he took him by the right hand, and lifted *him* up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. **Vs 8** And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God. **Vs 9** And all the people saw him walking and praising God: **Vs 10** And they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him. **Vs 11** And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering.

Peter and John healed a lame man and it led to the salvation of 5000 men.

**Acts 4:4** Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand.

Healing the sick is part and parcel of reaching the lost. When Jesus sent his disciples out to preach in the four gospels, he gave them an instruction to heal the sick.

**Matthew 10:7** And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. **Vs 8** Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.

Power to heal the sick is resident in the believer (Mark 16:17-18) and is made available through prayer.

## How do I pray for the unsaved?

The reason the unsaved man has not received the gospel is because he has not heard the gospel.

**Romans 10:8** But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, *even* in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; **Vs 9** That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. **Vs 10** For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. **Vs 11** For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. **Vs 12** For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. **Vs**

**13** For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. **Vs 14** How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? **Vs 15** And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

Now, the following are instances that can happen

i) When **the unsaved is within my reach**

Recall that we have identified that a man is unsaved because he has not been reached. And the reason is that there is no preacher to preach the message to him. Therefore, if there is an unsaved man within my reach (my office, my school, my locality, on my phone contact), then, I am the preacher sent to him.

So, the focus of my prayer will be for the minister; in this case myself. I am to pray for **utterance to boldly declare the gospel**.

**Ephesians 6:18** Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; **Vs 19** And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, **Vs 20** For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.



**Colossians 4:3** Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds: **Vs 4** That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

**Acts 4:29** And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word,

It is important to note that prayer does not save anyone. It is the preaching of gospel that does. So, our prayers must focus on the man who preaches the gospel

ii) **When the unsaved is beyond my reach**

If it happens, however, that the person is not within your locality, then I can pray for ministers to be sent to reach him.

**Romans 10:14** How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? **Vs 15** And how shall they preach, except they be sent?

**Matthew 9:38** Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.

I can also pray for the believers that are presently in that location.

- That utterance may be given to them, that they will boldly declare the gospel as they should.

**Acts 4:29** And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word,

**Ephesians 6:18** Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; **Vs 19** And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel

- For deliverance and preservation for wicked and unreasonable men

For instance, in the book of Acts, the Church prayed for the preservation of the life of Peter.

**Acts 12:1** Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth *his* hands to vex certain of the Church. **Vs 2** And he killed James the brother of John with the sword. **Vs 3** And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. (Then were the days of unleavened bread.) **Vs 4** And when he had apprehended him, he put *him* in prison, and delivered *him* to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people. **Vs 5** Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the Church unto God for him.

Peter was delivered from those who captured him and he was able to reach more men

**Acts 12:6** And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison. **Vs 7** And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon *him*, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from *his* hands. **Vs 8** And the angel said unto him, Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals. And so he did. And he saith unto him, Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me. **Vs 9** And he went out, and followed him; and wist not that it was true which was done by the angel; but thought he saw a vision.

Paul also asked the Church to pray for his deliverance and safety

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians 3:1-2** Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have *free* course, and be glorified, even as *it is* with you: **Vs 2** And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all *men* have not faith.

The word of God will have a free course if the ministers are kept safe.

Prayer must be heartfelt, passionate and love driven. It is to the end that men are saved.

**James 5:16b**...the earnest (heartfelt, continued) prayer of a righteous man **makes tremendous power available** [dynamic in its working] AMP

## CHAPTER SIX

### Add These to your Evangelism

Evangelism truly, is a spiritual exercise but do not forget that the people you are about to preach to are natural men. Therefore, it is good to apply some natural wisdom. You may decide to do your preaching in a variety of places but below are a few examples of places you might choose and tips on how to go about reaching out to people with the Gospel in such places.

#### **In a Classroom:**

If you are a student, a wise place to start might be your lecture room or classroom (as the case may be). Do not however approach anyone while lectures are ongoing. Even when you have identified one or more students who are not paying attention, it will be unwise to approach them as this would disrupt the class and imply that you have little regard for the lecturer or teacher.

This could cause him to speak roughly to you (whether he is a believer or not) and the student may not be very inclined to listen to you afterwards.

#### **In a commercial vehicle:**

Be very brief and straight to the point so that as many passengers as possible will get to hear you and respond (you should ask them to respond after you have preached the Message) before they alight at their different bus-stops. You do not have to start by singing. Remember that the people you desire to preach to are not believers- they might just be put off and positively bored.

It is wise also if you choose to speak to one or two passengers only, to pick the ones right next to you. Make sure however that they are not dozing or sleeping. If they are, just let them be. Remember you want them to be in a good frame of mind to hear and listen. Very few people can not help being touchy when their sleep is cut short or interrupted.

### **In a marketplace or amongst the Crowd:**

Do not think you can get a trader's attention off the sale of their wares easily except you are a customer. What do you do then? It is always a good idea to go to such places with some extra money so that you can buy just a little of what he or she sells. The trader is more likely to listen to you afterwards. The same goes for the hawkers.

The miraculous could come in handy here, to get the attention of both the buyer and seller in the marketplace, to listen to the preaching of the gospel. The spectacular naturally gets the attention of the natural man whom we seek to preach to.

On the day of Pentecost, we saw how Peter took the advantage of the signs (tongues) on the day of Pentecost to

preach Christ. The sign created questions in their heart, which Peter answered via the preaching of Christ. Note the miraculous or signs is not the message. Peter preached Christ raised from the dead.

**Acts 2:1** And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. **Vs 2** And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. **Vs 3** And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. **Vs 4** And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. **Vs 5** And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. **Vs 6** Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. **Vs 7** And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans?

**Acts 2:14** But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: **Vs 15** For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day. **Vs 16** But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; **Vs 17** And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: **Vs 18** And on my servants and on

my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: **Vs 19** And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: **Vs 20** The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come: **Vs 21** And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved. **Vs 22** Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: **Vs 23** Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: **Vs 24** Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

Peter and John did same after healing the lame man at the gate called beautiful. They took advantage of the miracle to Preach Christ raised from the dead to the multitude.

**Acts 3:1** Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, *being the ninth hour.* **Vs 2** And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple; **Vs 3** Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms. **Vs 4** And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us. **Vs 5** And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them. **Vs 6** Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the

name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. **Vs 7** And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. **Vs 8** And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God. **Vs 9** And all the people saw him walking and praising God: **Vs 10** And they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him. **Vs 11** And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering. **Vs 12** And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk? **Vs 13** The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go. **Vs 14** But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you; **Vs 15** And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.

Philip reached the city of Samaria by taking advantage of the miraculous that accompanied his preaching.

**Acts 8:5** Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them. **Vs 6** And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. **Vs**



7 For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed.

In the instances explained above, it is crucial to note that the preacher (the apostles, Philip) took the attention of their audience off the miracles and preached Christ's death and resurrection. So, the miraculous was never preached as the message, rather, their message was Christ raised from the dead.

**In a shop, mini mart or salon:**

Patronize them and if not, cautiously and respectfully declare your intention and go right ahead if they give their consent.

**On the street:**

Walk up to someone and ask a question, then proceed from there. You could just introduce yourself and tell him or her you want to preach the gospel and go on from there. You could also think up a good topic of conversation (one that would be brief and steered easily over to your original intention). It is wise to go out with a partner on evangelism at times just so that if you come across two friends, you can separate and talk to each of them individually. It makes for better results and helps reduce the influence they tend to have on each other's' attitude and decision. If on the other hand, you find a group of people, split the group into two skillfully. You get your work done faster and get better results.

### **Amongst Children:**

When preaching the gospel to children, make it as comprehensible as possible. Make it brief too and straight to the point. You could use a story to make an illustration but be sure to make it a short one.

Conclusively, dearly beloved, please note that there are no hard and fast rules to evangelism. The only rule there is and which must not be broken as you go, is to be sensitive and prompt to follow the leading of the Holy Ghost who dwells in you. The above tips are just guides which you can deviate from if the Holy Ghost will have you do something else in a particular situation.

**Romans 8:14** For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

It is wise to be neatly and modestly dressed. Do away with anything that could possibly distract the unbelievers' attention as you speak to them. This implies no strong-smelling perfume and even the delicately scented ones should be worn sparingly, if at all.

Also avoid flashy, jingling or dangling jewelry. Be all things to all men like Paul did, that you may win some...

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 9:22** To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all *men*, that I might by all means save some.

In addition, see that you preach in courtesy and gentleness correcting (if you must) in love.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 2:25** In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

**Colossians 4:6** Let your speech at all times be gracious (pleasant and winsome), seasoned [as it were] with salt, [so that you may never be at a loss] to know how you ought to answer anyone [who puts a question to you].  
AMP

## CHAPTER SEVEN

### The Unbeliever is Willing, Now What Next?

The Holy Spirit works on the heart of the unsaved. He convinces men to believe the gospel, and he makes them willing.

**John 16:7** Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. **Vs 8** And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: **Vs 9** Of sin, because they believe not on me; **Vs 10** Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; **Vs 11** Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

The word “expedient” in verse 7 was translated from the Greek word “**sumphero**” which means profitable.

The word “Comforter,” also translated from the Greek word “**Parakletos**” which refers to the indwelling Spirit.

Jesus said his going away is profitable because his going away is not an absence rather, a presence by the indwelling spirit.

In verse 8, the word “reprove” was translated from the Greek word “**elegcho**” which means to convince.

The Spirit of truth convinces the world of Christ, that is, He convinces the world that Christ has been made an offering for sin with no one needing to suffer for their sins anymore. All that is required is to believe in Christ’s death, burial, resurrection and ascension to the right hand of God.

In verse 10, the phrase “of righteousness”, also points our attention to the fact that Christ has become our righteousness, since he has been made an offering for sins and is now seated at the right hand of God.

Furthermore, in verse 11, the phrase “of judgment” points our attention to the fact that all judgment has been committed to Christ. In other words, all men are judged in him, as one who has believed or not believed.

**John 5:22** For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son:

**John 3:16** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. **Vs 17** For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. **Vs 18** He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth

not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. **Vs 19** And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

So, when a man hears and believes, he is saved. He is not saved because of your skills or eloquence, rather by specific words enabled by the Spirit. It is the Spirit that convinces a man of Christ.

**Romans 10:8** But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; **Vs 9** That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. **Vs 10** For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

The saving grace of Christ is inherent in the good news of Christ that is preached.

**Romans 1:16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Likewise, faith to believe is in that gospel which is heard.

**Romans 10:17** So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Faith of Christ is in the gospel preached, and it comes to a man when he hears the gospel. this explains why anyone who has believed in the gospel is referred to as “he that believes” or “them that believe” meaning the believing one or the believing ones, he is thus called a believer.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 6:15** And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath **he that believeth** with an infidel?

**Mark 16:16** **He that believeth** and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. **Vs 17** And these signs shall follow **them that believe**; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

**John 3:18** **He that believeth** on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

**John 3:36** **He that believeth** on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

**John 6:47** Verily, verily, I say unto you, **He that believeth** on me hath everlasting life.

He is so called because the word “believe” was translated from the Greek word “**pisteuo**”, which has its root word from another Greek word “**pistis**”, which means faith. So, this man that has believed in the gospel of Christ has faith. A man only needed faith once in his life and that was when he was an

unbeliever. Afterwards, he is described as a member of the household of faith.

**Galatians 6:10** As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all *men*, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

So, having approached the unbelieving one with the good news of Christ, he gives attention to it and believed it in his heart, he is thus saved. Praise God! The next thing to do is to get him filled with the Holy Ghost.

Note that this man received the Spirit when he believed the gospel.

**Ephesians 1:13** In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

Let us observe a few things here:

The word “trusted” in that text of scripture is italicized. It means that it was inserted by the translators of the King James version of the Bible and can be disregarded.

The phrase, “after that” was used twice in that text and could have been better translated as “when you heard or having heard and when you believed or having believed.”



The phrase “after that ye heard” was translated from a single Greek word, “**akouo**.” It simply means to give audience to something said, to hear and understand.

The phrase, “after that ye believed” was translated from a single word in the Greek; “**pisteuo**.” It was derived from the Greek word “**pistis**” (meaning faith), showing that faith comes to a man when he hears the gospel. As a result, he is able to believe what is preached. This was earlier seen in Romans 10:8-10, 17).

That act of believing is the receiving of the Spirit. They are not separate events.

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12:3** Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and *that* no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.

The work of salvation is the work of the Holy Spirit.

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12:13** For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether *we be* Jews or Gentiles, whether *we be* bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

The word, “Baptized” was translated from the greek word “**baptizo**”, which implies to be immersed or submerged. This shows that it is the spirit that immerses a man or brings a man into Christ.

The word “drink” was translated from the Greek word “**potizo**.” It points our attention to the receiving of what was given. If a man does not believe, he cannot receive the spirit. To receive the spirit, he first needs to receive what is given—the gospel. The way a man is brought into Christ is by the Spirit which is given. So, without much ado, a man is who has heard the gospel and has believed has the indwelling of the Spirit.

**Romans 8:9** But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. **Vs 10** And if Christ *be* in you, the body *is* dead because of sin; but the Spirit *is* life because of righteousness. **Vs 11** But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 2:12** Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; **that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 3:16** Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and *that* the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 6:17** But he that is joined unto the Lord is **one spirit**. **Vs 19** What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost *which is* in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? **Vs 20** For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 13:14** The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and **the communion** of the Holy Ghost, *be* with you all. Amen.

**1<sup>st</sup> John 3:24** And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And **hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.**

**1<sup>st</sup> John 4:13** Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because **he hath given us of his Spirit.**

Therefore, in getting a believer filled, firstly you bring him to an awareness of the indwelling Spirit via the teaching of God's word, and then we get them to speak with tongues by the laying on of hands.

**Acts 19:2** He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. **Vs 3** And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. **Vs 4** Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. **Vs 5** When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. **Vs 6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.**

In Mark's gospel, Jesus said it is one of the signs of them that believe in the gospel (the believing ones)

**Mark 16:17** And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

The first demonstration of this was seen in Acts 2.

**Acts 2:4** And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Also, in **Acts 10**, when Peter preached in the house of Cornelius.

**Acts 10:44** While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. **Vs 45** And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. **Vs 46** For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,

Thus, following the model of Paul in **Acts 19**, where he preached to 12 folks and got those men saved. Observe that the next thing he did was to get them filled with the Holy Ghost.

**Acts 19:2** He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. **Vs 3** And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. **Vs 4** Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of

repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. **Vs 5** When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. **Vs 6** And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

It is noteworthy that this same thing happened in Acts 8.

**Acts 8:14** Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: **Vs 15** Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: **Vs 16** (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) **Vs 17** Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost. **Vs 18** And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money,

When hands were laid on those who believed, they were brought to an awareness of the indwelling spirit and they spoke in tongues which is evidenced by what ensued in verse 18. Simon saw that when hands were laid, the people spoke in tongues.

In essence, when we preach the gospel, we must get our converts filled with the spirit.

Still following the model of Paul in Acts 19, we see that Paul did not leave those men. He taught them consistently, which is really the next thing to do.

**Acts 19:8** And he went into the synagogue, and spake boldly for the space of three months, disputing and persuading the things concerning the kingdom of God. **Vs 9** But when divers were hardened, and believed not, but spake evil of that way before the multitude, he departed from them, and separated the disciples, disputing daily in the school of one Tyrannus. **Vs 10** And this continued by the space of two years; so that all they which dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks.

Paul taught the new converts **daily** for two and a half years. The greatest gift you can give a new convert is God's word.

This means that follow up is vital. Do not let Him go without writing His name and address. Endeavour to document on paper, any other useful information. This will enable you to teach him and to get other follow up materials such as Books, Messages, Bible, etc. to him.

It is important that you pray consistently for him, just as it is very important to pay him visits to share God's Word with him. You must however be careful not to rush him in any way.

Spiritual growth is gradual and happens by God's word that is being taught and heard.

**1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:2** As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

He needs to grow in the knowledge of Christ, to come to awareness of every good thing that is in him.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3:18** But grow in grace, and *in* the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him *be* glory both now and for ever. Amen.

Growing in grace is to grow in the knowledge of Christ.

**Philemon 1:6** That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.

The word “Communication” was translated from the Greek word “Koinonia”, which implies participation; contribution; fellowship.

The word “Acknowledging” was translated from the Greek word “**epignosis**”, which implies to come to full awareness, recognition or discernment, to know precisely.

In essence, Paul explained that a believer in his participation in the faith will become effective when he knows precisely or comes to the full recognition of every good thing which is in him, in Christ. Therefore, it is vital to let him grow gradually, but do not cease to pray for him. This was evident in Paul’s epistles

**Ephesians 1:17** That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: **Vs 18** The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, **Vs 19** And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,

**Ephesians 3:14** For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, (15) Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

**Philippians 1:9** And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and *in* all judgment; **Vs 10** That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ; **Vs 11** Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

**Colossians 1:9** For this cause we also, since the day we heard *it*, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; **Vs 10** That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; **Vs 11** Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;



He consistently prayed for believers, and he instructed believers to do the same

**Ephesians 6:18** Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

Also, introduce him to a local Church, preferably your local Church (where practicable) and encourage him to interact with other members of the Body of Christ, for not only is he called into the fellowship with God, he is also called into fellowship with other members of the Body of Christ. Do not however introduce him to any local assembly that you would not like to belong to; neither should you give him Messages and books that you would not like to listen to or read. Expose him greatly to the Word and his spiritual growth is sure! Let him begin to learn of his rights and inheritance in Christ and how to walk in the light of them as you teach him God's word.

You are also to expose him to private and general study of God's Word. You must teach him to read the bible, listen to God's word and read books.

He should also be exposed to spiritual exercise, which will help strengthen him, most especially prayer which is primarily for others.

Teach him to pray and encourage him to do so daily especially in the spirit. Prayer is fellowship with God. You must ensure that he does not start out being activity conscious.

**Ephesians 6:18** Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

**1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:17** Pray without ceasing.

**Colossians 4:2** Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;

It is also important to expose him to evangelism, wherein he learns to preach and teach others also. He will learn over time to be effective in ministry as a co-labourer with God and a partner with the Holy Ghost.

**Ephesians 2:10** For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

## CHAPTER EIGHT

### You Have Not Wasted Your Time!

Do not be deceived into thinking and then believing that it is all a waste of time as such thoughts are far from the truth. In fact, you are, by reaching out to the lost, heaping up treasures for yourself in heaven where moth and rust do not destroy and thieves do not break in and steal (**Matthew 6:19**)

Jesus taught that there is more rejoicing in heaven over a single lost soul that is found and led back to God than over ninety-nine that do not need to repent, who believe in their self-righteousness.

**Luke 15:7** I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.

This means that by that singular action, you have caused great rejoicing in heaven.

You have walked in obedience to God: You have not sat back with folded arms, content to watch sinners come and go right before your very eyes. You have chosen to save as many as you can from eternal damnation. Jesus said, “Go” and you

simply said, “Yes Lord, I will” and you did! Be rest assured that God is indeed pleased with you.

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 9:16** For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel! **Vs 17** For if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward: but if against my will, a dispensation *of the gospel* is committed unto me.

**Daniel 12:3** And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

You have carried out your responsibility: God owes no man, A labourer is worthy of his wages.

**1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 5:18** For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer *is* worthy of his reward.

**Luke 10:7** And in the same house remain, eating and drinking such things as they give: for the labourer is worthy of his hire. Go not from house to house.

**1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 2:19** For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?

**Philippians 4:1** Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, *my* dearly beloved.

Our reward or crown will be the lives that we have brought to the Lord; those disciplined by God's word.

You have cooperated with the Holy Ghost. He is in you to do amongst other things that very work which you just did.

You have gladdened God's heart: Concerning man's redemption, God has done all he can and will. Now, He needs you to work with Him by His Spirit to take the gospel to the world. It gladdens His heart, therefore to know that He can trust you to go.

**1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 2:4** Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

DEAR ONE...

...If this is your first time out on evangelism, I must say: "Congratulations!" You are sure in for a refreshing and fulfilling time co-labouring with the Holy Ghost Himself. Do not forget to be bold and to herald the Good News confidently. You definitely have heaven's approval and God Himself backing you up. I say to you, then: "Go right ahead. Be strong in the Lord and the power of His might." (Ephesians 6:10). Thanks also for joining in.

On the other hand, if it is not your first time, then: remember to preach this Message in season and out of season, that is, not only when it is convenient. For God is counting so much on you. You have been out there among the lost and seen how much they need the Light of the Gospel. Do not refrain

from shining this Light right in the midst of them to lead them to God.

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:58** Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

He has been with you in this work in time past and He is faithful to remain just that way. I pray that you will learn to be more conscious of Him and make the most of His ever-abiding presence.

To both groups mentioned above: “Keep up the good work and keep the fire burning!”

**Romans 12:11** Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;