

“Evangelism”
September 22, 2019
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Why Evangelism?

In this world, we will be persecuted, laughed at, and mocked as we share our faith with others and live as God commands us to. Christ makes it clear that to not live as salt in the world makes little sense. The benefits of living as the salt of the earth far outweigh the consequences. Often times, we over complicate it with our ‘what ifs’ of evangelism, but that does not change the message of truth.

Jesus didn’t tell us we should be salt & light. He tells us we are salt & light (Ephesians 5:8).

We cannot change what we are, but we can waste what we are.

The Salt can lose its saltiness, and the Light can be dimmed.

Salt is hidden...it works secretly & slowly. Light is seen...it works openly & quickly.

As salt, you’ll convict unbelievers. As light, you’ll show them good works of love.

Salt must make contact. Light must be seen.

Salt is symbolic of the believer’s inward character. Light is symbolic of the believer’s outward testimony.

Salt is different than the food you put it on. If salt became just like the food, it wouldn’t be useful or used. If we as Christians become just like the world, and lose our positive influence, we’ll lose our usefulness.

Matthew 5:

Verses 10-12:

1. How does this relate to evangelism?
2. What are we called to do in the midst of persecution? Why?
3. What does verse 12 say in regard to how we fit into ‘the story’?

Verse 13-16:

1. What does it mean to be the salt of the earth?
2. How can you lose your saltiness?
3. What does this verse say will happen if you lose your saltiness?
4. How do you become the light of the world? (see John 8:12)
5. What would be the benefit of putting your light under a bowl?
6. Why do we do it so often?
7. Who gets the praise when you let your light shine?

After discussing losing your saltiness and being the light of the world, what do you think about the verses about being persecuted (vs. 10-12)?

1. What should we do in the face of persecution?
2. How do you remain salty?
3. What are ways we can let our light shine?

Luke 15:

This passage is the only one recorded in which Jesus tells the same parable three times in a row. It is important to note that in the first two examples, the answer is obvious to the hearer that they would go and search for the lost item. In America today, this idea is lost. We don't desire to go and look for things that are lost, after all time is money. The reason we probably don't evangelize our neighbors, family members, classmates, is because we just don't have the time. Here we see a great example of why Jesus does not approve of this behavior.

Verses 1-7:

1. Would you have gone after the one stray sheep?
2. What does the shepherd do when he finds the lost sheep?
3. What happens in the heavens when a sinner repents?
4. How do we act like the shepherd in our present world?

Verse 8-10:

1. Why do you think these passages are back to back?
2. What occurs when the woman finds the coin?

Verse 11-31:

1. Who do you identify with in this passage? (Father – Older son – Younger son)
2. What do you think of the older brother's response?
3. Would you have had the same one?
4. Who is the Christ figure in this passage?
5. What does this say about Jesus' heart for evangelism?

What do these 3 parables have in common?

Does Evangelism also include seeking someone who has fallen away from the faith?

September 29: Philip Goad – Heritage Christian University

October 6 and 13: Vonn Plunk - "Seekers"

October 20: "How to Evangelize"

(1 Corinthians 13; 1 Peter 1:7-12; 1 John 5:7-12; 1 Corinthians 2:10-12)