

Do We Care Enough?

2 Corinthians 5:17-21
January 3, 2016

I. What is Evangelism?

- The proclaiming of the gospel or “good news” of the person and work of Christ.
- We cannot “live” the gospel, but we are able and commanded to proclaim it!

II. The Command of Evangelism (vss. 17-20)

- Evangelism is a command for everyone who is in Christ (vss. 17-20).
- God has given every Christian the ministry of reconciliation (vss. 18-19).
- Every Christian is an ambassador for Christ (v. 20).
- Every Christian is to implore people to be reconciled to God through Christ (v. 20).
- Evangelism is not only for the leaders of the church (Acts 8:1, 4).
- Biblical motivations for evangelism (Mt. 22:37-40; Mt. 28:19-20; Jn. 14:15).

III. The Content of Evangelism (vs. 21)

- The content of evangelism is the person and work of Christ (v. 21; 1 Cor. 15:1-4; Rom. 1:1-4).
- The problem is sin (Rom. 3:23; 6:23).
- The solution is the person and work of Christ (v. 21; Rom. 1:1-4; 1 Cor. 15:1-4).
- The response is to repent and believe the gospel (Acts 20:21).
- Be respectful, gentle and humble. Remember that you too were once lost.

IV. The Confidence of Evangelism (vss. 17-18)

- All of salvation is from God (vss. 17-18; Rom. 1:16).
- Jesus promised to be with us in evangelism (Mt. 28:19-20; Rom. 8:31, 38-39; 1 Jn. 4:18).

- God does not expect us to be expert omniscient witnesses. He calls us to be faithful in sharing the simple gospel message. The results are in his hands.
- Jesus knew the answer to every possible question and objection, and yet people still rejected him.
- The power of salvation is the gospel.

Know: God commands every believer to evangelize. The content of evangelism is the person and work of Christ. We can have confidence in evangelism through trusting in the promises of God.

Do: Let’s care enough about people to love them, develop relationships with them, serve them, and lovingly and gently open our mouths to share the gospel with them.

Suggested Reading:

The Gospel & Personal Evangelism, by Mark Dever
Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God, by J.I. Packer

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please read 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

1. What did you find most encouraging, challenging, and/or convicting from the sermon? Why? How will you apply this?
2. What is the gospel? Why can’t we “live” the gospel?
3. Why is it so important that people hear the gospel? (Read Rom. 1:16; 10:17)
4. Who cared enough and loved enough to personally share the gospel with you?
5. What are some biblical motivations for evangelism? What motivates you the most in evangelism?
6. In evangelism, what do we need to share with people? (Hint: refer to outline and problem, solution, response.) Why are each of these so important?
7. What do you fear the most about evangelism? Why?
8. What truths from the sermon and other passages will help your confidence in evangelism? Why?