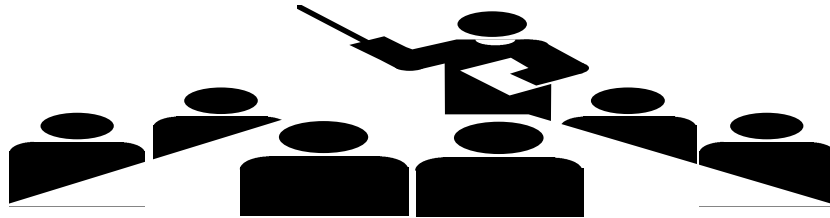


EVANGELISM SEMINAR



Facilitator

The Rev. Dr. Darryl B. Starnes, Sr.
Director, Bureau of Evangelism
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church
Charlotte, North Carolina



Topic:
“Effective Evangelism”

Teaching Outline

- I. The Meaning of Evangelism**
 - A. Biblical Clues to the Meaning of Evangelism
 - B. Some Selected Definitions
 - C. A New Definition of Evangelism

- II. The Prerequisites for Effective Evangelism**
 - A. The Assurance of Salvation
 - B. The Certainty of Regeneration
 - C. The Evidence of Transformation

- III. The Imperatives for Effective Evangelism**
 - A. The Right People
 - B. The Right Environment
 - C. The Right Message

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TOPIC: *THE MEANING OF EVANGELISM*

I. Ten Biblical Clues to the Meaning of Evangelism

- A. The Proclamation of the Gospel
 1. *Evangelion*- translated *gospel*, occurs 77 times (Mk. 1:14, 15)
 2. *Evangelizo*- translated *preach*, occurs 55 times (Rev. 14:6)
 3. *Evangelistes*- translated *evangelist*, occurs 3 times (2 Tim. 4:5)
- B. Making Disciples - *matheteusate* (Matthew 28:19)
- C. Bearing Witness to Jesus Christ- *marturia* (Acts 1:8)
- D. Fishing for Men (Mk. 1:17; Luke 5:10)
- E. Being the Salt of the Earth (Matthew 5:13)
- F. Being the Light of the World (Matthew 5:14-16)
- G. Bearing Fruit That Remains (John 15:8, 16)
- H. Being the Aroma of Christ (2 Corinthians 2:14, 15)
- I. The Ministry of Reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:17-21)
- J. Advertising the Deeds of God (1 Peter 2:9, 10)

II. Selected Definitions

- A. The 1918 Anglican Definition: *"To evangelize is so to present Christ Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit, that men shall come to put their trust in God through Him, to accept Him as their Saviour, and serve Him as their King in the fellowship of His Church."*
- B. The D. T. Niles 1951 Definition: *"It is one beggar telling another beggar where to get food (bread)."*
- C. The 1977 Church Growth Definition: *"...to proclaim Jesus Christ as God and Savior, to persuade people to become His disciples and responsible members of His Church."*
- D. The 1974 Lausanne Covenant Definition: *"To evangelize is to spread the good news that Jesus Christ died for our sins and was raised from the dead according to the Scriptures, and that as the reigning Lord, he now offers the forgiveness of sins and the liberating gift of the Holy Spirit to all who repent and believe. Our Christian presence in the world is indispensable to evangelism, and so is that kind of dialogue whose purpose is to listen sensitively in order to understand. But evangelism itself is the proclamation of the historical, biblical Christ as Savior and Lord, with a view to persuading people to come to him personally and so be reconciled to God. In issuing the Gospel invitation, we have no liberty to conceal the cost of discipleship. Jesus still calls all who would follow him to deny themselves, take up their cross, and identify with his new community. The results of evangelism include obedience to Christ, incorporation into his church, and responsible service in the world."*

E. George Hunter

1. His 1979 Definitions:
 - a. *"Evangelism is what WE do to help make the Christian faith, life, and mission a live option to undisciplined people, both outside and inside the congregation."*
 - b. *"Evangelism is also what JESUS CHRIST does through the church's kerygma (message), koinonia (fellowship), and diakonia (service) to set people free."*
 - c. *"Evangelism happens when the RECEIVER (receptor, respondent) turns (1) to Christ; (2) to the Christian message and ethic; (3) to a Christian congregation; and (4) to the world in love and mission - in any order."*
2. His Five Approaches to Christian Ministry or Evangelism
 - a. *"Let us help you." (Mother Teresa)*
 - b. *"Let God help you." (Katherine Kuhlman, Oral Roberts)*
 - c. *"Hear the word." (J.I. Packer, John R. Stott)*
 - d. *"Make a decision." (Billy Graham)*
 - e. *"Become a Christian disciple." (The Church Growth Movement)*

III. A New Definition of Evangelism: *"Evangelism is being, doing, and telling the gospel of the kingdom of God, in order that by the power of the Holy Spirit persons and structures may be converted to the Lordship of Jesus Christ."*

- A. The heart of evangelism is the good news about the kingdom of God.
 1. It comes through Jesus Christ.
 2. It is holistic.
 3. It is theologically sound.
 4. It has a sharp point.
 5. It has two razor-sharp cutting edges
 - a. The bad-news side cuts to announce God's wrath.
 - b. The good-news side cuts to announce God's favor and bring healing.
- B. Evangelism is three-dimensional.
 1. It is being. (*koinonia*)
 2. It is doing. (*diakonia*)
 3. It is telling. (*kerygma*)
- C. Evangelism is tied to the Gospel.
- D. Evangelism is a Kingdom-of-God Enterprise.
- E. Evangelism is dependent upon the Holy Spirit.
- F. Evangelism seeks to convert

Resource: *Introduction to Evangelism* by Delos Miles (Nashville: Broadman Press, 1983)

EVANGELISM SEMINAR

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TOPIC: *THE PREREQUISITES FOR EFFECTIVE EVANGELISM*

I. The Assurance of Salvation

- A. **Justification** [the past tense of salvation] (Romans 3:24; 5:1,2)
1. It is an event.
 2. The affirmation is "*I know that I am saved!*"
 3. It is deliverance from the **penalty of sin**. (hell)
 4. It occurs at the moment of conversion through true repentance and saving faith.
- B. **Sanctification** [the present tense of salvation] (1 Thessalonians 4:3-8)
1. It is a process.
 2. The affirmation is "*I know that I am being saved!*"
 3. It is deliverance from the **power of sin**.
 4. It occurs progressively from the time of conversion to the time of death or translation.
- C. **Glorification** [the future tense of salvation] (Romans 8:16-23,29,30; 1 John 3:1-3)
1. It is an expectation.
 2. The affirmation is "*I know that I will be saved!*"
 3. It is deliverance from the **presence of sin**.
 4. It occurs at the time of resurrection or translation and continues throughout eternity.

II. The Certainty of Regeneration

- A. Receiving the *life of God*: a spiritual awakening & renewal (Ephesians 2:1; 1 Corinthians 2:1)
- B. Receiving the *Spirit of God*: the indwelling presence of God (1 John 2:20, 27; 3:24; 4:13)
- C. Receiving the *nature of God*: the power & desire to live right (1 John 2:3-6; 3:3-10; 2 Peter 1:4)
- D. Receiving the *love of God*: the power to treat people right (1 John 3:14; 4:7,8, 12)

III. The Evidence of Transformation

- A. The Pursuit of Holiness (Hebrews 12:14; Ephesians 4:17-24)
- B. The Exercise of Godliness (1 Timothy 4:7, 8)
- C. The Development of Character (Galatians 5:22,23)
- D. The Perfecting of Love (1 John 4:12-19; Matthew 5:38-48)
- E. The Fullness of the Spirit (Acts 1:8; Ephesians 5:18)

EVANGELISM SEMINAR

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TOPIC: *THE IMPERATIVES FOR EFFECTIVE EVANGELISM*

Part #1: "The Right People"

PROPOSITION: Effective evangelism must have the right people promoting it.

I. Only when we are **CONVERTED** *can we be effective in evangelism.*

- A. Our saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ is the primary requirement for full membership in the A.M.E. Zion Church. (*The Book of Discipline* [2004], p. 27.)
- B. Until we experience God's saving grace through Jesus Christ, it is impossible to evangelize.
- C. We must already have experienced that which we are inviting others to experience.

II. Only when we are **COMMITTED** *will be effective in evangelism.*

- A. We must be committed to the ministry of evangelism, because it is the role and responsibility of every one who has been converted. (2 Corinthians 5:17-21)
- B. Our commitment to evangelism is the primary requirement for leadership in the A.M.E. Zion Church for both ministers and laity. (*The Book of Discipline* [2004], pp. 172; 194)

III. Only when we are **GIFTED** *can lead the church in effective evangelism.*

- A. All we who are converted have the ability to evangelize.
- B. We who have the *gift of evangelism* have a God-given ability to evangelize. (1 Cor. 12:4-7)
 - 1. The Holy Spirit has given us different spiritual gifts. (Abilities to serve the kingdom)
 - 2. The Lord has given us different ministries. (People whom we are effectively serving)
 - 3. God has given us different operations. (Ways that God works through us best)
- C. We who have the *gift of evangelism* have the God-given ability to equip the saints in the ministry of evangelism. (Ephesians 4:11,12)
- D. We who have the *gift of evangelism* are to lead the church in evangelism by training both ministers and laity in personal evangelism.

IV. Only when we are **TRAINED** *will be most effective in evangelism.*

- A. We all need training, whether we are gifted in evangelism or not, in order to be most effective in the ministry of evangelism.

- B. We must make the equipping of the saints in the ministry of evangelism our primary task.

THE IMPERATIVES FOR EFFECTIVE EVANGELISM

Part #2: "The Right Environment"

PROPOSITION: **Effective evangelism must spring from the right environment.**

I. Our churches must extend LOVE AND ACCEPTANCE to *all*.

- A. Our church leaders and members must show God's love to all persons, regardless of their age, class, color, or nationality.
- B. Our church leaders and members must welcome and accept all persons who seek salvation, regardless of their weaknesses, shortcomings or differences.

II. Our churches must offer TEACHING AND TRAINING to *all*.

- A. Our Christian Education workers must offer sound biblical teaching for persons of all ages, teaching them to obey Christ's commands.
- B. Our Christian Education workers must offer leadership training for all ministers, leaders, and church workers.
- C. Our Christian Education workers must offer training in evangelism for all ministers, leaders, and members.

III. Our churches must provide DISCIPLESHIP AND NURTURE for *all*.

- A. Our Class Leaders must provide immediate follow-up for all new converts and Special Orientation Classes for all new members.
- B. Our Class Leaders must provide spiritual mentoring for those who require more intense nurturing.
- C. Our Class Leaders must provide the kind of disciple making process through which members can be disciplined.
- D. Our Class Leaders must provide ongoing discipleship and nurture for members of all ages through class meetings, fellowship, visitation and communication.

IV. Our churches must demonstrate CARE AND CONCERN for *all*.

- A. Our church ministries must provide for the temporal needs of all in times of calamity, tragedy or scarcity.
- B. Our church ministries must provide encouragement and support for all in times of distress and/or sorrow.
- C. Our church ministries must provide healing and help for all in times of illness or injury, whether physical, mental, spiritual, or emotional.

THE IMPERATIVES FOR EFFECTIVE EVANGELISM

Part #3: "The Right Message"

PROPOSITION: Effective evangelism must have the right message proclaimed.

OUTLINE OF THE GOSPEL PRESENTATION

I. The Introduction

- A. Their secular life
- B. Their church background
- C. Our church
- D. Testimony: personal or church
- E. Two diagnostic questions:
 1. *"Have you come to a place in your spiritual life where you know for certain that if you were to die today you would go to heaven?" (1 John 5:13)*
 2. *"Suppose that you were to die tonight and stand before God and He was to say to you, 'Why should I let you into my heaven?' What would you say?"*

II. The Gospel

- A. Grace
 1. *Heaven is a free gift. (Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:8, 9)*
 2. *It is not earned or deserved. (Romans 3:20; Galatians 2:16)*
- B. Man
 1. *He is a sinner. (Romans 3:10, 23; James 2:10)*
 2. *He cannot save himself. (Ephesians 2:8, 9; Titus 3:5)*
- C. God
 1. *He is merciful and does not want to punish us. (Exodus 34:6)*
 2. *He is just and must punish sin. (Isaiah 13:11)*
- D. Christ
 1. *Who He is - He is the Infinite God-Man (John 1:1, 14)*
 2. *What He did –*
 - a. *He paid for our sins. (Isaiah 53:4-6; 1 Corinthians 15:3)*
 - b. *He purchased a place in heaven for us. (John 14:2)*
 - c. *He offers it as a free gift. (Revelations 22:17)*
- E. Faith

1. *What it is not*
 - a. *It is not mere blind faith. (Matthew 15:14)*
 - b. *It is not head faith or intellectual assent. (James 2:19)*
 - c. *It is not temporal faith. (John 2:23-25)*
 - d. *It is not dead faith. (James 2:17)*
2. *What it is*
 - a. *It is belief plus commitment (John 8:30-32; James 2:18)*
 - b. *It is receiving Christ (John 1:12; Revelations 3:20)*
 - c. *It is trusting Christ alone for salvation (Acts 4:12)*

III. The Commitment

- A. The qualifying question: *"Does this make sense to you?"*
- B. The commitment question: *"Would you like to receive this gift of eternal life?"*
- C. The clarification of commitment
- D. The prayer of commitment
- E. The assurance of salvation (Romans 10:13; 1 John. 5:11-13)

IV. The Immediate Follow-up

- A. Stressing the Assurance of Salvation
 1. Revisiting the Diagnostic Questions
 2. Revisiting the Assurance Verses
- B. Stressing the Aids to Spiritual Growth
 1. Bible Intake: reading, study, meditation, and memorization
 2. Prayer: daily communication with God
 3. Worship: public and private
 4. Fellowship: spending quality time with Christian friends
 5. Witness: learning to share one's faith with others

Resource: *Evangelism Explosion* by D. James Kennedy (Wheaton, Illinois: Tyndale House Publishers, 1977)