



HARVEST BAPTIST CHURCH
SUNDAY EVENING SEMINAR

sharing my FAITH

SESSION 1

Goals

Goal #1:

To help each participant gain a growing excitement for how God can use you and prepare you to impact the lives of others for eternity.

Goal #2:

To equip each participant with the knowledge and skills needed to effectively communicate our faith.

Focus

In this session we will:

1. Describe what Biblical Evangelism is not.
2. Identify the components of Biblical Evangelism.
3. Revisit the Biblical basis for evangelism.
4. Begin an Impact List of relationships.

Discovery

A. Perceptions of Evangelists

Negative	Positive
obnoxious pushy money-grabbing insensitive self-centered	extroverted committed bold outgoing articulate concerned

B. Biblical Evangelism

1. Authentic
2. Natural
3. Personal
4. Verbal

“How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how can they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how can they hear without a preacher [someone preaching to them]? Romans 10:14

5. Process-Oriented vs. event oriented
6. Team-Oriented
7. Putting Others First

Cliff Knechtle, *Give Me An Answer*, Intersivity Press, 1986.

C. Why become a “contagious Christian”?

Luke 15

1. Something of great value was lost.
* People matter to God!
2. That which was lost was important enough to warrant an all-out search.
3. When the lost is found, a celebration ensues.

Impact List

1. Carefully consider the people in your life to whom you could give concentrated effort in the attempt to bring them to the next step in the evangelism process.
2. List the names of these people:

As you begin to pray for the people on your Impact List, ask God to work in their lives and to give you wisdom on how to effectively reach out to them. In praying for them, keep in mind the following three areas:

Them

Ask God to:

- Pull them toward Himself.
- Open their eyes to the emptiness of life without Him.
- Help them see their need for forgiveness.
- Help them grasp the meaning and importance of the cross of Christ.
- Open the person's heart to God's love and truth.

You

Ask God to:

- Help you live a consistent and attractive Christian life.
- Make you authentic and honest as you deal with life's ups and downs.
- Give you wisdom in knowing how to approach the relationship.
- Expand your knowledge so you will be ready to define and defend the Gospel message.
- Grant you appropriate boldness and courage.
- Use you to help lead this person into a relationship with Christ.

Us

Ask God to:

- Develop the same heart for others in the life of the others in our seminar.
- Provide opportunities and open doors for spiritual conversations.

Seminar Source Material

Mark Mittelberg, Lee Strobel, & Bill Hybels, *Becoming a Contagious Christian*, Zondervan Publishing, 1995

Lee Ormiston, *Operation Faithful Witness*, seminar notes

James Kennedy, *Evangelism Explosion*, Tyndale House, 1983

Evangelism Styles

Directions

1. Record your response to each of the 30 statements according to whether you think the statement applies to you:

3 Very much

2 Somewhat

1 Very little

0 Not at all

2. Transfer your responses to the grid at the bottom of page 8 and total each column:

___ 1. In conversations, I like to approach topics directly, without much small talk or beating around the bush.

___ 2. I have a hard time getting out of bookstores or libraries without getting a bunch of books that will help me better understand issues being debated in society.

___ 3. I often tell stories about my personal experiences in order to illustrate a point I am trying to make.

___ 4. I am a “people person” who places a high value on friendship.

___ 5. I enjoy including or adding new people to activities I am involved in.

___ 6. I do not shy away from putting a person on the spot when it seems necessary.

___ 7. I tend to be analytical.

___ 8. I often identify with others by using phrases like “I used to think that too” or “I once felt the way you do.”

- ___9. Other people have commented about my ability for developing new friendships.
- ___10. To be honest, even if I knew the answers, I am more comfortable having someone “better qualified” explain Christianity to my friends.
- ___11. I do not have a problem confronting my friends with the truth even if it risks hurting the relationship.
- ___12. In conversations, I naturally focus on the questions that are holding up a person’s spiritual progress.
- ___13. When I tell people of how I came to Christ, I have found that they have been interested in hearing it.
- ___14. I would rather delve into personal life issues than abstract theological ideas.
- ___15. If I knew of a high quality outreach event that my friends would enjoy, I would make a big effort to bring them.
- ___16. I believe that real love often means telling someone the truth, even when it hurts.
- ___17. I enjoy discussions and debates on difficult questions.
- ___18. I intentionally share my mistakes with others when it will help them relate to the solutions I have found.
- ___19. I prefer getting involved in discussions concerning a person’s life before dealing with the details of their beliefs.
- ___20. I tend to watch for spiritually strategic events to bring people to (such as outreach events and special services).
- ___21. A motto that would fit me is: “Make a difference or a mess, but do something.”
- ___22. I often get frustrated with people when they use weak arguments or poor logic.

- ___23. People seem interested in hearing stories about things that have happened in my life.
- ___24. I enjoy long talks with friends.
- ___25. I am always looking for a match between the needs and interests of my friends and the various events, books, etc., that they would enjoy or benefit from.
- ___26. I sometimes get in trouble for lacking gentleness and sensitivity in the way I interact with others.
- ___27. I like to get at the underlying reasons for opinions that people hold.
- ___28. I am still amazed at how God brought me to faith in Him and I am motivated to tell people about it.
- ___29. People generally consider me to be an interactive, sensitive, and caring kind of person.
- ___30. A highlight of my week would be to take a guest with me to an appropriate church event.

	Confrontational	Intellectual	Testimonial	Interpersonal	Invitational
	#1___	#2___	#3___	#4___	#5___
	#6___	#7___	#8___	#9___	#10___
	#11___	#12___	#13___	#14___	#15___
	#16___	#17___	#18___	#19___	#20___
	#21___	#22___	#23___	#24___	#25___
	#26___	#27___	#28___	#29___	#30___
Totals					

