

FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT FOR THE CHURCH MINISTRY IN MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM

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1. Introduction

In today's world to achieved something we need to be skillful. It may be in any kinds of work. So even in the church ministry one need to be skillful in the field of Missions and Evangelism. It is necessary to know the skills that will be effective for the church ministry especially in the field of missions and evangelism. The outcomes of those skills are to win the un-reach people to the Lord and save their souls. So let's deal with some of the skills which will be a great helps for the Church ministry in Missions and Evangelism. And this ministry is the noble's work of the church contributing for the kingdom of God and to this world.

2. Knowing the Value and Love the Lose Soul

The most valuable thing that God see in man is his soul. Jesus Christ sacrificial died on the cross at Calvary is because to saved the souls of men. He also reminded His disciples "For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" in (Matt 16:26 NKJV)

Basing on this statement the Church's should know how precious are the souls of men in the sight of the Lord Jesus Christ. As the Church is the bride of Lord Jesus Christ according to scripture, she should fulfill the commission from the Lord Jesus Christ as the wife use to carry the business of her husband. To love and to saved the dying souls by His saving gospel. By preaching the important of Faith, Repentance, Water and Holy Spirit Baptism in Jesus Name, and Holiness conduct.

3. Payer is Essential for Evangelism

Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest." in (Matt 9:37-38 NKJV)

Prayer is essential in the Christian's life. Without it witness will be far less effective, and will be far more vulnerable to the enemy. When witness, one needs blessing and support of the Lord. One needs to be in fellowship with Him. Prayer makes this all possible.

When witness, one plants the seeds of the Gospel, but it is God who causes the growth (1 Cor. 3:6-7). In prayer, one should ask God to give that growth. In prayer, one should ask God to convict the unrepentant of their sin and by that awaken in them the need for salvation. In prayer, "... let your requests be made known to God," (Phil. 4:6).

Jesus prayed frequently (Matt. 14:23, 26:36, Mark 6:46, Luke 5:16, John 17). Paul prayed (Rom. 1:9, Eph. 1:16). Stephen prayed (Acts 7:55-60). You must pray. God wants you to pray to Him and have fellowship with Him (John 1:1-4). Why? One reason is that our battle is not against flesh and blood but against powers and the spiritual forces of darkness (Eph. 6:12). That is where the real battle is: in the spiritual realm. Everyone needs prayer. Prayer is one of God's ordained means for the saints to do spiritual warfare, and sharing the Gospel is definitely spiritual warfare.

Another reason to pray is that one can actually influence God with prayers. If there are doubts, then look at 2 Kings 20:1-7. King Hezekiah was told by the prophet Isaiah, the son of Amoz, that he should set his house in order because he was surely going to die (v. 1). Hezekiah prayed earnestly (v. 2,3). The Lord heard his prayers and said, "I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; behold, I will heal you. On the third day you shall go up to the house of the LORD. And I will add fifteen years to your life," (v. 5).

Hezekiah's prayer made a difference. That is why, as a Christian, can be an effective witness, because one has influence with God and because one can ask God to save. Prayer is a vital part of witnessing.¹

4. Supporting the Great work of Missions and Evangelism

The commission that we received from God is not for selective people but for all the saints of God. No one is exempted from this great commission from God. Mission and Evangelism is the backbone of the Church. The Church needs to focus all its activities on Mission and Evangelism. Such a Focus is a positive response to the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ to

proclaim the Gospel to all Nations. Mission and Evangelism ministry in Church was established to meet this end. So all the saints of God should love and involve one way or the other in the Church ministry of Mission and Evangelism. Some ways that one can support this ministry are through prayers, finances, and dedicating one owns life. Without such support the gospel will never separated to the un-reach people.

As people receive the gospel, they are born again into the kingdom of God (John 3:3; Rom 6:17,18). This is the process by which people are brought out of the dominion of darkness and into the kingdom of light (Col 1:12,13). The Government of God grows as individuals are born into it, and as they submit their lives to the authority of Jesus (Rom 12:2). People have authority over their own lives. As they obey Jesus, their lives come under his authority. This is one of the most important ways that the Kingdom of God grows. Being born again is the only way an individual can enter the Kingdom of God. Everyone should try for expanding the Kingdom of God through preaching.

5. Ready to overcome the Barriers to Evangelism Ministry

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." (Acts 1:8 NKJV)

The Great Commission describes a continuum of outreach from the local community to peoples around the globe. The local church should be as concerned about the lost around the corner as around the globe. Barriers to evangelism outreach can include:

- i. A lack of time commitment.* Today, most of Christians work outside the home. Downsizing in the work community has increased the commitment that laypeople must give to their jobs. Yet, they expect more out of less leisure time more outside interests, more activities for their children, and more entertainment from more outlets. The losers in this time crunch are churches and evangelical outreaches. Church members are less willing to enter into long term commitments.

- ii. **Finances.** Households are under financial strain. Incomes are stagnating, while the costs of housing, taxes, college, and other necessities are rising. We should handle finances wisely for proper maintenances.
- iii. **The shift to a post-Christian culture.** Some missionary are cocooning. Instead of sharing life with the neighborhood, the community, and especially the church, they are self absorbed in their home entertainment centers, fitness equipment, computers, and the Internet. Telecommuters are even working from home. This isolation is intensified by the suspicion Christians are sometimes viewed with today. At one time, Christians and church leaders were the most respected in the community. To be a church deacon was a badge of public honor but today this glory is decaying.

6. How We can Overcome those Barriers through the Good Fight

How can local churches overcome these obstacles and carry on the task of evangelism? Churches and their leaders need to:

- i. **Renew the vision for evangelism.** Local church leaders should lay out bold visions for their flocks for home and outreach. They should ask: Can we get into the new housing development in our city? Can we dramatically increase the number of conversions and new members we experience this year? Can we add additional missionary families to our missions monthly support budget? Such visions will challenge members and give them a chance to see what God can do through a motivated and active congregation.
- ii. **Reenergize and equip the laity.** Laypeople need to be reminded that just as both local and global evangelism is every church's responsibility, it is also every member's responsibility. There simply will never be enough people to complete the job of local and evangelism. But lay members can't just be sent out as lambs among wolves. They need to be prepared and trained as Christ did with His disciples. Evangelism Explosion is just one example of a simple to administer but effective evangelism and discipleship ministry as well as a means of developing lay leaders. It offers a system of church based training that includes a carefully developed and effective presentation of the whole gospel, as well as methods of presentation and learning that develop not just soul-winners but also trainers of soul winners.

- iii. *Adapt to the culture.*** Unfortunately, many churches stick with past approaches even after they have proved ineffective for penetrating a changed culture. As Christ made clear, new wine calls for new wineskins and new methods. In evangelism to determine how best to meet the needs of churches in a changing culture. The purpose was to lay out a road map for the future direction of evangelicalism. One particular cultural development upon which the church needs to capitalize is the arrival of the world on our doorstep.
- iv. *Work together.*** There are as many workable methods and combinations of methods as there are churches, with plenty of room for everyone to work cooperatively to reach the lost.ⁱⁱ

Conclusion: Its general involvement of all the saints that each one should show strong love for this ministry and participate it with generosity by cash or any means which will be a blessing to this noble ministry. Each one should involve in this ministry with love for the lose souls and support tirelessly for the smooth running of this important ministry under the church. God will greatly honor those who support with great sacrifice through one own life, money, prayer and even in kind on the day when God reward His children. The Great Commission is Christ's program, and He will complete it in His time. Our role is to be faithful and to continue keeping His last command our top priority. That more than anything defines the responsibility for the church in the world of evangelism across the continuum from "*Jerusalem unto the uttermost part of the earth.*"

ⁱ <http://carm.org/prayer-in-evangelism>. Retrieved on 27/09/2015

ⁱⁱ http://enrichmentjournal.ag.org/199704/024_barriers.cfm. Retrieved on 04/10/2015