



**G**  **2020**

**EMPOWERED  
TO  
SHARE**

**WORKBOOK**

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# Table of Contents

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <b>INTRODUCTION</b>  | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>CHAPTER 1—WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?</b>   | <b>4</b>  |
| CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH   | 4         |
| OUR NEED OF THE GOSPEL   | 5         |
| THE CONTENTS OF THE KERYGMATIC GOSPEL  | 6         |
| WHO IS QUALIFIED TO SHARE THE GOSPEL?  | 9         |
| <b>CHAPTER 2—EMPOWERED TO SHARE</b>  | <b>11</b> |
| THE HOLY SPIRIT IS PROMISED  | 11        |
| ANNOUNCING THE BIRTH OF JESUS  | 12        |
| ZECHARIAH IS FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT  | 13        |
| SIMEON IS FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT   | 14        |
| JOHN THE BAPTIST’S MINISTRY  | 14        |
| JESUS IS BAPTIZED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT   | 15        |
| JESUS’S MINISTRY   | 15        |
| JESUS PROMISES THE OUTPOURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT   | 16        |
| THE APOSTLES SPREAD THE GOSPEL EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT  | 17        |
| <b>CHAPTER 3—STAINED BY THE GOSPEL</b>   | <b>19</b> |
| THE THESSALONIANS EVANGELIZED IN THE MIDST OF A DEPRAVED CULTURE   | 19        |
| PAUL PREACHED WITH SIGNS AND WONDERS   | 20        |
| THE THESSALONIAN CHURCH MODELS PAUL’S (AND JESUS’S) EXAMPLE  | 21        |
| WE CAN WIN OUR COMMUNITIES FOR CHRIST  | 22        |
| <b>CHAPTER 4 – LED BY LOVE</b>   | <b>23</b> |
| WE ARE TO ASK FOR THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT TO BE IN OPERATION IN OUR LIVES  | 23        |
| JESUS GIVES US AN EXAMPLE OF MOVING IN THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT WHILE ORCHESTRATING A ONE ON ONE EVANGELISTIC ENCOUNTER | 24        |
| JESUS DIDN’T LET CULTURAL DIVIDES STOP HIM FROM EVANGELIZING   | 24        |
| JESUS DIDN’T ALLOW THE AWKWARDNESS OF THE SITUATION TO DETER HIM   | 25        |
| JESUS RELIED ON THE HOLY SPIRIT TO GUIDE THE CONVERSATION  | 25        |
| JESUS USED A WORD OF KNOWLEDGE TO EVANGELIZE   | 25        |
| THE SAMARITAN WOMAN BECAME THE FIRST EVANGELIST  | 26        |
| THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT ARE IN OPERATION TODAY   | 26        |
| <b>CHAPTER 5 – FAITH FOR THE FIVE: CONTENDING FOR THE LOST</b>   | <b>31</b> |
| PRAYING FOR YOUR LOST LOVED ONES, NEIGHBORS, CO-WORKERS, OR FRIENDS  | 31        |
| PERSISTENT PRAYER IS HIGHLY EFFECTUAL  | 31        |
| THE DISPOSITION OF THE UNJUST JUDGE  | 32        |
| THE SITUATION OF THE WIDOW   | 32        |

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| THIS WIDOW IS PORTRAYED DIFFERENTLY THAN OTHER WIDOWS IN THE BIBLE | 33     |
| OTHER EXAMPLES OF PETITIONARY PRAYER                               | 33     |
| JESUS USED THIS PARABLE TO TEACH HIS DISCIPLES                     | 34     |
| WE MUST PRAY WITH THE SAME PERSISTENCE FOR OUR LOST LOVED ONES     | 34     |
| <br>CHAPTER 6 – TIME TO SHARE                                      | <br>35 |
| THE PROCESS OF EVANGELISM  | 35     |
| SALT—START, ASK, LISTEN, TELL YOUR STORY                           | 36     |
| EVANGELISM TAKES PLACE WHEN YOU SHARE THE MESSAGE OF THE GOSPEL.   | 37     |
| <br>CHAPTER 7 – HERE’S MY STORY                                    | <br>39 |
| <br>ANSWER KEY   | <br>41 |
| CHAPTER 1—WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?                                      | 41     |
| CHAPTER 2 – EMPOWERED TO SHARE                                     | 44     |
| CHAPTER 3 – STAINED BY THE GOSPEL                                  | 49     |
| CHAPTER 4 – LED BY LOVE  | 50     |
| CHAPTER 5 – FAITH FOR THE FIVE: CONTENDING FOR THE LOST            | 55     |

## Introduction

I want to pause for a moment and share with you why I believe this workbook is needed. *Let me take you through my maturation process.*

When I first got saved, I would call people to repentance by virtue of a prayer but did not thoroughly explain the gospel. My paradigm was if I didn't get people to pray—the evangelism fell short.

However, I remember a time when I was sharing with someone in front of a bar. They had been heavily drinking. Their response to me was that they were already saved. I began to clarify the gospel message. I spoke of the Lordship/Kingship of Christ, coupled with the death, burial and resurrection. As I spoke of repentance, this man had an “aha” moment. He realized that he was not actually saved. He adamantly communicated that he didn't want to repent, but he said he understood that he was not right with God.

This was successful evangelism. God says that he is not willing that any should perish. The Holy Spirit draws a person through the work of the cross. In that, God has done his part. When we are faithful to deliver the message through the power of the spirit, we have done ours.

Romans 5 tells us that we are all born condemned. One must receive the gospel—which includes repentance—in order to be saved. Man has a will. Don't be discouraged if you share the gospel in the power of the Spirit and you do not get the response you desire. Just know that God has done his part. You've just done yours. And the person needing Jesus is in the evangelism process.

*Some sow, others water, but God brings the increase. (1 Corinthians 3:6-9)*

## Chapter 1—What is The Gospel?

Southeastern Assemblies of God University conducted a study that looked at church growth within Pentecostal denominations. It showed that only 6% of Pentecostal churches are growing through evangelistic conversion.

Another study states that 78% of evangelical churches, representing the entire protestant community, have plateaued or are in decline. Of the 22% that are growing, 11% of that growth is through the transference of membership.

Only 11% of evangelical churches across the board are growing through conversion. However, 8% of that number is biological growth—meaning children being disciplined in the home.

***The Kingdom is not growing as it should.***

### Contending for the Faith

Jude 1:3 (NIV) states, “*Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt compelled to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to God's holy people.*”

Jude gave a clarion call to his readers to “*contend for the faith.*” (Jude 1:3). To be clear, he was not referring to the ability to believe for the miraculous. He spoke regarding the message of the gospel. Putting this word into proper context, faith can be defined as “the persuasion of the will of God.” Jude called attention to those who were opposing the faith. Therefore, it was necessary for Jude’s readers to contend for the true message of the apostolic gospel. That poses a question. What is the content of the true apostolic gospel that was in need of this defense?

The Greek word used for contend is *epagónizomai*.<sup>1</sup>

It is actually a compound word made up of two root words.

***Epi***—focus on

***Agon***—a contest or competition

***Agonizomai*** carries with it the connotation of contending earnestly.

In this context, Jude is exhorting his readers to earnestly struggle against that which opposes the faith that has been entrusted to those whom believe.

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<sup>1</sup> Strong’s Greek: 1864. ἐπαγωνίζεσθαι (epagonizomai)

In your estimation, what are some elements of the faith in which contention is needed, and why?

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## Our Need of the Gospel

Look up Romans 1:18-32

According to the Apostle Paul, what are some reasons that God is justified in revealing his wrath?

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Look up Romans 3:23

Who has sinned?

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Man is hopelessly enslaved to sin and cannot save himself.

Look up Romans 1:16-17

What else does God reveal?

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Through what is this righteousness revealed and how do we obtain it?

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## The Contents of the Kerygmatic Gospel

When Paul preached to people who did not know Christ, his content consistently encompassed six key points. The word used in theological circles today for this content is *kerygma*. A true proclamation of the gospel to unbelievers, as laid out by the apostolic Fathers, is called the *kerygmatic gospel*.

These are the six key points of the apostolic Father's kerygmatic gospel:

1. Jesus is the promised Messiah.
2. The death of Jesus on a cross.
3. Jesus was resurrected from the dead.
4. Paul made an appeal for repentance.
5. Paul preached for a response and not just to educate.
6. Faith in Jesus includes a life of continued repentance through sanctification.

Let's look at each key point in the scriptures.

### 1. Jesus is the promised Messiah.

Look up these scriptures:

Luke 2:10-11

John 1:35-41

Matthew 3:16-17

Acts 2:36

Philippians 2:9-11

Who proclaimed Jesus as Messiah in each of these verses?

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Isaiah 61:1-3 states, "*The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has*

*anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners,<sup>2</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn,<sup>3</sup> and provide for those who grieve in Zion—to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor.”*

In Luke 4:17-21, we read of Jesus quoting these words from Isaiah as he taught in the temple. After reciting a portion of Isaiah's prophetic promises, Jesus added, *“Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”*

What was he saying?

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## **2. The death of Jesus on a cross.**

Look up these scriptures:

Matthew 27:26

Luke 23:33

Isaiah 53:3-5

1 Peter 3:18

1 John 2:2

From these verses, who was it that benefitted from Jesus's death on the cross?

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## **3. Jesus was resurrected from the dead.**

Look up these scriptures:

Luke 24:2-3

John 20:16-18

Matthew 28:18-20

1 Corinthians 15:3-8



According to these verses, what evidence points to the resurrection of Jesus?

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#### **4. Paul made an appeal for repentance.**

A call for repentance was a staple in Paul's message. The Greek word for repent is *metanoia*. It carries with it these ideas: believing the good news; turning away from sin; turning away from what brings offense; turning toward what is good; submitting to the Lordship of Christ.

Look up these scriptures:

Acts 20:21

Acts 21:21

Romans 4:3-5

2 Corinthians 7:9-10

From these verses, what happens as a result of repentance?

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#### **5. Paul preached for a response.**

The word for reasoning is *dialégomai*.<sup>2</sup> It occurs thirteen times in the New Testament. It is a compound word made up of two root words.

***Dia***—from one side across to the other

***Lego***—speaking to a conclusion.

Look up these scriptures:

Acts 17:1-4

Acts 18:4-5

Acts 19:8-10

Acts 28:23-24

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<sup>2</sup> Strong's Greek: 1256. Διαλέγομαι (dialegomai)

When Paul reasoned with those to whom he spoke, what conclusion was he after?

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#### **6. Faith in Jesus includes a life of continued repentance through sanctification.**

When Paul uses the verb believes in Acts 13:39, it meant ongoing faith. There is a continual renewal of our minds when it comes to submission to the Lordship of Jesus. The word used for believes is the same word used for faith. However, in this particular passage it could be translated as “faithing.” It is not a one-time act of faith that Paul alludes to, but rather an ongoing trust that submits to the ways of the Kingdom on a daily basis.

Look up these scriptures:

1 John 1:9

Revelation 2:5

Hebrews 12:7-11

What is the outcome of responding to ongoing repentance?

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### Who is Qualified to share the Gospel?

Look up 2 Corinthians 5:16-20.

The Greek word for reconciliation is ***katallagé***.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Strong's Greek: 2643. Καταλλαγή (katallage)

It means to restore to favor, an exchange, atonement. Specifically, in the New Testament, it means the restoration of the favor of God to sinners that repent and put their trust in the finished work of Christ.

According to 2 Corinthians 5:17, when you are born again what do you become?

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According to 2 Corinthians 5:18, God did two things for us through Christ. What are they?

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According to 2 Corinthians 5:19, who can receive this reconciliation and who is to share the message?

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What title does Paul give us in 2 Corinthians 5:20?

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An ambassador is one that has been granted authority to speak on behalf of a ruler/leader and given a specific message from that ruler/leader.

As Ambassadors of Christ, according to 2 Corinthians 5:20, who is making the appeal through us and what have we been sent to say?

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Look up these scriptures:

Mark 1:17

Mark 6:7

Which disciples were called to evangelize?

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## Chapter 2—Empowered to Share

The last words Jesus spoke to his disciples before his ascension are some of the most important words he used. They framed a crucial lesson for his disciples, and us for that matter. He said in Acts 1:8 (NIV), “*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*”

By saying these words, Jesus declared that the Holy Spirit would empower the disciples’ proclamation for the mission he had given them as stated in the Gospel of Matthew (28:16–20). We know this as the Great Commission. The role of the Holy Spirit in evangelism, our proclamation as we share the gospel, is just as vital today.

To understand the book of Acts, most theologians teach us to view Acts as a continuation of the Gospel of Luke. Today, scholars often categorize Luke’s two-volumes as Luke-Acts.<sup>4</sup> If we view Luke’s writing in this way, we see that he blazes a trail through the recorded events that highlight a rather specific message.

***The foundation Luke lays is this: when the Holy Spirit comes, there is a power to witness about Jesus in which you previously did not have.***

- ◆ There had been no prophetic revelation for 400 years
- ◆ This is true from the time of Malachi to the events recorded in the Gospels
- ◆ God had been silent during this time
- ◆ But then, there is a *suddenly*

### The Holy Spirit is Promised

Look up Luke 1:5-25

Whose birth does Luke highlight?

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Now look at Luke 1:5-7

According to verse 7, what did the priest Zechariah and his wife Elizabeth lack?

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<sup>4</sup> Walter A. Elwell, *Luke Acts, Theology of*, Baker’s Evangelical Dictionary of Biblical Theology, (Baker Book House Company: Grand Rapids, MI, 1996).

In Luke 1:11, who does it say appears to Zechariah as he was ministering in the temple?

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What message does the angel give to Zechariah in verse 13?

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Take note of Luke 1:14-15 and write it out

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Why do you think Zechariah questioned the angel? What possible reason might God have for making Zechariah mute? (Luke 1:20)

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Look up Proverbs 18:21

A likely reason that Zechariah's mouth was shut might be that God could not have him speaking death over the promise.

## Announcing the Birth of Jesus

Coinciding with the announcement of John, Mary is visited by an angel and they each are filled with the Spirit (Luke 1:26-56)

According to Luke 1:26-28, who announces the birth of Jesus?

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Although Mary had questions, what was different about her response to the angel's news? (Luke 1:38)

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Take note of Luke 1:41 and write it out

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What was the setting for this event?

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(Luke 1:41)

- ◆ Luke is crystal clear in this passage: When Elizabeth heard the voice, she was filled with the Spirit. There was a power behind her proclamation. Luke's motif is beginning to surface. Like a thread through a tapestry, Luke begins to weave a pattern showing that the empowerment of the Holy Spirit brings about an empowered proclamation
- ◆ This happened upon Mary's arrival and greeting
- ◆ Elizabeth's speech is inspired to proclaim the truth about Mary's baby

## Zechariah is filled with the Spirit

As those around him asked the name of his son, what happened to Zechariah? (Luke 1:62-66)

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Look up Luke 1:67-80

As a result of Zechariah being filled with the Spirit, what did he do?

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This is the second time Luke mentions the Holy Spirit and it is followed by the same manifestation that Elizabeth experienced. When he was filled with the Spirit, Zechariah's proclamation was inspired in a manner he had never experienced before—even though he had served as a priest his entire life

## Simeon is filled with the Spirit

Look up Luke 2:26

What had been promised to Simeon?

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What prompted Simeon to go to the temple according to Luke 2:27?

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Simeon arrives as Joseph and Mary bring the baby Jesus into the temple. In the presence of Jesus, Simeon is filled with the Spirit. What does he do? (Luke 2:29-32)

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It cannot be understated that once again (the third time) the Holy Spirit is mentioned. There is an empowerment upon Simeon's proclamation that is inspired by God Almighty.

## John the Baptist's Ministry

What do we know about John the Baptist according to Luke 1:41?

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- ◆ John preached a powerful message of repentance
- ◆ Why did the multitudes come to hear John's words?
- ◆ It wasn't because of his popularity
- ◆ It wasn't his ability to articulate the message
- ◆ He was empowered by the Spirit to perform the ministry in which his father had prophesied. This took place because he had been empowered by the Spirit when he was in his mother's womb. We know from that passage that John was empowered by the Spirit his entire life, therefore his proclamation was profound and captivated the heart of a nation.

## Jesus is baptized in the Holy Spirit

What supernatural occurrence of God's favor was released over Jesus during his water baptism. (Luke 3:21-22)

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What three supernatural manifestations took place during this occasion?

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What does Luke 4:1 say about Jesus?

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What promise is made in Luke 3:16?

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## Jesus's Ministry

Look at Luke 4:1 again. Who led Jesus into the wilderness?

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Upon reading Luke 4:1-13, what did the Holy Spirit help Jesus do in the wilderness?

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Jesus did not articulate one message until he had been baptized in the Spirit. According to Luke 4:18-19, what was the content of his first message?

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Jesus articulated in his very first message, and laid down a theological premise, of why the baptism of the Spirit is needed—to preach and proclaim the gospel.

### Jesus promises the outpouring of the Holy Spirit

After the death and resurrection of Christ, in Acts 1:8, Jesus reveals the promise of the Holy Spirit.

We know according to Acts 2:1-13, this promise is fulfilled.

Along with the physical evidence of speaking in tongues, what else takes place?

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The continuity in Luke's theological premise continues. Empowerment follows an individual that is filled with the Spirit.

What promise is made in Acts 2:16-17?

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This is a new dispensation of the Kingdom of God being made known for all believers. Now, not only would Elijah, Moses, or the Old Testament prophets be given prophetic utterance, but all believers could be empowered by the Holy Spirit. This empowerment would bring about an effectual gospel proclamation.

What is Peter's response to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit? (Acts 2:14-39)

## The Apostles spread the Gospel empowered by the Holy Spirit

### 1. Peter

Look up Acts 2:1-4. Before Peter preached to the crowd in Jerusalem, what did he experience?

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- ◆ Peter had cowered at the crucifixion of Christ (Luke 22:54-62)
- ◆ Now, he preached boldly the need for repentance and the truth of the resurrection
- ◆ This is the New Testament Pattern that Luke carefully lays out in his narrative

### 2. Stephen

Look up Acts 6:8. What is said about Stephen?

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### 3. Philip

Now we see the gospel spreading to other regions around Jerusalem. According to Acts 8:4-8, what accompanied Philip's preaching?

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### 4. Paul

Paul is converted on the road to Damascus in dramatic fashion. (Acts 9:1-7)

Look up Acts 9:17-19. What takes place?

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Throughout his missionary journeys, Paul's proclamation of the gospel message is always empowered by the Holy Spirit with evidence of miraculous signs.

**Luke's message is explicit throughout his writings: *when the Holy Spirit comes, there is a power to witness about Jesus in which you previously did not have.***

- ◆ If you are filled with the Spirit, you have everything you need to share the gospel
- ◆ You are not filled with the Spirit simply to be depression free
- ◆ You have been empowered to proclaim the gospel to the lost

- ◆ It is not based on your persuasive abilities
- ◆ It is not based upon your particular evangelism style
- ◆ The power is in the anointing of the Holy Spirit

## Chapter 3 — Stained by The Gospel

Much of the New Testament was written to local churches founded by the apostles. Every one of these congregations were formed by an apostle serving as an evangelist. Evangelism was paramount then and is still paramount today.

The Thessalonian Church is a pristine example of powerful evangelism accomplished through the local church. The foundation of the New Testament church was, and will forever be, the message of the gospel. We now proclaim that the risen Jesus is the long-awaited Jewish Messiah who has come to reveal the truth of his eternal reign. However, this Savior is not for the Jews only, but the good news of the gospel is that Jesus has paved the way for the whole world to be reconciled to God. As we layout the biblical context in which the Thessalonian church was birthed, we will see that it was indeed this kerygmatic gospel that shaped them into becoming such a model.

### The Thessalonians evangelized in the midst of a depraved culture

- ◆ The Greeks and Romans were polytheistic
- ◆ They believed in many gods
- ◆ They believed they needed to keep these gods appeased to keep calamity at bay
- ◆ They worshipped Caesar as a god
- ◆ Immorality was rampant
- ◆ Christianity was illegal

This was the environment in which Paul Preached the gospel. Paul preached for three days at the synagogue. Disbelieving Jews stirred up riots against him. Others however, believed.

Look up 1 Thessalonians 1:1

The Greek word for church used in this verse is ***ecclesia***.<sup>5</sup>

It is a compound word made up of two words:

***Ek***—out from and to

***Kaleo***—to call

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<sup>5</sup> Strong's Greek: 1577. ἐκκλησία (ecclesia)

HELPS Word-studies says it like this, “People called out from the world and to God, the outcome being the Church (the mystical body of Christ) – i.e. the universal (total) body of believers whom God calls out from the world and into His eternal kingdom.”

The Romans used the word *ecclesia* to mean a body of men who discussed the politics of the day.

Another word is used in 1 Thessalonians 1:1 that would have had great meaning in the Roman culture.

The Greek word for Lord is ***Kyrios***.<sup>6</sup>

- ◆ It meant Supreme Master
- ◆ Paul used this word for Jesus
- ◆ The Romans used this word for Caesar

To call Jesus Lord would have meant a sentence of treason in Rome. This cannot be overlooked. The use of *ecclesia* and ***Kyrios*** would speak volumes to the Romans. Paul is establishing a new government and a new king which should have provoked great persecution.

Perhaps what Paul would go on to say communicates to us why he wasn’t martyred at that very moment. There was a release of signs of wonders. People were getting healed. Blind eyes were being opened. Instead of the Romans arresting him, they noticed the miracles and left him alone.

## Paul preached with signs and wonders

Look up 1 Thessalonians 1:5

According to this verse, what made Paul’s proclamation effective?

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Back up one verse and look at 1 Thessalonians 1:4. What does Paul say about his new converts salvation?

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<sup>6</sup> Strong’s Greek: 2962. Κύριος (Kyrios)

Paul is not talking about predestination. He is saying this is evidence that you have received salvation. The message the Thessalonians received came with the same ***dunamis*** power that empowered Paul.

- ◆ It wasn't through hearing a communicative word
- ◆ It wasn't through believing a specific theology
- ◆ It was through the empowerment of the spirit: signs, wonders, miracles, and the presence of the Holy Spirit was made manifest.

Looking at 1 Thessalonians 1:4-5 again, besides the power of the Holy Spirit, what else did Paul's new converts experience?

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### The Thessalonian church models Paul's (and Jesus's) example

What does Paul call the Thessalonian believers in 1 Thessalonians 1:6?

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What did they imitate?

- ◆ They imitated Paul's sacrificial life to proclaim the gospel
- ◆ They risked the loss of their own life and sacrificed tremendously to preach the kerygmatic gospel. Therefore, they spread all throughout Thessalonica the message of a king other than Caesar and a government other than Rome
- ◆ Being true to this proclamation, miracles followed their witness as well.

Read 1 Thessalonians 1:7-8

What does Paul call the Thessalonian believers?

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Who did they effect as a result of their empowered proclamation?

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The Greek word for example or model is ***Tupos***.<sup>7</sup>

It means to mark with a dye, or to strike a blow upon metal.

The gravity of their example was likened to a permanent mark of dye. Once dye is added to clothing material, it cannot be washed out or scrubbed away. It is permanent. This church was leaving a permanent mark on the society in which they were evangelizing, as well as reproducing themselves in every believer in the region.

- ◆ They literally imprinted their understanding of how to witness on other young Christians
- ◆ They proclaimed the gospel
- ◆ They were empowered to demonstrate signs and wonders

***The early churches that Paul established were evangelistic centers that were fueled by the same power in which they came to Christ***

What characteristics of our culture today can be likened to the ancient Roman world?

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### We can win our communities for Christ

- ◆ Where they faced persecution and martyrdom—we have freedom
- ◆ We must not be intimidated by our culture
- ◆ May we make Jesus known
- ◆ May we not back off from demonstrating the power of the gospel through signs and wonders.

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<sup>7</sup> Strong's Greek: 5179. Τύπος (Tupos)

## Chapter 4 – Led by Love

How many of you like old cars? I know I do. Specifically, 1967, 1968, and 1969 Ford Mustangs. Say today, you are on the way home. You stop at a gas station. You pull up to see a fine 1969 pearl blue Mustang. As you walk over, you notice a for-sale sign in the window. The owner pops his head out and asks if you want to get in the front seat. You eagerly get in the car and sit down.

Now, this car is the real deal. You immediately hear the 8-track cassette player with Elvis's Christmas hits coming out of the dash. A disco ball is hanging from the rear-view mirror. You can't help but think, "Wow! I'd like to take this for a test drive." You talk to the owner and he gives you a price. You are blown away by the low number. This baby has 21,304 original miles and you say, "I'd like to have the keys. I want to take this beauty for a spin." But then the owner says, "There's just one problem. She doesn't have a motor." How many know that's a big problem?

### We are to ask for the gifts of the Spirit to be in operation in our lives

Look up 1 Corinthians 14:1

What are we to follow?

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What are to eagerly desire?

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And, what gift are we to especially ask for?

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This especially applies to Evangelism. Our prayer before we evangelize our community should be:

- ◆ *"Lord today, as I go out into the community, would you empower me in a fresh way?"*
- ◆ *"Lord, let me move in the gifts of the Spirit."*
- ◆ *"Empower me to move in healing."*
- ◆ *"Empower me to move in the prophetic gifts."*
- ◆ *"Empower me to move in the discerning of spirits."*

**The gifts of the Spirit are a crucial aspect of the proclamation of the gospel**



As a reminder, what did Paul say in 1 Thessalonians 1:5?

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Jesus gives us an example of moving in the gifts of the spirit while orchestrating a one on one evangelistic encounter

John 4:4-48 is a familiar passage to most of us. It is the story of Jesus and the woman at the well. One key point that should be made before we look at this section of scripture more closely is: ***Jesus intentionally evangelized the Samaritan woman.***

Look up John 4:7

What was the posture of Jesus's heart as he engaged this woman?

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Look up James 4:6

Why is it important to approach people in a posture of humility?

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Jesus didn't let cultural divides stop him from evangelizing

What objection did the Samaritan woman have toward Jesus as they initially engaged? (John 4:9)

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## Jesus didn't allow the awkwardness of the situation to deter him

- ◆ The woman most likely felt awkward
- ◆ This is good news for us
- ◆ If Jesus could not get around a conversation starting out feeling somewhat awkward, neither can we.
- ◆ We need to trust God to move us through the initial awkwardness and into a productive conversation

## Jesus relied on the Holy Spirit to guide the conversation

What does the woman do in John 4:9?

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Instead of answering her, Jesus turned the tables on her and spoke to her in a way that sparked her curiosity.

As a response, what did the woman do in John 4:11-12?

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***Jesus kept the conversation on track because a woman's soul was at stake.***

- ◆ A key component to evangelism is spiritual warfare
- ◆ Jesus has a plan for the conversation, but so does the Devil
- ◆ Often questions are asked to get us off track
- ◆ Have you ever been asked an impossible question?
- ◆ Even if you answered it, did you find that the individual simply asked another impossible question?
- ◆ The divisiveness between the Jews and the Samaritans was not the issue Jesus needed to address
- ◆ He also oddly ignored her second question

## Jesus used a word of knowledge to evangelize

What did Jesus say to the woman in John 4:16?

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What was the woman's response in John 4:17?

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- ◆ She replied by using a smoke screen
- ◆ Jesus revealed the truth about her condition through a word of knowledge (John 4:16-18)
- ◆ This was a pivotal moment when everything changed.
- ◆ The gifts of the Spirit began to operate through Jesus
- ◆ She knew she was not talking to an ordinary man (John 4:19)

### The Samaritan woman became the first evangelist

Look up John 4:25-26

What is the result of Jesus's conversation with the Samaritan woman?

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What was her response to this revelation according to John 4:28-30?

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### The Gifts of the Spirit are in Operation Today

Look up 1 Corinthians 12:7-11

According to this passage of scripture, how many gifts of the Spirit can be identified?

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Each gift is entrusted to an individual believer to benefit whom?

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Look up Ephesians 4:15-16

What needs to be at work for the body to grow and build itself up in love?

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Look up John 6:44

Who draws people to salvation in Jesus?

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Building upon our lesson, we know that we have been empowered through the outpouring of the Spirit to be witnesses of the Kingdom and to take the message of the gospel to the ends of the earth. We have also been entrusted with the ministry of reconciliation that brings people back into the favor of God through faith in the finished work of Christ.

Knowing that a healthy church is one that is moving in the gifts of the Spirit, how do you think these gifts could benefit our mission of advancing the Kingdom outside the four walls of our local church expressions?

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In your own words, explain how each of the gifts of the Spirit listed below might be used in personal evangelism.

### **Word of Knowledge**

A word of knowledge is supernatural insight given to you through the Holy Spirit about something specific in a person's life. How could this be beneficial when witnessing to a lost individual?

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### **Word of Wisdom**

A word of wisdom often operates alongside a word of knowledge. The difference between the two is that a word of knowledge reveals a specific situation whereas a word of wisdom gives

supernatural insight on what to do in the situation or how to resolve an issue. How could this be of use when evangelizing?

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### **The Gift of Prophecy**

Moving in the gift of prophecy is different than a person who is called as a Prophet. In 1 Corinthians 14:5, Paul tells us that he desires that all would move in the gift of prophecy. This gift manifests when one is given a specific word from the Lord that builds up, encourages, and edifies the hearer. Other gifts may be in operation during the specific prophetic utterance, but it can be defined as a direct message that reveals the heart of the Kingdom to the one receiving the message. How could this enhance your ability to witness to the lost?

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### **The Gift of Faith**

This gift is different than the faith we have in trusting Jesus for our salvation. This is a supernatural gift given in a situation that requires a greater measure of faith than what we have on a daily basis. A person operating in the gift of faith will find themselves believing for the impossible in a situation where others are skeptical. An example would be that someone has just been given a report that they have six weeks to live. A person operating in the gift of faith will have a deep sense that God is going to heal that person and will have the ability to speak assuredness into the heart of person with the diagnosis. They will then pray according to the measure of faith that has been given to see the promise come to fruition in that person's life. How could this be beneficial in witnessing to unbelievers?

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### **The Gifts of Healing**

Jesus told his disciples to lay their hands on the sick and they would recover. This is true for us today as well. This takes place through gifts of healing given by the Holy Spirit. Gifts of healings are often coupled with the gift of faith. We can be certain that God wants to heal because he came to destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3:8). We know that sickness is part of that work

because it is a manifestation caused by sin entering into the world. How would operating in this spiritual gift be of great value in evangelism?

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### **The Working of Miracles**

A miracle takes place when God releases something of a divine nature that supersedes his natural order and laws. Those operating in the working of miracles will see a manifestation of heaven come to earth. An example would be someone with an amputated arm has a new arm that grows in its place; or maybe an orphanage in a remote village is without food and miraculously food shows up on the table. The Bible is full of stories that are miraculous in nature. How could the workings of miracles be used in evangelism?

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### **The Discerning of Spirits**

One operating in the discernment of spirits has a very sensitive discernment meter. They see behind the proverbial curtain pertaining to what is going on with an individual or group of people. They will be able to tell the difference between something of a demonic nature, angelic activity, or fleshly ways. They often are used to expose the underlying issues that hold a church back from advancing. They also are typically deliverance ministers since they have a supernatural ability to see what needs to take place in a person's life in order to appropriate freedom. How could this be of help in witnessing to the lost?

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### **Different Kinds of Tongues**

The gift of tongues is language given through the Holy Spirit that you did not learn through natural means. This can manifest in two ways: an earthly language that you had no prior knowledge of knowing, or a heavenly language. Most often in Pentecostal/Charismatic circles, when we speak of the gift of tongues, we mean a heavenly prayer language that is not understood in the natural mind, but that aids in building up the spirit man through prayer. There is also a manifestation of tongues that is given during the corporate worship service where the Spirit will empower a person to utter a message in tongues to be interpreted for the people present. Is this gift useful in witnessing to those outside the church and why or why not?

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### **The Interpretation of Tongues**

The gift of interpreting tongues can be used both personally during one's prayer language but is most recognized in the corporate setting when a message in tongues is given. Paul tells us that interpreting tongues in the corporate setting is not for believers, but rather for unbelievers that may be in attendance. Why do you think this is so?

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## Chapter 5 – Faith for the Five: Contending for the Lost

Throughout the Bible, Jesus gave different examples of how we ought to pray. These principles should be applied as we pray for healing, deliverance, provision, and the plethora of needs we have in which God desires to meet. For our purposes, in this study, we will look at those principles in regard to praying for the lost.

### Praying for your lost loved ones, neighbors, co-workers, or friends

It is important to remember that when we pray for the lost, God hears us.

Look up 1 John 5:14-15, 2 Peter 3:9, and Luke 18:1

In your own words, summarize what these scriptures are saying in relation to praying for the lost.

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### Persistent prayer is highly effectual

Read Luke 18:1-6. We know this story as the parable of the widow and the unjust judge.

Go back and look at Luke 18:1

Is there any ambiguity in applying the meaning to this parable?

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We see from verse 1 that Jesus left no ambiguity in this parable unlike he does in many other parables. The disciples do not gather together confused about what he is talking about. They do not have to try to figure out the truths behind what Jesus is saying. Petitionary prayer is so important to Jesus, he lays it out with zero ambiguity, “*Jesus taught his disciples to pray and never give up*” (Luke 18:1).



**Jesus paints a *David vs Goliath* scenario which depicts a seemingly impossible case for this woman to receive her due justice**

## The disposition of the unjust judge

Look up 2 Chronicles 19:4-7

What are some character traits that judges in Israel were to possess?

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How many times are we told that this judge does not fear God? (Luke 18:1-6)

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How many times are we told that this judge does not like people? (Luke 18:1-6)

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## The situation of the widow

- ◆ She didn't have a male figure in her life facilitating her legal matters
- ◆ She had nothing to which she could either hire a lawyer or offer a bribe
- ◆ She was at a great disadvantage as a woman in her culture defending herself
- ◆ She was utterly alone

Have you ever felt that you were praying through an impossible situation and were all alone? Where were the widow's children? Did she not have a brother? Where was the Rabbi? Where was the family of her deceased spouse? Every advocate or support system this woman could have relied upon either failed her or was not there. Her situation seemed impossible. Maybe some of you feel as though the individuals you have prayed for in the past or present, seem to be impossible situations.

## This widow is portrayed differently than other widows in the bible

Read Luke 7:11-17

Jesus showed great compassion for this widow. In your own words, can you come up with reasons that he might have responded to this widow in this manner?

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Ruth is another widow in the bible. What are some qualities that we can assign to Ruth knowing her story?

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***The widow in our story is not meek and mild. She is bold and confident.***

The reason she was so confident and bold—the reason one can see great contrast between her and the other widows—is that she understood the power of petitionary prayer. She understood that when she prayed—God heard her. This infused her with great boldness and faith knowing that God would hear her prayers and answer her cries for help.

**In our present application today, you can come to God knowing that he is going to save every person you are praying for—no matter the obstacle, no matter the strength of their addiction, no matter how entrenched they are in their false religion.**

## Other Examples of Petitionary Prayer

Look up Genesis 32:22-31

Jacob's encounter with the angel of the Lord is an example of petitionary prayer.

What two things did Jacob do that showed his persistence in engaging the Angel of the Lord?

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Look up 1 Samuel 1:9-28

What condition did the priest Eli believe Hannah to be in because of her persistent prayer?

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As an answer to her prayer, who did Hannah's son turn out to become?

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### Jesus used this parable to teach his disciples

- ◆ Although the judge had a wicked heart, he granted the widow's request because of her persistence
- ◆ Jesus contrasted the heart of the judge to the compassionate heart of the Father. (Luke 18:7)

### We must pray with the same persistence for our lost loved ones

According to Luke 19:10, who is Jesus seeking?

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According to 2 Peter 3:9, what is God's heart toward the lost?

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According to 1 Timothy 2:4, who does God want to save?

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- ◆ **God wants our prayers to be of a petitionary nature!**
- ◆ **God is about to save your friends and family! Get ready!**

## Chapter 6 – Time To Share

This section of sharing our faith is not designed to discourage you in any way. It is important that we take a look at our evangelism efforts and share the gospel with wisdom and understanding.

Look up Proverbs 11:30 (NKJV)

What does the bible say about those who win souls?

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- ◆ This verse doesn't say, those that tell people about Jesus are wise.
  - ◆ It says, those who win souls are wise.

Look up James 1:5

If we lack wisdom, what should we do?

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### The process of evangelism

As I travel throughout the world, equipping the church for evangelism, I frequently ask this question, "What is the gospel?" I have asked parishioners, staff pastors, and senior pastors. Undoubtedly, hands go up around the room with responses. Some of those responses are as follows:

- ◆ Praying for someone
- ◆ Inviting someone to church
- ◆ Living a godly life in front of people
- ◆ Giving a prophetic word
- ◆ Healing the sick
- ◆ Simply getting someone to recite the sinner's prayer
- ◆ Sharing your testimony

**There are many activities we call evangelism that is in actuality part of the process. We can call it pre-evangelism.**

Certainly, we all need to be engaged in these activities when ministering to those around us. And, I might add, not every time you interact with someone must you go over the entire content of the gospel. But please know, when you pray with someone, invite them to church, or give a

prophetic word, you are not sharing the gospel. It's an act of kindness and encouragement. It is something Jesus would do. It is something that I would recommend, but we cannot qualify these activities as doing evangelism or sharing the gospel. As we will see, the early church and the apostolic Fathers, who wrote the New Testament under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, would not qualify these acts of kindness as sharing the gospel. *ONCE AGAIN, I WANT TO CLARIFY, OUR NEED FOR PRE-EVANGELISM.* There are times when people will try to do evangelism before someone is ready to receive. I want to encourage everyone to continue to reach out in this manner because it bears fruit. Just be sure, not to confuse praying with someone as being the same as articulating the gospel.

Look up 1 Corinthians 3:6-7

How would this principle apply to the evangelism process?

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We typically hear this verse used in a more general way. Something like "Some sow, other's water, but God brings the harvest."

It takes the average person 7 to 10 times of hearing the gospel before they respond.

According to that statistic, what is the importance of our pre-evangelism efforts?

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## SALT—Start, Ask, Listen, Tell Your Story

An evangelist friend of mine, Rice Brooks uses this acronym: SALT. Below is an outline of the steps pertaining to the acronym SALT. This is a great way to help you remember the steps of engagement when you are involved in pre-evangelism. And it may even open the door for you to be able to fully share the gospel.

### **A. S stands for: *Start a conversation***

- i. You need what is called an entry point into the conversation
- ii. Look for a conversational item
  - a. Sports
  - b. T-Shirt with a vacation destination
  - c. If you have small children, you might relate to others with small children

- d. The weather. Example: *“Is it ever going to stop raining?” “Were you effected by last night’s tornados?”*
- e. Current events
- iii. There is no pressure in starting a conversation. You are just looking to see if God opens a door. I want to encourage you to begin to cultivate and practice the art of starting conversations.

**B. A stands for: *Ask open-ended questions***

- i. Most of the time people are open to talking about the things they love
- a. You want to avoid asking questions that require a “yes” or “no” answer
  - a. An example might be: *“Have you ever gone to go to a Houston Rockets game?”*
  - b. Or: *“What was your favorite part about Jackson Hole, Wyoming?”*

**C. L stands for: *Listen***

- i. It is important to be a good listener
- ii. If we are truly listening, our body language should show it. We should not be distracted by our phones, or watch, or other activities surrounding us
- iii. Be intentional to make sincere eye contact with the individual in which you are engaged
- iv. I shouldn’t only listen to speak. I should genuinely listen (Proverbs 18:2 and James 1:19)
  - a. Show forth authenticity and sincerity in your listening.
  - b. The one you are speaking with is not a project. They are a person.

**D. T stands for: *Tell your Story***

- i. Through building an intentional connection, look for an opportunity to testify about Jesus.
  - ii. The best way to share Jesus is through a personal testimony
  - iii. Look for an entry point that shows where Jesus met a need in your life that relates to that person in some way.
1. Talk about key events that led to your salvation. Maybe a family member passed away that caused you to evaluate your situation. Or, maybe someone was sick with a life-threatening illness. Were you in a car accident where your life flashed before your eyes? Maybe the ENT at the scene told you, “I’ve never seen someone survive such a wreck. Or the police officer said, “You are lucky to be alive. This is a miracle.” Maybe you went through a devastating divorce or a broken relationship. Were you about to lose your home or your job? Did you have a child facing difficult situations, such as addiction, that caused you to evaluate yourself?
  2. Did these circumstances point you to the path where you received Christ? If so, it is a key point in your testimony of how you came to Christ and a great entry point.

**Evangelism takes place when you share the message of the gospel.**

In order to effectively share the gospel, we must communicate the need for repentance.

The Greek word for repentance is *metanoia*<sup>8</sup>.  
It means to change one's mind or purpose.

It also requires that I not only turn away from something, but that I turn toward something.

Look up Acts 3:19 (NIV)

According to this verse, not only do I need to turn away from sin, but who do I need to turn toward?

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Knowing that it is in this turning away from our self-willed sinful ways and placing our faith in God alone to save us, why is it important that we fully communicate the contents of the gospel?

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Can you list the six key points of the kerygmatic gospel from memory?

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<sup>8</sup> Strong's Greek: 3341. Μετάνοια (metanoia)

## Chapter 7 – Here's My Story

### 1. Hook or Opening Line

### 2. Body of Your Story

- a. Stay focused on a single narrative
- b. Lead up to a specific salvation/deliverance experience
- c. Do not overuse scriptures
- d. Do not preach a sermon
- e. Should be between 600 and 800 words

### 3. Conclusion

- a. What did God do for you in your situation?

### 4. Gospel Presentation

- a. Add the content of the gospel in just a couple of lines
- b. Use one or two scriptures

### Bible Verses for You

- ◆ John 3:16, *“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”*
- ◆ 2 Peter 3:9, *“The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.”*
- ◆ 1 Timothy 2:2-4, *“For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”*
- ◆ Romans 5:8, *“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”*
- ◆ 1 John 4:9-10, *“In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.”*



- ◆ 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, *“For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures.”*
- ◆ Ephesians 2:8-10, *“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”*
- ◆ John 3:16-17, *“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”*
- ◆ Mark 1:14-15, *“Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.”*

# Answer Key

## Chapter 1—What is The Gospel?

***In your estimation, what are some elements of the faith in which contention is needed, and why?***

*Example:* The contents of the gospel message. The truth that Jesus was the promised Messiah as spoken of by the prophets. The truth that his painful death was foretold by the prophet Isaiah. The correlation of the sacrificial lamb that was traditionally offered in the Jewish sacrifices and Jesus being the lamb that was slain once and for all. The truth that Jesus did in fact die and the evidence of the resurrection. John the Baptist was the promised forerunner of the Messiah and preached a message of repentance. It is through repentance that we enter the Kingdom. We now may be reconciled to the Father through believing upon the finished work of Christ. The promise of the Holy Spirit is given to those who believe. The salvific benefits of the Kingdom include healing, deliverance, and power over the schemes of the Devil.

***According to the Apostle Paul, what are some reasons that God is justified in revealing his wrath?***

*Example:* Godlessness and wickedness. Suppression of the truth. Not glorifying God or giving thanks to him. Exchanging the glory of God for idols. Exchanging God for a lie. Worshipping created things rather than the Creator. Shameful lusts. Not retaining the knowledge of God. Gossiping, slandering, God hating, insolence, arrogance, and boastfulness. Inventing ways of doing evil. Disobeying one's parents. Lack of understanding, fidelity, love, or mercy. Approving of those who practice rebellion.

***Who has sinned?*** (All have sinned)

***What else does God reveal?*** (The righteousness of God)

***Through what is this righteousness revealed and how do we obtain it?*** (It is revealed in the gospel and obtained by faith)

***Who proclaimed Jesus as Messiah in each of these verses?***

Luke 2:10-11 (the angel)  
John 1:35-41 (the disciples)  
Matthew 3:16-17 (the Father)  
Acts 2:36 (Peter)  
Philippians 2:9-11 (Paul)

***After quoting Isaiah 61 in Luke 4, what was Jesus saying?*** (The Messianic scriptures had been fulfilled. He identified himself as the Messiah.)

***From these verses, who was it that benefitted from Jesus's death on the cross?***

Matthew 27:26 (the criminal Barabbas)  
Luke 23:33 (the thief on the cross)  
Isaiah 53:3-5 (us)  
1 Peter 3:18 (the unrighteous)  
1 John 2:2 (the whole world)

***According to these verses, what evidence points to the resurrection of Jesus?***

Luke 24:2-3 (the stone had been rolled away)  
John 20:16-18 (Jesus appeared to Mary)  
Matthew 28:18-20 (Jesus appeared to his disciples)  
1 Corinthians 15:3-8 (Jesus appeared to Peter, to all twelve disciples, to more than 500 believers, to James and all the apostles, and to Paul)

***From these verses, what happens as a result of repentance?***

*Example:* Faith is placed in Jesus. Those who are repentant do not put their trust in outward righteousness. Those who turn from sin and trust Jesus receive imputed righteousness. Godly sorrow over sin leads to salvation and no regret.

***When Paul reasoned with those to whom he spoke, what conclusion was he after?***

*Example:* Jesus was the promised Messiah. Paul made a case for the truths of the Kingdom of God. Paul argued that the law and the prophets all foretold of Jesus and the eternal Kingdom. He wanted the results to be faith in Christ.

***What is the outcome of responding to ongoing repentance?***

*Example:* We are forgiven and purified from all unrighteousness. We will be restored and not removed from fulfilling our purposes. We testify that we are legitimate children of God. We share in God's holiness. It produces righteousness and peace.

***According to 2 Corinthians 5:17, when you are born again what do you become?*** (a new creation)

***According to 2 Corinthians 5:18, God did two things for us through Christ. What are they?*** (Reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation)

***According to 2 Corinthians 5:19, who can receive this reconciliation and who is to share the message?*** (The whole world; We are to share the message)

***What title does Paul give us in 2 Corinthians 5:20?*** (Ambassadors of Christ)

***As Ambassadors of Christ, according to 2 Corinthians 5:20, who is making the appeal through us and what have we been sent to say?*** (God; Be reconciled to God)

***Which disciples were called to evangelize?*** (All of them)

## Chapter 2 – Empowered to Share

### **The Holy Spirit is Promised**

*According to Luke 1:5-25, whose birth does Luke highlight?* (John the Baptist)

*According to verse 7, what did the priest Zechariah and his wife Elizabeth lack?* (children)

*In Luke 1:11, who does it say appears to Zechariah as he was ministering in the temple?* (an angel of the Lord)

*What message does the angel give to Zechariah in verse 13?* (Do not be afraid, your prayers have been heard. You will have a son named John.)

*Take note of Luke 1:14-15 and write it out*

“He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born.” (NIV)

*Why do you think Zechariah questioned the angel? What possible reason might God have for making Zechariah mute? (Luke 1:20)*

*Example:* Zechariah operated in unbelief at that announcement of his son. It is possible that God could not have him speaking unbelieving words over the promise to come.

### **Announcing the Birth of Jesus**

*According to Luke 1:26-28, who announces the birth of Jesus?* (Gabriel, the angel)

***Although Mary had questions, what was different about her response to the angel's news? (Luke 1:38)*** (She responded in faith and accepted her assignment)

***Take note of Luke 1:41 and write it out***

“When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.”

***What was the setting for this event?***

*Example:* A Pregnant Mary visited Elizabeth in her home. Elizabeth was also pregnant. Elizabeth was filled with the Spirit in the presence of the infant Jesus.

## **Zechariah is filled with the Spirit**

***As those around him asked the name of his son, what happened to Zechariah?*** (Luke 1:62-66)  
(He was able to speak. He praised God.)

***As a result of Zechariah being filled with the Spirit, what did he do?*** (Luke 1:67-80) (He prophesied about the coming Messiah and the ministry of his son)

## **Simeon is filled with the Spirit**

***According to Luke 2:26, what had been promised to Simeon?*** (That he would see the Messiah)

***What prompted Simeon to go to the temple according to Luke 2:27?*** (He was moved by the Spirit)

***Simeon arrives as Joseph and Mary bring the baby Jesus into the temple. In the presence of Jesus, Simeon is filled with the Spirit. What does he do? (Luke 2:29-32)*** (He prophesied that Jesus was the Messiah)

## **John the Baptist's Ministry**

***What do we know about John the Baptist according to Luke 1:41?*** (That he was filled with the Holy Spirit in his mother's womb)

## **Jesus is baptized in the Holy Spirit**

***What supernatural occurrence of God's favor was released over Jesus during his water baptism. (Luke 3:21-22)*** (Jesus was baptized in the Spirit)

***What three supernatural manifestations took place during this occasion?*** (Heaven was opened, the Holy Spirit descended upon him in the form of a dove, and a voice was heard saying, "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.")

***What does Luke 4:1 say about Jesus?*** (After being baptized, Jesus was full of the Holy Spirit)

***What promise is made in Luke 3:16?*** (The one that comes after John will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire.)

## **Jesus's Ministry**

***According to Luke 4:1, who led Jesus into the wilderness?*** (The Holy Spirit)

***Upon reading Luke 4:1-13, what did the Holy Spirit help Jesus do in the wilderness?*** (Overcome the temptations of the Devil)

***Jesus did not articulate one message until he had been baptized in the Spirit. According to Luke 4:18-19, what was the content of his first message?***

*Example:* The Holy Spirit is on me [Jesus] to anoint me to proclaim the message of the gospel. The good news is that there is freedom for prisoners, recovery of sight for the blind, the oppressed are set free, and this is the year of the Lord's favor.

## **Jesus promises the outpouring of the Holy Spirit**

***Along with the physical evidence of speaking in tongues, what else takes place when one receives the baptism of the Holy Spirit?*** (Empowered speech to witness about Jesus)

***What promise is made in Acts 2:16-17?*** (In the last days, the Spirit will be poured out on all people)

***What is Peter's response to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit? (Acts 2:14-39)***

*Example:* Where he had denied Jesus at the crucifixion, Peter was now empowered to be a bold witness in the midst of those who crucified his Lord. He was empowered to proclaim the gospel message, and many came to a saving faith.

## **The Apostles spread the Gospel empowered by the Holy Spirit**

### **Peter**

***Look up Acts 2:1-4. Before Peter preached to the crowd in Jerusalem, what did he experience?*** (The outpouring of the Holy Spirit)

### **Stephen**



*According to Acts 6:8, what is said about Stephen?* (He was full of the Spirit and performed great signs and wonders)

## **Philip**

*Now we see the gospel spreading to other regions around Jerusalem. According to Acts 8:4-8, what accompanied Philip's preaching?* (signs and wonders)

## **Paul**

*According to Acts 9:17-19, what takes place in the life of Paul?* (He recovered his sight and was filled with the Holy Spirit)

## Chapter 3 – Stained by the Gospel

### **Paul preached with signs and wonders**

*According to 1 Thessalonians 1:5, what made Paul's proclamation effective?* (The power of the Holy Spirit)

*Back up one verse and look at 1 Thessalonians 1:4. What does Paul say about his new converts salvation?* (They were chosen)

*Looking at 1 Thessalonians 1:4-5 again, besides the power of the Holy Spirit, what else did Paul's new converts experience?* (conviction)

### **The Thessalonian church models Paul's (and Jesus's) example**

*What does Paul call the Thessalonian believers in 1 Thessalonians 1:6?* (Imitators)

*According to 1 Thessalonians 1:7, what does Paul call the Thessalonian believers?* (model)

*Who did they effect as a result of their empowered proclamation?* (the believers in Macedonia and Achaia, and everywhere)

*What characteristics of our culture today can be likened to the ancient Roman world?*

*Example:* Immorality is an accepted norm, such as: adultery, pornography, and homosexuality. Addictions are rampant, such as: drug use, alcoholism, sexual addictions. There is a growing hatred for God and his ways and violence is heightened.

## Chapter 4 – Led by Love

### **We are to ask for the gifts of the Spirit to be in operation in our lives**

*According to 1 Corinthians 14:1, what are we to follow?* (The way of love)

*What are to eagerly desire?* (the gifts of the Spirit)

*And, what gift are we to especially ask for?* (prophecy)

### **The gifts of the Spirit are a crucial aspect of the proclamation of the gospel**

*As a reminder, what did Paul say in 1 Thessalonians 1:5?* (The gospel came in power, with the Holy Spirit, and deep conviction)

### **Jesus gives us an example of moving in the gifts of the spirit while orchestrating a one on one evangelistic encounter**

*According to John 4:7, what was the posture of Jesus's heart as he engaged this woman?* (He humbly asked her for her assistance)

*According to James 4:6, why is it important to approach people in a posture of humility?* (God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble)

## **Jesus didn't let cultural divides stop him from evangelizing**

*What objection did the Samaritan woman have toward Jesus as they initially engaged? (John 4:9) (You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan)*

## **Jesus relied on the Holy Spirit to guide the conversation**

*What does the woman do in John 4:9? (She asked Jesus a question)*

*As a response to Jesus answering her question in an unlikely manner, what did the woman do in John 4:11-12? (She asked another question)*

## **Jesus used a word of knowledge to evangelize**

*What did Jesus say to the woman in John 4:16? (Go, call your husband and come back.)*

*What was the woman's response in John 4:17? (I do not have a husband)*

## **The Samaritan woman became the first evangelist**

*What is the result of Jesus's conversation with the Samaritan woman? (John 4:25-26)*

*Example:* The fact that he is the Messiah is revealed to her.

*What was her response to this revelation according to John 4:28-30?*

*Example:* She became the first evangelist in the Bible and told her entire village about Jesus.

## **The Gifts of the Spirit**

*According to 1 Corinthians 12:7-11, how many gifts can be measured out through the Holy Spirit? (nine)*

*Each gift is entrusted to an individual believer to benefit whom? (the profit of all)*

*According to Ephesians 4:15-16, what needs to be at work for the body to grow and build itself up in love?*

*Example:* The truth needs to be spoken in love and each member needs to be operating in their spiritual gifting for the mutual edification of the body.

*According to John 6:44, who draws people to salvation in Jesus? (The Holy Spirit)*

*Knowing that a healthy church is one that is moving in the gifts of the Spirit, how do you think these gifts could benefit our mission of advancing the Kingdom outside of the four walls of our local church expressions?*

*Example:* If the gifts of the Spirit are activated inside the church to build one another up in love, could they not be used the same way to show forth the true heart of the Father to the lost? Should we not simply be who God made us to be as a witness of his redeeming love, not only to our brothers and sisters in Christ, but to those who need Jesus as well?

## **Word of Knowledge**

A word of knowledge is supernatural insight given to you through the Holy Spirit about something specific in a person's life. How could this be beneficial when witnessing to a lost individual?

*Example:* A word of knowledge given in a conversation opens the person up to the fact that God knows their situation and that he cares. This could easily lead to praying for salvation.

## **Word of Wisdom**

A word of wisdom often operates alongside a word of knowledge. The difference between the two is that a word of knowledge reveals a specific situation whereas a word of wisdom gives

supernatural insight on what to do in the situation or how to resolve an issue. How could this be of use when evangelizing?

*Example:* Much like a word of knowledge, a word of wisdom lets the individual know that God is interested in them and wants to guide them through the current circumstance. This communicates the love and care of God. Fostering trust in God's concern for that person could easily lead to praying to receive Christ.

### **The Gift of Prophecy**

Moving in the gift of prophecy is different than a person who is called as a Prophet. In 1 Corinthians 14:5, Paul tells us that he desires that all would move in the gift of prophecy. This gift manifests when one is given a specific word from the Lord that builds up, encourages, and edifies the hearer. Other gifts may be in operation during the specific prophetic utterance, but it can be defined as a direct message that reveals the heart of the Kingdom to the one receiving the message. How could this enhance your ability to witness to the lost?

*Example:* Receiving a prophetic word shows forth the reality of the Kingdom and that God has a specific future in mind for an individual. Often, when opened up to the reality of the Kingdom, people are ready to put their faith in Christ. Since they are being called forth out of darkness, they are ready to step into the Kingdom of light.

### **The Gift of Faith**

This gift is different than the faith we have in trusting Jesus for our salvation. This is a supernatural gift given in a situation that requires a greater measure of faith than what we have on a daily basis. A person operating in the gift of faith will find themselves believing for the impossible in a situation where others are skeptical. An example would be that someone has just been given a report that they have six weeks to live. A person operating in the gift of faith will have a deep sense that Father is going to heal that person and will have the ability to speak assuredness into the heart of the person with the diagnosis. They will then pray according to the measure of faith that has been given to see the promise come to fruition in that person's life. How could this be beneficial in witnessing to unbelievers?

*Example:* The ability to believe in God's intervention in impossible situations and then see the results would certainly get the attention of an unbeliever. It would communicate the truth that those who enter the Kingdom do so by faith and it would build their faith to believe for themselves.

### **The Working of Miracles**

A miracle takes place when God releases something of a divine nature that supersedes his natural order and laws. Those operating in the working of miracles will see a manifestation of heaven come to earth in dramatic fashion. An example would be someone with an amputated arm who has a new arm that grows in its place; or maybe an orphanage in a remote village is without food

and miraculously food shows up on the table. The Bible is full of stories that are miraculous in nature. How could the workings of miracles be used in evangelism?

*Example:* When one's needs are met through miraculous means, there is no denying the existence of God and that he is fully able to do what he says he can do. In this case, save to the uttermost.

### **The Discerning of Spirits**

One operating in the discernment of spirits has a very sensitive discernment meter. They see behind the proverbial curtain pertaining to what is going on with an individual or group of people. They will be able to tell the difference between something of a demonic nature, angelic activity, or fleshly ways. They often are used to expose the underlying issues that hold a church back from advancing. They also are typically deliverance ministers since they have a supernatural ability to see what needs to take place in a person's life in order to appropriate freedom. How could this be of help in witnessing to the lost?

*Example:* To know what is holding a person back from receiving Christ would allow one to pray effectively. By addressing the spiritual condition of a lost person through wisdom and precision, the warfare that often hinders people in giving their lives to Christ may be successfully maneuvered.

### **Different Kinds of Tongues**

The gift of tongues is language given through the Holy Spirit that you did not learn through natural means. This can manifest in two ways: an earthly language that you had no prior knowledge of knowing, or a heavenly language. Most often in Pentecostal/Charismatic circles, when we speak of the gift of tongues, we mean a heavenly prayer language that is not understood in the natural mind, but that aids in building up the spirit man through prayer. There is also a manifestation of tongues that is given during the corporate worship service where the Spirit will empower a person to utter a message in tongues to be interpreted for the people present. Is this gift useful in witnessing to those outside the church, and why or why not?

*Example:* The obvious answer would be on the mission field when there is a language barrier, a gift of tongues could allow for proper communication.

### **The Interpretation of Tongues**

The gift of interpreting tongues can be used both personally during one's prayer language but is most recognized in the corporate setting when a message in tongues is given. Paul tells us that interpreting tongues in the corporate setting is not for believers, but rather for unbelievers that may be in attendance. Why do you think this is so?

*Example:* If a message in tongues is given, an unbeliever attending the service might not know what to think about the experience. However, if the interpretation is given, they can experience the heavenly message and it might help open their heart to spiritual matters.

## Chapter 5 – Faith for the Five: Contending for the Lost

### **Praying for your lost loved ones, neighbors, co-workers, or friends**

*Look up 1 John 5:14-15, 2 Peter 3:9, and Luke 18:1*

*In your own words, summarize what these scriptures are saying in relation to praying for the lost.*

*Example:* We know that God hears our prayers when we pray according to his will. He also answers these prayers. It is God's will that none should perish. He wants all to come to a saving knowledge of him. We are also instructed to never give up in our prayers. This would certainly apply to praying for our lost loved ones.

### **Persistent prayer is highly effectual**

*Is there any ambiguity in applying the meaning to this parable?* (No. It is very clear as to what principle Jesus is teaching.)

### **The disposition of the unjust judge**

*According to 2 Chronicles 19:4-7, what are some character traits that judges in Israel were to possess?*

*Example:* They were to understand that God appointed them and to rule in the fear of the Lord. This meant they were to be fair and equitable with people.

*How many times are we told that this judge does not fear God? (Luke 18:1-6)* (twice)



*How many times are we told that this judge does not like people? (Luke 18:1-6) (twice)*

## **This widow is portrayed differently than other widows in the bible**

Jesus showed great compassion for the widow in Luke 7:11-17. *In your own words, can you come up with reasons that he might have responded to this widow in this manner?*

*Example:* The death of her only son would have left her alone in a culture where women were vulnerable. He had great compassion for her situation.

Ruth is another widow in the bible. *What are some qualities that we can assign to Ruth knowing her story?*

*Example:* She was loyal, faithful, humble, and submissive.

## **Other Examples of Petitionary Prayer**

*Jacob's encounter with the angel of the Lord is an example of petitionary prayer. (Genesis 32:22-31)*

*What two things did Jacob do that showed his persistence in engaging the Angel of the Lord?* (He wrestled until daybreak, and he would not let go)

*What condition did the priest Eli believe Hannah to be in because of her persistent prayer? (1 Samuel 1:9-28)* (He believed her to be drunk)

*As an answer to her prayer, who did Hannah's son turn out to become?* (The prophet Samuel)

## **We must pray with the same persistence for our lost loved ones**

*According to Luke 19:10, who is Jesus seeking?* (Those who are lost)

*According to 2 Peter 3:9, what is God's heart toward the lost?* (He is patient and wants all to come to know him)

*According to 1 Timothy 2:4, who does God want to save?* (All people)

## **The Process of Evangelism**

*How would the principle in 1 Corinthians 3:6-7 apply to the evangelism process?*

*Example:* Because evangelism is a process, there are many people and events that will touch a person's life before they are ready to come to Christ. I may be the one to plant a seed. I may be the one to cultivate what has been planted. Or, I may be the one to harvest.

*It takes the average person 7 to 10 times of hearing the gospel before they respond.*

*According to that statistic, what is the importance of our pre-evangelism efforts?*

*Example:* We never know where a person is in the process. If it takes many touches before a person comes to Christ, then every time a person cultivates someone's heart is important.

## **Evangelism takes place when you share the message of the gospel.**

*According to Acts 3:19, not only do I need to turn away from sin, but who do I need to turn toward?* (Turn to God)

***Knowing that it is in this turning away from our self-willed sinful ways and placing our faith in God alone to save us, why is it important that we fully communicate the contents of the gospel?***

*Example:* We must understand our need to be saved. No one can save themselves. Jesus alone offers eternal salvation. He alone has paid the ultimate price for us to be reconciled back to God. It is imperative that we understand our deep need and the solution to our need that is being offered through the message of the Gospel.

***Can you list the six key points of the kerygmatic gospel from memory?***

Jesus is the promised Messiah  
Jesus was crucified upon a cross  
Jesus was resurrected from the dead  
One must repent in order to be saved  
Paul preached for a response—not just to educate  
Repentance is ongoing in our walk with Jesus