

Becoming a World-Class Christian

(Adapted from Raymond Woodward's Life Course 401)

"Behold ye among the heathen, and regard, and wonder marvelously: for I will work a work in your days, which ye will not believe, though it be told you"

(Habakkuk 1:5).

"Jesus said, 'Go everywhere in the world, and tell the Good News to everyone'" (Mark 16:15, NCV).

"And the Good News must first be made known in every nation before the end-time finally comes" (Mark 10:13, LB).

any Christians mistakenly assume that the responsibility for taking the gospel to all parts of the world belongs only to missionaries and pastors. But the Bible clearly points out that it is every believer's responsibility to be a world-class Christian. With the earth's ever-exploding population, our responsibility has certainly increased; however, in many ways the job of evangelism is getting much easier. With the internet and air travel at our disposal, the world is shrinking. The opportunity to be a part of God's global mission is now, more than ever before, available to every Christian.

"Look at the nations and be amazed! Watch and be astounded at what I will do! For I am doing something in your own day, something you wouldn't believe even if someone told you about it." (Habakkuk 1:5, NLT)

"God says: In the last days I will pour out my Spirit on all kinds of people." (Acts 2:17, NCV)

THE WORLD SITUATION:

- The vast majority of the world's six billion people are lost without Jesus Christ.
- There are still over two thousand unreached people groups in the world.
- Nearly one-third of the world's population do not even have a visible witness for Jesus Christ.
- The four words that best describe the unreached people in our world are: Asian, Islamic, Urban, Youth.
- The lost will never hear about Jesus Christ unless someone goes to their culture and tells them.

"For I have a great sense of obligation to people in our culture and to people in other cultures" (Rom. 1:14, NLT).



The problem is not the harvest; the problem is the lack of laborers to bring in the harvest!

"Jesus said to his followers, 'There are many people to harvest but only a few workers to help harvest them" (Matthew 9:37, NCV).

"Anyone who calls on the Lord will be saved. But before people can ask the Lord for help, they must believe in him; and before they can believe in him, they must hear about him; and for them to hear about the Lord, someone must tell them; and before someone can go and tell them, that person must be sent" (Romans 10:13-15, NCV).

"Send us around the world with the news of your saving power and your eternal plan for all mankind" (Psalm 67:2, LB).

GOALS FOR "CORE" MEMBERS:

- EVERY FEW MONTHS: Have a mission experience in Jerusalem (home town).
- EVERY YEAR: Have a mission experience in Judea (province/state).
- EVERY FEW YEARS: Have a mission experience with another culture in your nation (Samaria).
- AT LEAST ONCE: Have a mission experience with another culture in another country (the world).

"But the Holy Spirit will come upon you and give you power. Then you will tell everyone about me in Jerusalem, in all Judea, in Samaria, and everywhere in the world" (Acts 1:8, CEV).

"Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them." (John. 13:17, NIV).

20 WAYS TO DEVELOP A MISSIONARY HEART

- 1. Invite your friends to special events at your local Church.
- 2. Host an "Open House" to get to know your neighbors.
- 3. Volunteer to get involved at your children's school.
- 4. House someone attending a conference (regional or national).
- 5. Leave a tract for a waiter/waitress (with a generous tip!).
- 6. Reach out to university students from other cultures.
- 7. Get yourself a world map and pray for our missionaries.
- 8. Get involved in our PUSH Prayer Meetings.
- 9. Become an e-mail pen pal with one of our missionaries.
- 10. Pray for the countries mentioned in news reports.
- 11. Become a volunteer at the closest hospital to where you live.
- 12. Teach or host a Home Bible Study group.
- 13. Provide transportation to bring someone to church.
- 14. Donate food, clothing or money to the underprivileged.

- 15. Get involved in the World Network of Prayer ministry.
- 16. Become a mentor to a struggling young person.
- 17. Visit a senior who cannot get to church.
- 18. Volunteer to help a neighbor with some yardwork.
- 19. Go on a short term missions trip to another country.

WHAT IT TAKES TO HAVE A MISSIONARY HEART

1. We must shift our thinking from SELF-CENTEREDNESS to GOD-CENTEREDNESS.

"For the Holy Spirit, God's gift, does not want you to be afraid of people, but to be wise and strong, and to love them and enjoy being with them. If you will stir up this inner power, you will never be afraid to tell others about our Lord" (2 Timothy 1:7-8, LB).

"Anyone who lets himself be distracted from the work I plan for him is not fit for the Kingdom of God" (Luke 9:62, LB).

2. We must shift our thinking from LOCAL ORIENTATION to GLOBAL ORIENTATION.

"If you ask me, I will give you the nations; all the people on earth will be yours" (Psalm 2:8, NCV).

"Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west. I will say to the north, 'Give them up!' and to the south, 'Do not hold them back.' Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth – everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made" (Isaiah 43:5-7, NIV).

3. We must shift our thinking from TEMPORARY VALUES to ETERNAL VALUES.

"No soldier in active service entangles himself in the affairs of everyday life, so that he may please the one who enlisted him as a soldier" (2 Timothy 2:4, NASB).

"The thing you should want most is God's kingdom and doing what God wants. Then all these other things you need will be given to you" (Matthew 6:33, NCV).

4. We must shift our thinking from SECURITY to SERVICE.

"Only those who throw away their lives for my sake and for the sake of the Good News will ever know what it means to really live" (Mark 8:35, LB).

"Let us strip off anything that slows us down or holds us back ... and let us run with patience the particular race that God has set before us" (Hebrews 12:1, LB).

5. We must shift our thinking from PERSONAL COMFORT to PERSONAL SACRIFICE.

"Since God has shown us great mercy... offer your lives as a living sacrifice to him" (Romans

12:1, NCV).

Jesus replied, "Let me assure you that no one has ever given up anything ... for love of me and to tell others the Good News, who won't be given back, a hundred times over ... All these will be his here on earth, and in the world to come he shall have eternal life" (Mark 10:29-30, LB).

The BEST INVESTMENT you can make is an investment in SOULS.

Will anyone be in heaven because of you?

"I want to finish the race I'm running. I want to carry out the mission I received from the Lord Jesus – the mission of testifying to the Good News of God's kindness" (Acts 20:24, GWT).

Study Questions 1. List five (5) points we need to remember about the world situation, when we think of evangelism. 1) 3) The problem is not the ______ of 2. _____ for the _____. 3. Read through the list of 20 Ways to Develop a Missionary Heart. On the lines provided below, write those you have never done, that are possible to add to your lifestyle immediately.

4.	List five (5) things it takes to have a missionary heart. Support each with Scripture. 1)
	2)
	3)
	4)
	31

My Life Investment Guide

What percentage is used for God's Kingdom?

 0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
				M '	Y TII	M E				
0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
				ΜY	TAL	ENT				
0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
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Directions: Put a circle on each line indicating your current status. Then put an "X" on each line indicating where you would like to be starting today.

What are you going to live the rest of your life for? The Choice Is Yours!

"Store your treasures in heaven where they cannot be destroyed by moths or rust and where thieves cannot break in and steal them. Your heart will be where your treasure is" (Matthew 6:20-21, NCV).

"For what is it we live for, that gives us hope and joy and is our proud reward and crown? It is you! Yes, you will bring us much joy as we stand together before our Lord Jesus Christ when he comes back again. For you are our trophy and joy" (1 Thessalonians 2:19-20, LB).

There are only two things that you can't do in Heaven – sin and witness. What do you think the Lord left you here on earth to do?

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me" (Isaiah 6:8, NIV).

My Evangelism Covenant

Having become a member of my local church family, having committed myself to the disciplines that the Bible requires of a mature Christian, and having already begun to serve my church through ministry, I now desire to dedicate myself to a lifestyle of evangelism. I promise that ...

I will equip myself to be a effective witness ...

- By praying consistently and specifically for the unsaved people God has placed in my life
- By learning how to assist people as they move through the stages that bring them to salvation
- By learning how to effectively share my testimony and the gospel message in a clear and concise way

I will involve myself in the work of reaching others ...

- By embracing the vision of my church and being a willing supporter of all its outreach endeavors
- By involving myself in short term mission experiences both at home and abroad
- By consistently using my time, my talents and my treasure to expand the Kingdom of God

Signed:_		
Dated:		-
	Additional Notes	
		····

The Ever Widening Circle of World Evangelism

"...And ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth"

(Acts 1:8).

here are three types of unconverted people in the world today (John 3:16-17):

- 1. Those who reject the Gospel.
- 2. Those who neglect (put off) the Gospel.
- 3. Those who have never heard the Gospel.

Each of these three groups of people will be lost and condemned because they have not believed the Gospel.

The difference is that the first two groups of people had the opportunity to hear the gospel but rejected or neglected it. Sadly, the third group of people will be lost because they did not hear the Gospel, therefore they did not respond.

In Matthew 13:38 Jesus told us, "The field is the world." The seed that is planted is the Word of God, and we are called to sow the seed (witness).

With the understanding that the field is the world, many times we carelessly sow the seed wherever and whenever we can. Many missionaries go into countries and start a church in several different locations, each distant from the other without any thought of how to bring the churches into maturity and also a fellowship with other churches in the national organization. However, in the Word of God it seems that Jesus had an organized, systematic way of church planting and witnessing in mind.

This is the ever widening circle of world evangelism found in Acts 1:8:

- A. Jerusalem
- B. All Judaea
- C. Samaria
- D. Uttermost part of the earth

Every Christian is responsible for beginning to witness in his Jerusalem (home, neighborhood, city) and to work from there in an effort to evangelize the world around them.

If we cannot be effective in our Jerusalem, chances are the Lord will never send us to the uttermost part of the earth.

One of the qualifications for those involved in the ministry is that he would need to have his

wife, children, and those in his household under control. Paul instructed Timothy in 1 Timothy 3:4-5, if we cannot lead our home, then how can we lead the church? We must have a fruitful ministry in the church in our home before we ever go to plant churches elsewhere.

God has called us to be a "World Christian." This is not the same as being a "World <u>ly</u> Christian." He wants us to be "Fishers of Men" (Luke 5:10).

The local church is the best medium of evangelism available with every member called to be a witness. New converts are usually zealous with witnessing. They have come freshly from the world and many contacts can see their changed lives and be drawn into the church. The longer you are in the church the less contact you have with people of the world.

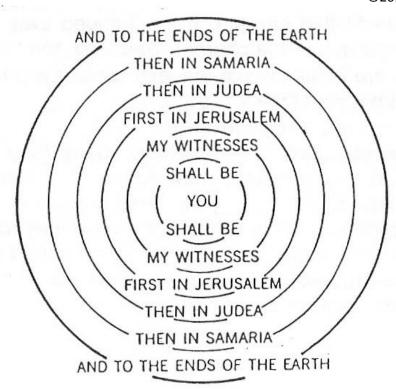
New converts have many they can witness to with their new found life in Jesus Christ. Encourage new converts and members to begin witnessing where they are and then allow God to open doors around you. Churches will always grow when an effort is made to reach out to people.

Churches will be healthy when they reach out and bring new people into the family of God.

- Jerusalem represents the local church. This becomes the base for evangelism.
- Judaea represents the geographical area that surrounds the local church.
- Samaria represents the outcasts of society who no one would normally want to be associated with. This could also include a further region from your center (Jerusalem).
- Uttermost part of the earth represents World Missions. Every church needs to be involved
 in World Missions no matter where they are located. World Missions is the responsibility of
 the entire church. Churches in Africa, Europe, Central America, etc. all need to be involved
 in reaching the world. Acts 1:8 was written to every Spirit filled believer no matter where
 they live, throughout all time.

Acts 1:8 is an outline for witnessing in the Book of Acts.

1. Jerusalem	Acts 1-7
2. Judaea	Acts 8-12
3. Samaria	Acts 8-12
4. Uttermost parts of the Eart	h Acts 13-28



The chart is taken from *The Church Growth Handbook* by William M. Easum. It illustrates the growth principle: Start witnessing and evangelizing where you are and work your way from there in an ever widening circle.

Study Questions
What are three types of unconverted people in the world today?
2. Why will these three groups be lost when Jesus comes?
3. Where is the Ever Widening Circle of World Evangelism found?
4. Where is a good place to start witnessing? Why?

5. What is the best medium of evangelism available?
6. Why are new converts good witnesses?
7. What will happen when churches make an effort to reach out around them?
8. What does Jerusalem, Judaea, Samaria and the uttermost part represent?
Additional Notes

First United Pentecostal Church and Evangelism

"And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ" (Acts 5:42).

od's formula for evangelism is found in Psalm 126:5-6, "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

- A. Action: "Goeth forth." God is depending on us.
- B. Attitude: "And weepeth" God wants us to have an unselfish concern.
- C. Conditions: "Bearing precious seed."
- D. Results: "Shall doubtless come again, with rejoicing, bringing..."
- Go forth in His name.
- Weep for the lost.
- Bear precious seed.
- Reap a harvest.



The reason why there are many non-church goers is because there are many non-going churches.

Acts 5:42 New Testament Evangelism:

- Daily Everyday Evangelism
- In the Temple Public Evangelism
- In every house Personal (house to house) evangelism
- They Every believer evangelism
- Ceased not Whole-hearted evangelism
- To teach Instruction evangelism
- And to preach Preach evangelism
- Jesus Christ Christ centered evangelism

A good definition of evangelism:
"Sharing Christ in the power of the Holy
Spirit and leaving the results up to God."

We play an important and active role in the winning of souls but we will not be held responsible

for the choices made by those whom we witness to. God will bless our efforts if we will make the effort to be used by Him. We must be ready at all times to be a witness for Jesus Christ.

The best way to win people is by becoming their friend. This is sometimes referred to as "Friendship Evangelism." This is when we build a caring relationship with someone who does not go to church. After showing him or her friendship we invite them to come to church. It is difficult to win someone to Jesus Christ without first winning them to yourself.

A little girl was terrified by a thunder and lightning storm and rushed into her parent's room. The father tried to console her and send her back to bed. He said, "Jesus is there in the room with you." To this the scared little girl replied, "Daddy, I know Jesus is there in the room with me, but I need someone with skin on!"

People need someone with skin to witness and care for them.

It has been said before but needs to be repeated, "People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care." Of all the evangelistic methods in use today including the large crusades, surveys show that most people are won to Christ through one-on-one evangelism.

George Barna, in his book *Evangelism that Works* outlines five methods of evangelism that can be used effectively today. (These points have been expanded.)

1. Lifestyle or Friendship Evangelism

You must "have a message and be a message." We are the only Bibles many people will ever read (2 Corinthians 3:2).

One new convert stopped coming to church. One of the members met him in the market and asked, "Why have you stopped coming to our church?" The young, discouraged convert answered, "You people do not walk what you talk." We must "practice what we preach" or better still, "preach what we practice." We must model Christ to unbelievers. This is why the members at Antioch were first called Christians; they acted like Christ.

2. Family Evangelism

This is when one family member shares the gospel with a member of his extended family. One of the advantages is the family member can readily identify the changes in the believer's life since they knew him before and after conversion. This relationship is also based on trust.

3. Confrontational Evangelism

This is when a Christian meets someone who he/she does not know and shares with the person, the Gospel. This is door-to-door or house-to-house evangelism. It can be done in the nonbeliever's home; at public places; on buses; in markets; and any place where two people might have a conversation.

4. Cell Group Evangelism

This is frequently used these days. They are small groups who meet regularly for some form of Christian activity. Teaching, prayer, and fellowship make up the aspects of the meetings. This develops a comfortable setting where nonbelievers can feel relaxed.

5. Power Evangelism

Here the Gospel is proclaimed verbally and the power of God is demonstrated through the Gifts of the Spirit (healings, deliverance, etc.).

Study Questions
1. Where is God's formula for evangelism found?
2. What makes up the four parts of this formula?
3. What are the five methods of evangelism mentioned by George Barna?
4. What is the most effective evangelism method?
5. What are some of the things that are included in a cell meeting?
6. What is "evangelism"?

Evangelism - Saved to Save Others

Adapted from Path to Righteousness by Linda Poitras

"The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise" (Proverbs 11:30).

Introduction

hat does the word "evangelism" mean to you? Do you think of large crusades, huge tent meetings, loud gospel bands attracting crowds, and speakers blaring advertisements of special meetings? For so long, we have associated these things with evangelism, and we have almost forgotten the primary purpose and meaning of the word.

The Purpose and Meaning of Evangelism

Where do we go to find this purpose and meaning? Our greatest example has always been Jesus, our Savior. He not only taught us what evangelism meant and how to do it, He practiced it. "And it came to pass, when Jesus had made an end of commanding his twelve disciples, he departed thence to teach and to preach in their cities" (Matthew 11:1).

Jesus Teaches Us the Meaning

Jesus' entire ministry was devoted to reaching the lost: "For the son of man is come to save that which was lost" (Matthew 18:11). The religious leaders of His day did not understand this, but Jesus kept repeating it for their benefit, and ours too:

- He ate with publicans and sinners after calling Matthew (Levi) to be one of His disciples (Matthew 9:12-13; Mark 2:17; Luke 5:31-32).
- He told them a parable of the lost sheep (Matthew 18:11-14).
- He went home with Zacchaeus after calling him down from the tree (Luke 19:9-10).

Jesus expected us to continue this task after He was gone. The Great Commission is clear: "And He said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15).

How is This Possible?

When we look at the task of winning the lost, the job seems impossible, especially for simple, ordinary folks like you and me. Did Jesus REALLY mean what He said? Yes! He even gave us lessons on how it was to be done – "on the job training" so to speak.

Jesus sent His disciples out two by two (Mark 6:7). He knew they would need encouragement and help along the way, so He gave them a simple plan for accomplishing this: work together. "And they departed, and went through the towns, preaching the gospel,

- and healing everywhere" (Luke 9:6). Jesus was giving them training in His work, before He left them on their own to continue it. But He never left them without help.
- The last instructions Jesus gave the disciples before He went back into heaven reminded them that this was still His whole plan for the remainder of their lives. Luke 24:45 is enlightening: "Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the Scriptures."
- In the next few verses, He once again explained to us all what evangelism is about: "And said unto them, 'Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day; And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things. And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high" (Luke 24:46-49).
- They were supposed to tarry in Jerusalem to receive "power." What kind of "power?" Most of the time, "power" is associated with faith to perform miracles or some awesome act seen by others as supernatural. But this is not correct. "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8). This "power" is the promised Gift of the Holy Ghost. One purpose and function of the Holy Ghost is that we have the "power" we need to be a witness for Jesus. This includes power to win the lost by teaching them to observe all He commanded in His Word.

Who is Involved?

Jesus meant for everyone who knows Him to share that knowledge with everyone they meet or have a chance to talk to.

- Revelation 22:17 tells us, "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." The Spirit of God inspired John to write, hoping to inspire the church of the Living God to invite everyone who wants salvation to come to Christ. Now that the church is full of the "power" to witness, we have no excuse.
- Pastors need to be aware of the need to train converts to win souls for the kingdom. This is not a job just for the ministry, it is for *everyone*.

How Do I Take Part in Evangelism?

Many people would love to become personal evangelists, but they have no idea how to go about it. Here are seven keys to sharing your faith more effectively, as found in an article by Peter Lowe, in the *New Man* magazine – September/October 1995:

- The word "gospel" means good news. We do not need to apologize or be ashamed of the message we have. We know what it takes to keep someone from spending eternity in hell!
- Share the benefits first. This follows an idea presented by David Wilkerson, called the "lamb chop method" of evangelism. If you see a dog with a dirty, rotten bone, you would not go up to him and try to remove the bone. If you did, he would only growl at you, try to bite

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you, and hang on to his bone even harder. What you should do, is throw out a nice juicy "lamb chop" in front of the dog, and see how quickly he will drop his torrent old bone for the nice juicy one.

- Do not downplay the cost. Jesus did not make light of the value of salvation. Remember the parable of the "Pearl of Great Price?" When you find something as valuable as salvation for your soul, it is worth whatever it costs. Present Jesus and the price He paid on Calvary, and people will willingly give up anything and everything to follow Him. "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me" (John 12:32). Claim that promise!
- Pray passionately. Passionate praying is specific. Make a prayer list of ten people about whose salvation you are most concerned. Then talk to God about them. When you have done this, go and talk to those people about God. Prayer is essential to soul winning.
- Speak their language. This is not talking about your dialect or language (such as English, Twi, French, etc.). It means the way you explain to people. Do not talk to unbelievers in the language of the church. Many people have never heard or understood about repentance, water baptism, or many other things that are common words to a believer. Talk to them in a way that they will know exactly what you mean. Translate the message of Jesus to fit today's world.
- Be passionate about your faith. "Passion" is defined by Webster's Encyclopedic Dictionary as: "intense or violent emotion." Be sold on what you are trying to sell others. They will see your convictions before listening to your arguments.
- Evangelism is for your benefit too. Philemon, verse 6 says, "That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus." Our faith grows by expression, so if we want to keep our faith, we have to share it!

Results and Rewards of Personal Evangelism

The Results: The desired result of effective evangelism is to bring the convert to a place of decision. Not all will accept the message of Jesus Christ, but they must be brought to a place where they have to make up their minds if they will live for God or continue living in sin (Acts 17:32-34).

The Rewards: The practice of evangelism towards unbelievers will also bring some results to the one doing the evangelism. These results are rewards.

- Paul told Timothy that he would save himself and those who heard him (1 Timothy 4:11-16).
- We actually speed up the coming of the Lord the second time when we continue to win souls everywhere we go (Matthew 24:14).
- Soul winners will shine like the stars forever (Daniel 12:3).
- When we evangelize, we actually save souls from death (James 5:20).

Jesus always had a plan. He fulfilled His part and sent His Spirit to give us the "power" to fulfill our part. What is the final result? That Jesus may be known, loved, honored, praised, and made Lord of His chosen people. What a great task! What a glorious opportunity! What a blessed hope!

Conclusion

If we know someone is dying with only a few days to live, we get concerned. But if we know someone who has the cure for their disease, would we not rush to give it to them? Why do we not take our responsibility as soul winners this seriously? Paul gave us an idea of how important soul winning is when he wrote the church at Corinth: "To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some" (1 Corinthians 9:22).

Most of us, (at one time or other), have failed to take an opportunity to tell someone about Jesus. We would be much quicker to do this if we really believed that lost souls will spend eternity in a literal, burning hell (Revelation 20:15).

You cannot win the whole world. But you can win one. Jesus never asked us to win the whole world alone. He asked each one of us to win one, and to keep on doing that until all those around us who are lost have heard the gospel and have come to a place of decision. Then each of those should win one. The whole world can be reached, one soul at a time. Our job is for "each one to reach one."

	Study Questions
1.	What is the purpose and meaning of "evangelism?" Support your answer with Scripture.
2. winnir	List three (3) examples (with Scripture reference) of Jesus teaching us the meaning of ng the lost. 1)
	2)
	3)
3. follow	List three points (on the job training) with Scripture reference, that Jesus gave His vers to help them understand how to win the lost. 1)

2)
3)
Who is supposed to be involved in world evangelism? Support with Scripture.
List and briefly explain the seven (7) keys to sharing your faith as mentioned in this
1)
1)
2)
3)
4)
4)
5)
6)
7)
List (with Scripture reference) four (4) rewards of personal evangelism. 1)
2)
3)
4)
4)

A Place Called "There"

"And there they preached the gospel" (Acts 14:7).

Beyond the Open Door

he early preachers of the gospel looked for open doors of opportunity. These doors permitted them to preach the gospel so they took advantage of them by walking through them. In Acts 14:27; we read that a door of faith was opened unto the Gentiles. Paul mentioned a great door that was opened to him in 1 Cor. 16:9. Again in 2 Cor. 2:12 he speaks of a door that was opened to him, by the Lord, to preach the gospel.

In Revelation 3:8 the Lord promised the church at Philadelphia, "...I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it..."

Their burning desire to spread the truth into the whole world is summed up by Paul in 1 Corinthians 9:16:

"For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!"

"To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some" (1 Cor. 9:22).

Their vision for world evangelism caused them to be sensitive to open doors of opportunity all around them. They preached the gospel anywhere that a door was opened to them.

They were not just content to have the truth and pride themselves in being separated from the world. They also wanted to touch the world like Jesus did.

One songwriter wrote:

"How can we reach a world we never touch?

How can we show them Christ, if we never show them love?

Just to say we care will never be enough.

How can we reach a world we never touch?" (Carouthers)

We can touch the world by fulfilling the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20) and the Great Commandment (Matthew 22:36).

Margaret Calhoun in her book, Evangelism suggests five commands of the Great Commission.

1. Go	Mark 16:15
2. Preach	Mark 16:15
3. Teach all nations	Matthew 28:19
4. Baptize	Matthew 28:19
5. Observe all things	Matthew 28:20

In this lesson we will look at the various places in the Book of Acts where the commands of the Great Commission were obeyed.

Mass Evangelism

This is evangelism to a large group usually in the form of a crusade.

Acts 2:14-41 Peter

Personal Evangelism

This is evangelism by one person to one person or a small group.

Jesus Himself began His ministry as a personal evangelist when He won Andrew. He also closed His ministry with being a personal evangelist as He won the thief on the cross. This took place just minutes before His death (Luke 23:43).

Personal Witnessing in the Book of Acts can be seen in Acts 2:46-47; 5:42; 20:20; Acts 8:26-40 (Ethiopian Eunuch); 16:14-15 (Lydia); 16:25-34 (Jailer); 18:24-26 (Apollos).

House to House Evangelism

- Acts 10 Peter and Cornelius' Household
- Acts 5:42

Prayer Meeting Evangelism

- Acts 3 Peter and John
- Acts 16:14-15 Lydia

Temple (Church Services)

Acts 5:20-21; 25, 28-29

City Evangelism

 Acts 8:5, 8; 18:10; 14:21-22 Cities are important because many people go to the city to look for work and to further their education. They return back to their villages from time to time and can take the gospel back with them. Cities must be reached because this is where most of the people are.

Rev. J. R. Richardson in his seminar entitled "Waking the Giant" stated that we must "train men to meet the challenge of a new day...Tribal village evangelism is needed in many areas however...more and more of the population is no longer villages but larger metropolitan cities. How will we meet the challenge? If we are going to reach the people, we will have to go where they are."

School Evangelism

 Acts 19:9-10 School of one Tyranus. Schools are the crossroads of evangelism. Students come from all over to attend and return back to their homes. The result of Paul's preaching and teaching yielded all of Asia hearing the gospel.

Prison Ministry

Acts 16:25-33

Preached in Available Places of Worship

Acts 14:1

Radio/Publishing Evangelism

Acts 13:49

Power Evangelism

- Acts 14:7-11
- Acts 3
- Acts 19:9-12 The gospel is first proclaimed verbally and then the power of God is demonstrated through the gifts of the Spirit resulting in healings, miracles, deliverance, etc.

Ladies Meetings Evangelism

Acts 16:13

Village Evangelism

 Acts 8:25 There are millions of unreached villages around the world whose people have never heard of the name of Jesus.

One missionary went into a village and asked a shopkeeper if he knew Jesus. After thinking a moment the old man replied, "Sir I've lived in this village all of my life and I know everyone that lives here.

There is no one by that name in this village. If you go to the next village, perhaps you can find the person you are looking for there."

Wherever people are, they must be reached with the life changing and saving gospel of Jesus Christ.

"... they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word" (Acts 8:4).

Study Questions
What are the five commands of the Great Commission?
What type of evangelistic method did Jesus use to begin and to end His ministry?
Locate a place in Acts where mass evangelism was conducted.
What is "power evangelism"?
Why is city evangelism important?
What is one example of personal evangelism in the book of Acts?"
How did preachers in the book of Acts find places to preach?

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8. The burning desire of the Apostles to spread the gospel to the whole world is summed up in which Scripture?
9. Where did the early preachers preach in the Book of Acts?
10. What was the result of Paul's preaching and teaching in the school of one Tyranus?
Additional Notes
Additional Notes

All is All, That's All

"And the word of the Lord was published throughout all the region" (Acts 13:49).

Lord throughout West Africa. She has served more than thirty-seven years under missionary appointment with the UPCI. Many of those years have been spent in the nation of Ghana, but she has also taught pastors in Bible Schools in most of the West African nations. She is now involved in a new phase of ministry called the International Teaching Ministry. This lesson is dedicated to Sister Lund, who has a continuous focus and vision for training. Like the lady who brought the alabaster box of precious ointment, broke it, and poured it over the head of Jesus, Sister Lund "...hath done what she could" (Mark 14:8). Jesus said concerning the lady, "Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, this also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her" (Mark 14:9). As this gospel is being preached in many West African fields, what Sister Lund has done in spreading the Word of God throughout the years is continually being spoken of.

In 1998 the nation of Ghana experienced an energy crisis, partly due to the lack of rains to fill the Akosombo Dam (the main source of power supply). One day in a prayer meeting someone came to Sister Lund and asked in a complaining tone, "What do you think of this power problem?" Sister Lund responded, energetically, "God has not seen fit to send the rains. That's all!"

Students in the Bible School had heard Sister Lund say, "That's all!" so often that it became her private trademark; often repeated among the students. She would (and still does) throw up her hands and proclaim, "That's all!"

Sister Lund's trademark has now become the basis for this lesson. The word "all" is not only one of Sister Lund's favorite words; it is one of God's too. "All" appears nearly 5,500 times throughout the Bible or an average of five times per chapter. Seventeen pages of references where the word "all" is used in the Bible were scanned in preparation of this lesson.

What Does "All" Mean

Dick Eastman, in an excellent, life changing, vision-stirring book entitled Beyond Imagination wrote, "Clearly it is one of the most vital words in Scripture. As someone wisely said, 'All means all, and that's all all means."

To get a bigger understanding of this little word, let us look at the Webster's Encyclopedic Dictionary of the English Language to see how "all" is defined. As an adjective, "all" means "the

whole quantity of; the whole sum or number of; the greatest possible." As a pronoun, "all" means "everyone." As an adverb, "all" means "entirely, completely." As a noun, all means "everything, one's total possessions." Sounds like, "all means all, that's all!"

It All Starts Right Here...

"Hear, O Israel: the LORD our God is one LORD: And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with *all* thine heart, and with *all* thy soul, and with *all* thy might" (Deuteronomy 6:4-5).

"...For there is one God; and there is none other but he: And to love him with *all* the heart, and with *all* the understanding, and with *all* the soul, and with *all* the strength, and to love his neighbour as himself, is more than *all* whole burnt offerings and sacrifices. And when Jesus saw that he answered discreetly, he said unto him, Thou art not far from the kingdom of God..." (Mark 12:32-34).

Here you see the two greatest commandments ever given. There is none any greater. When we love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength; and then love our neighbors (both near and far) we will want to take the Gospel to the entire world.

"I Repeat, I Meant All the World"

Bill and Amy Stearns in their book Catch the Vision 2000 wrote of an American poet named Carl Sandburg. Carl had brought his roommate at college home for a visit. Carl's old auntie was hard of hearing. When Carl introduced his friend to her he yelled, "Auntie, I want you to meet my roommate, Al Specknoodle." His auntie could not hear and just shook her head. Carl tried once more, "This is my roommate, Al Specknoodle." The old woman twisted her face and shook her head again. The young man shouted, "Al Specknoodle." Finally the auntie burst into tears, "It's no use Carl. No matter how many times you say it, it still sounds like Al Specknoodle."

Bill and Amy then explained, "No matter how many times or how obviously God has announced His clear purpose on earth to bless every people, it seems His people never quite get the message." We always think that someone else will take the gospel to the lost. It is someone else's responsibility. No, it is your responsibility or better still, it is the responsibility of *all* Christians in *all* churches, among *all* tribes, in *all* nations, throughout *all* the world.

Centuries ago, John Chrysostom said, "We have a whole Christ for our salvation, a whole Bible for our staff, a whole church for our fellowship, and a whole world for our parish."

The Whole Gospel. . . to the Whole World. . . By the Whole Church

All of the Gospel To All of the World By All of the Church

"...The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest" (Matthew 9:37-38). This Scripture outlines for us two great problems in World Evangelism. First of all, there is a big, vast harvest. Secondly, there are few labourers.

"Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? Behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest" (John 4:35). Jesus is saying here, "Open your eyes! The fields are ripe for harvest."

We, who have received salvation (Acts 1:8) are debtors to those who have never heard this Gospel before. (Romans 1:14-16) There are two great groups of people in the world.

- 1. There are those who have heard or who have the opportunity to hear.
- 2. Then, there are those who have never heard or cannot hear because there isn't a preacher (Romans 10:13-15).

What is the Color of the Missionary's Feet?

In the Scripture mentioned above, we notice the beautiful feet of those that preach the gospel. What color are the feet of the missionary? Many people think that the missionary's feet are white, but they can be any color. It is true that in the past most of the missionaries came from North America (or before that Europe). But there is a shift in Christianity being experienced worldwide. Most of the Christians today are found in the developing nations of the world. We are all responsible for taking the Gospel to **all** nations.

The Indigenous Church

The national churches in each country need to start focusing on evangelism and becoming established as an indigenous church. This means that the church should be **self-governing** (the leadership is taken from among the nationals); **self-propagating** (nationals are evangelizing their nations); **self-financing** (as an adult church the nationals are financing the church). But, it does not stop here. The circle is complete when **nationals are sent as missionaries** to other countries. The color of the missionary should be changing, or better yet, joining the present missionaries. There should be black, white, red, and yellow feet marching throughout the whole world.

Evangelism is our primary purpose of being on the earth. Spurgeon said, "Soul-winning is the chief business of the Christian minister; indeed, it should be the main pursuit of every believer."

Paul's purpose in his daily life was to "save some."

"...I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some" (1 Corinthians 9:22).

The All-Nations Message

"Who will have *all* men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2:4).

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

"...For we shall all stand before the judgement seat of Christ" (Romans 14:10).

"For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive" (1 Corinthians 15:22).

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." What is sin? "All unrighteousness is sin..." (1 John 1:9).

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise...not willing that any should perish, but that *all* should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9).

"Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one for you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to *all* that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call" (Acts 2:38-39).

The All-Nations Commission

"...All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations...Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you..." (Matthew 28:18-20).

"And he said unto them, Go ye into *all* the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15).

"And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among *all* nations, beginning at Jerusalem" (Luke 24:47).

"And the gospel must first be published among all nations" (Mark 13:10).

"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in *all* the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Matthew 24:14).

The Last Days

God has promised to do a great work among **all** the nations in the world in our day.

"Behold ye among the heathen, and regard, and wonder marvellously: for I will work a work in your days, which ye will not believe, though it be told you" (Habakkuk 1:5).

"And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon *all* flesh..." (Acts 2:17).

Study Questions

How many times does "all" appear in the Bible?
How many times, on the average, does "all" appear in each chapter of the Bible?
3. What does "all" mean?
4. What do we learn from the Al Specknoodle story?
5. According to Matthew 9:37-38 what are the two great problems of world evangelism?
6. What prayer request did Jesus give in these Scriptures?
7. Who are the two great groups of people in the world?

8. What color are the feet of the missionary?
9. Why?
10. What are the four aspects of the Indigenous Church? Explain each one.1)
-,
2)
3)

4)
11. What did Spurgeon say about soulwinning?
12. What was Paul's purpose in his daily life?
13. What is promised in the last days according to Acts 2:17?
14. What did God command in Deuteronomy 6:4-5?
15. Where should the gospel be preached? (Use the word "all" in your answer)
16. What is sin?
17. Who has received all power according to Matthew 28:18?
Additional Notes