

Developing an Effective System of Evangelism in the Local Church

Dr. Tim Madding

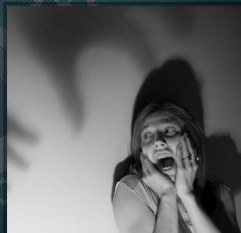


The Good News Has Bad Press



Why Christians Don't Evangelize

Fear of the E-Word —
When they see or hear
that word they turn and
run.



Why Christians Don't Evangelize

Limiting Evangelism to
activities that feel
unnatural — knock on
doors, stand on street
corners, witness in
pushy ways.



Why Christians Don't Evangelize

Fear of Rejection —
Evangelism means
making ourselves
vulnerable as we share
our story.



Why Christians Don't Evangelize

Spiritual Insecurity—
Insecurity about their
own life in Christ. “What
right do I have to tell
others about Christianity
when I don't seem to be
able to live it very well
myself?”



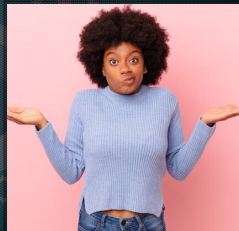
Why Christians Don't Evangelize

Look Fanatical— They
fear looking like
religious people who
shoved their brand of
religion down people's
throats.



Why Christians Don't Evangelize

Don't Know How—
Many have not learned
the basics of sharing
their faith.



Why Christians Don't Evangelize

Biblical Insecurity—
Many feel insecure
about their knowledge
of the Bible and
Christian faith.



Why Christians Don't Evangelize

Believe People Don't
Want to Hear—
Assuming others aren't
interested in hearing
about Jesus.



Must Address These Issues

Fear of Evangelism Look Fanatical
Feels Unnatural Don't Know How
Fear of Rejection Biblical Insecurity
Spiritual Insecurity People Don't Want to Hear

What is Evangelism?

North American Division
Evangelism Institute
SAC Theological Summary

What is Evangelism?

Evangelism:
Eu: Good
Aggelos: Angel, Messenger

North American Division
Evangelism Institute
SAC Theological Summary

What is Evangelism?

εὐαγγέλιον — “gospel” — to describe what is said (Mark 1:14–15)

εὐαγγελιστες — “evangelist” — to describe the person who is telling the gospel (Acts 21:8; Eph. 4:11)

εὐαγγελίζω — “to proclaim the gospel” — to describe the activity of telling the gospel (Rom. 10:15).

What is Evangelism?

Our attempt to describe what happens when someone, the euangelistes, tells the euangelion, which is the ‘good news’ about Jesus Christ.

You cannot separate the good message from the good messenger.

“The manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places.” Ephesians 3:10

“But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.” 2 Corinthians 3:18

Impersonal Evangelism

Impersonal forms of evangelism are unsuccessful because they lack a individual connection.



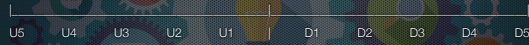
What is Evangelism?

Evangelism is the process of bringing people into a saving relationship with Jesus Christ, recreating in them the image of God and preparing them for the second coming of Jesus Christ.

Our Mission

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations.”
Matthew 28:19

Spiritual Address



Rainer Scale

North American Division
Evangelism Institute
SQA Theological Seminary

Jesus Calls the Twelve

“And He went up on the mountain and summoned those whom He Himself wanted, and they came to Him. And He appointed twelve, so that they would be with Him and that He could send them out to preach, and to have authority to cast out the demons.” Mark 3:13-15

North American Division
Evangelism Institute
SQA Theological Seminary

Jesus Sends the Twelve

“And He summoned the twelve and began to send them out in pairs, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits.” Mark 6:7

North American Division
Evangelism Institute
SQA Theological Seminary

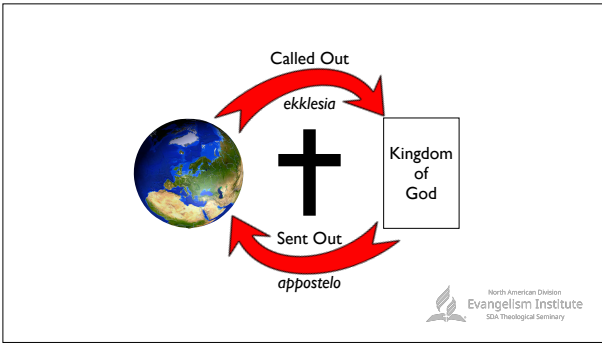
“And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.” Ephesians 4:11-13

North American Division
Evangelism Institute
SQA Theological Seminary

What is Evangelism?

“The church is God’s appointed agency for the salvation of men. It was organized for service, and its mission is to carry the gospel to the world. From the beginning it has been God’s plan that through His church shall be reflected to the world His fullness and His sufficiency.” Ellen G. White, Acts of the Apostles, pg. 9

North American Division
Evangelism Institute
SQA Theological Seminary



Personal Evangelism

“The first works of the church were seen when the believers sought out friends, relatives, and acquaintances, and with hearts overflowing with love, told the story of what Jesus was to them, and what they were to Jesus.” Ellen White, Testimonies to Ministers, pg. 168

North American Division
Evangelism Institute
SDA Theological Seminary

Personal Evangelism

“God is the great Master Worker, and by His providence He prepares the way for His work to be accomplished. He provides opportunities, opens up lines of influence, and channels of working. If His people are watching the indications of His providence, and stand ready to cooperate with Him, they will see a great work accomplished.” Ellen White, 6T 24

North American Division
Evangelism Institute
SDA Theological Seminary

Sharing Jesus

“Statistics in among Seventh-day Adventist churches tell us that 80% of those brought into the church and remain loyal are brought by a friend. With all the possible options of evangelism available today, statistically the most effective means is friend to friend. When someone comes to know Christ and joins the church by a means other than a friend, that person often times stops attending after a while. Research has shown that 70% who still believe in Christ but have dropped out of the church were brought in by a stranger.” Building Redemptive Friendships, Ed Keyes

North American Division
Evangelism Institute
SDA Theological Seminary

Sharing Jesus

“The most effective way of getting people to evaluate your church is for you to invite the nonchurched people you know and with whom you have a good relationship.” George Barna, Evangelism that Works

North American Division
Evangelism Institute
SDA Theological Seminary

Sharing Jesus

“82 percent of the unchurched are at least ‘somewhat likely’ to attend church if they are invited.” Thom Rainer, *The Unchurched Next Door*, pg. 24

Step One: Develop an Evangelism System

Step Two: Equip the Church

Key Elements of Equipping

1. Have a system of discipleship that is easy and well-known by the church.

Key Elements of Equipping

2. Train in Sharing Faith

Missional Training Process

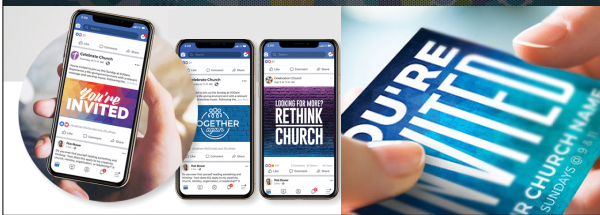
1. Going Next Door (Say Hi, Serving)
2. Inviting Over
3. Common Interests
4. Parties
5. Share Testimony
6. Inviting to Church

Equipping Tools



Key Elements of Equipping

3. Equip with Resources



Step Three: Connecting with Guests

1. Hospitality System- A Welcoming Church
2. Call for Decisions
3. Contact Information

Step Four: Preparing for Baptism

1. Personal Visit
2. Bible Studies
3. Small Groups
4. Reaping Series

Step Five: Continue Discipleship

1. Small Groups
2. New Member Class
3. Utilizing Gifts
4. Equip in Sharing Faith



Developing an Effective System of Evangelism in the Local Church

Dr. Tim Madding