

THE GOSPEL PLAN OF SALVATION

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|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. HEAR | Romans 10:17 |
| 2. BELIEVE | Mark 16:16 |
| 3. CONFESS | Acts 8:37 |
| 4. REPENT | Acts 3:19 |
| 5. BE BAPTIZED | Acts 2:38 |
| 6. BE FAITHFUL | Revelation 2:10 |

“WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?”

How would you answer this question? Why would someone even ask you? Look at what prompted the question in the Scriptures:

- Acts 2 – The Day of Pentecost
- Acts 9 – Saul of Tarsus
- Acts 16 – The Philippian Jailer

Why is it important to know the answer?

BUT **S**ANCTIFY
THE **L**ORD GOD IN
YOUR **H**EARTS,
AND **A**LWAYS BE
RE**D**Y TO GIVE A DEFENSE
TO **E**VERYONE
WHO **A**SKS YOU
A RE**A**SON FOR THE HOPE
THAT **I**S IN YOU,
WITH
ME**E**KNESS
AND **F**EAR. 1 Peter 3:15

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WHAT IS EVANGELISM?

Don't be scared by this word! An evangelist is simply "a bringer of good news." The gospel is the good news of Christ, thus the evangelist is one who brings the gospel. In fact, "evangelist" and "gospel" come from the same root Greek word: εὐαγγελίζω.

Where does the Bible talk about evangelism?

- Matthew 28:19-20
- Mark 16:15
- 2 Timothy 4:5
- Acts 8:1 & 8:4
- 2 Timothy 2:2

Who should be an evangelist? What can we conclude from these verses?

The apostles were the original recipients of the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15); Christians today are under the "Perpetual Commission" (2 Timothy 2:2).

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PREPARE YOURSELF

Is your behavior important? Why or why not?

- 1 Peter 1:13-16
- Matthew 5:14-16
- 1 Timothy 4:12
 - ✓ Love (1 Corinthians 13:4-8)
 - ✓ Spirit (Philippians 4:4)
 - ✓ Faith (Romans 1:16)
 - ✓ Purity (2 Timothy 2:22)
- 3 John 11

“Everyone hates hypocrisy. Once someone believes you to be preaching one thing and practicing another, all hope for a receptive ear will vanish. You will be tuned out and completely minimized. For you to be a natural evangelist, you need to align your hidden behaviors with your public message. Of course, you are not going to be perfect. You will sin and make mistakes, but blatant hypocrisy will be detrimental to God using you in His mission.” (Matthew W. Morine, *Natural Evangelism*, p. 18)

How has *your* behavior affected another person’s perception of the church?

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IDENTIFY PROSPECTS

People have two options: they can either go into eternity through the wide gate or the narrow gate (Matthew 7:13-14). It is our duty as Christians to plant and water and allow God to give the increase through His gospel (1 Corinthians 3:6).

Jesus' parable of the sower is the gold standard of evangelism (Luke 8:5-15). Remember: Wherever you are, whoever you're with, spread the seed! You don't get to choose who hears and who doesn't...everyone should have the opportunity to hear and decide for himself whether he will obey the gospel!

Jesus identifies four types of soil:

- The wayside (8:5, 12)
- The rock (8:6, 13)
- The thorns (8:7, 14)
- The good ground (8:8, 15)

Until the seed is sown, we do not know how someone will respond! Sow as you go, wherever you go!

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GET INVOLVED...NO EXCUSES!

The excuses of Moses:

- I'm not worthy (Exodus 3:11)
- I don't know enough (Exodus 3:13)
- They won't believe me (Exodus 4:1)
- I'm not a gifted speaker (Exodus 4:10)
- Anyone but me (Exodus 4:13)

The responses of God:

- I will be with you (Exodus 3:12; Matt. 28:19-20)
- I will tell you what you need to know (Exodus 3:14; 2 Peter 1:3; 2 Timothy 3:16-17)
- I will confirm your testimony (Exodus 4:2-9; John 20:30-31)
- It's not your power, but Mine (Exodus 4:11-12; Romans 1:16; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5)
- "The anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses" (Exodus 4:14; Esther 4:14)

God does not call the qualified; He qualifies the called.
ALL Christians are called to share their faith, and through
His Word all Christians are qualified to do just that!

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GO!

Evangelistic tools:

- Ivan Stewart's "Open Bible Study" and *Go Ye Means Go Me*
- Stephen Rogers' *The Gospel Made Simple* and *Evangelism Made Simple*
- Michael Shank's *Muscle and a Shovel*

These tools are useful, but not essential. We have everything we need in the Scriptures (2 Timothy 3:16).

The example of Paul:

- Teaching Lydia (Acts 16:13)
- Teaching in Athens (Acts 17:16-17)
- Teaching at the Areopagus (Acts 17:21-23; 17:32-34)
- Teaching Felix (Acts 24:22-25)
- Teaching Festus and Agrippa (Acts 26:24-28)

Pray that you can lead someone to understand and obey, but even if their response is not immediately favorable, let us not burn bridges and prevent further influence and teaching.

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KEEP GOING!

Don't. Give. Up. (Galatians 6:9)

Keep praying...*just like Jesus did!* (John 17:20-21)

Watch for opportunities to share the Lord's invitation.
(Matthew 11:28-30)

Watch *your* attitude, *your* words, *your* social media presence! (Ephesians 4:29,31-32; Galatians 6:1-2; Acts 18:24-28)

Why is all of this important? Who will be punished?
(2 Thessalonians 1:7-9)

- Those who do not _____
- Those who do not _____

“Do you have a lost friend? Do you intend to try and talk to that person about Jesus? If not, then maybe you should ask yourself one final question. What kind of friend am I?” (Kerry W. Williams, *Fishers of Teens*, p. 39)