

GGC Evangelism Strategy Part 3

Intro: Using the church as a base of operations the Christian can be confident in taking the gospel to their communities. Begin to ask God for plan of taking the gospel to those that you burdened for. Continue in your intercessory prayers asking God to open the eyes of their understanding. Trust that what is impossible for man is possible with God.

What is my plan to reach those around me with the gospel?

1) The local church is the best base of operations.

a. The local church will equip you.

- i. **Ephesians 4:11-13** *And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,*
- ii. The pastor will do this in his preaching and his teaching.
- iii. The church may offer training classes to equip you in sharing your faith.
- iv. They may offer tools to help you reach people such as literature, tracts, etc.
- v. The church may have special events where it is easy to invite a lost person.

b. The local church will encourage you.

- i. **1 Corinthians 12:26-27** *If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.*
- ii. Sharing your faith can be discouraging.
- iii. Hearing the struggles and success of others in the body will encourage you.

c. The local church is the best place to see life-change.

- i. **Ephesians 4:15-16** *Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole*

body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

- ii. The Christian needs community to grow in a balanced way.
- iii. Even in an age where “organized religion” has a bad name, it is important to understand that the church is the institution that God set up to propagate His great name.

2) Develop a strategy of reaching those around you.

- a. Discover and practice your spiritual gifts.
- b. Broadcast the “Gospel Seed” abundantly.
- c. Look for good ground.
- d. Seek redemptive relationships.
- e. Discern the state of their spiritual understanding.
- f. Sow seeds individually.
- g. Look for open doors.
- h. Invite to Christ and to church.
- i. Be patient, prayerful and persistent.

Step 1: Discover and practice your spiritual gifts

Making an impact on our community begins primarily through our church. We all need each other, as we are all different. God has uniquely equipped you as a believer. We all have the same responsibility but we all have different gifts. Get a ministry match.

Spiritual Gift	Ministry Matches
Mercy	New Baby Ministry, Hospital Ministry, Headline Team, Homeless Shelter, Rescue Mission, Domestic Violence Shelter.
Helps, Service	Servant Pre-Evangelism, Gift Assembly, Event Setup, Transportation
Administration	Inventory Control, Outreach Secretary, Event Planning, Tracts

Leadership	Team Leader, Small Group Leader, Sports Outreach
Evangelism	Door to Door, Visitation Ministry, Phone Ministry, Open Air, Commute
Giving	Finances – Advertising, Food, Targeted Giving, Gospel Resources
Teaching	Evangelistic Bible Studies, Equipping Classes, Ladies Outreach
Exhortation	Door to Door, Visitation, Online Apologetics,
Hospitality	Gift Ministry, Matthew Party Hosting, Entertaining

Step 2: Broadcast Seed Abundantly

Principle #1 – God is the only source of “New Life.”

1 Corinthians 3:5-9 *What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. For we are God’s fellow workers. You are God’s field, God’s building.*

Principle #2 – We are responsible to obey and proclaim.

Matthew 28:19 *Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,*

Mark 16:15 *And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.*

Step 3: Look for Good Ground

Matthew 13 contains the parable of the sower. As you are sowing seeds, you will have the same experience—you will see some seeds fall on thorny ground, rocky ground, etc. You want to watch for those seeds that fall on good ground. Those are the people whose hearts God has prepared to hear the gospel.

Do not be put off by persecution – expect it. **Matthew 5:11-12** *Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*

Step 4: Seek to Build Redemptive Relationships

- 1) Participate in Divine diversions.

- Discover ways to get people from your geographical community into your relational community.
- Look for organic and natural ways to know neighbors and others around you.
- The extreme ends of a diversion can be idolatry or isolation.

2) Spend time with them.

- In our busy world, quality time is almost non-existent.
- Look at the amount of time that Christ spent time with others.
- Time communicates love and builds trust.
- This is where they get to see the gospel lived out through you.

Step 5: Discern the state of their spiritual understanding.

- Theistic vs. Atheistic – Faith Base
- Monotheist vs. Pluralistic – Religious Background
- Traditional vs. Post Modern – Truth Stance
- Biblically Literate vs. Biblically Illiterate – Theological Depth

Step 6: Sow seeds specifically and individually.

- Gospel Gifts – tracts, books, art
- Gospel Conversations – questions, answers, blogs, websites
- Gospel Testimony – life, conversion experience

Step 7: Look for open doors.

- Times of Tension - health problems, a recent divorce, financial problems, etc.
- Times of Transition - birth of a new baby, the purchase of a home, the death of someone close to them, loss or change of job, etc.
- Times of Tenderness – openness to spiritual things communicated by questions and hunger

Step 8: Invite to Christ – Repent and believe.

- John 6 – Christ inviting the Jews to partake in the “Bread of Life”
- John 7 – Christ inviting the Jews to drink the “Water of Life”
- Acts 2 – Peter preaching on the Day of Pentecost

- Acts 3 – Peter preaching at the Temple
- Acts 8 – Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch
- Acts 9 – Peter and Cornelius
- Acts 13-20 – Paul’s missionary journeys
- Acts 26 – Paul with King Agrippa

Step 9: Be prayerful, patient and persistent.

- **Prayerful - 2 Thessalonians 3:1** *Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you,*
- **Patient - James 5:10** *As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.*
- **Persistent - 2 Corinthians 6:3-10** *We put no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.*

Conclusion:

Look at these steps as suggestions to help you determine where you are in reaching those around you. It could be that you do not have anyone that you are currently reaching with the gospel. Perhaps you do have a number of relationships that you need to begin inviting to Christ. Where ever you are in this process of evangelism, be passionate about taking the next step in sharing Christ with those around you.