

SIMPLE EFFECTIVE EVANGELISM





Simple, Effective Evangelism (SEE Course)

Introduction

Mat 28:19-20 *Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, (20) teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.*

We all know & love this scripture – we refer to it as the “Great Commission” and we know that it is one of the final instructions given to all believers by our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ.

To fulfill this commission is however easier said than done. Many of us really want to share the good news (Gospel) of Jesus with others – but we don’t know where to start or the “how to” of evangelism.

This guide to efficient, yet simple evangelism will endeavor to assist believers, young & old to learn how to evangelise others, as well as making new disciples, who will in turn evangelise others and effectively start a chain reaction of **disciples making disciples making disciples**.

Evangelism is not “rocket science” – many willing believers are absolutely terrified at the prospect of having to talk to others about Christ and leading them to salvation.

They need to realise however, that it really is just sharing the good news of Christ – the same good news that every born again believer already knows. We must realise that we cannot save anybody – our responsibility is to lead them to a place where they are willing to repent, and commit their hearts & lives to Jesus, and that’s all there is to it – we can’t do more than that – God is the one that saves their souls.

In the next 6 sessions we will learn how to easily & efficiently share the good news of Christ with others so that God can save their souls.

(Ref: Is 6:8 / Mat 9:37-38)

Session 1

Attributes of an Evangelist

What is an evangelist? The word evangelist comes from the Greek word εὐαγγέλιον (translated as euangelion) via the Latin term evangelium as used in the Four Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John (also known as the Four Evangelists). The Greek word εὐαγγέλιον originally meant, to be the messenger for good news (εὖ = "good", ἀγγέλλω = "I bring a message" i.e. "I bring a good message").

To be an efficient messenger of the good news (Gospel) of Christ, an evangelist needs to have certain inherent, yet vital attributes:

1. He/She must be a born again (John 3 v 3), Holy Spirit filled believer.

It is quite impossible to do the work of an evangelist effectively, without the help of the Holy Spirit. Jesus Himself only started His earthly ministry after He was baptised by John the Baptist in the river Jordan & the Holy Spirit descended upon Him.

*Mat 3:13-17 Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. (14) And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?" (15) But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him. (16) When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw **the Spirit of God** descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. (17) And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."*

*Act 10:37-38 that word you know, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee after the baptism which John preached: (38) how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth **with the Holy Spirit** and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.*

Jesus also told His disciples in Acts 1 v 8 that they must wait until an appointed time before they started ministering in Jerusalem, for He knew that they would need the assistance of the Holy Spirit to carry out their commission and be able to witness efficiently.

Act 1:8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Act 4:33 And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all.

Discussion: Do you think it's possible to have an evangelical anointing on your life without the help of the Holy Spirit? Why not?

2. He/She must have a Passion for the lost

Joh 3:16-17 *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. (17) For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.*

Rom 5:8 *But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

It is clear from the above verses that God the Father & our Lord Jesus Christ loves us tremendously. Joh 15:13 *Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.*

If we are to evangelise without feeling burdened or without feeling that “we have to” instead of “we want to” we MUST have a passion for lost people – the same kind of passion that Jesus had when He willingly was martyred and gave His life for us on the cross.

“If you love what you do – you will never work a day in your life”.

If you love peoples’ souls, you will want to share the Gospel with them as often as you can. It will become an absolute pleasure and later on a necessity in your daily life to want to share the good news of Jesus with others. You need to pray & ask God to instill that same passion in your heart for the lost – without it, evangelism will become a laborious task and pretty soon you will want to give it up....

God wants all mankind to be saved – He sacrificed His only begotten Son to facilitate salvation for all of us. Are you prepared to sacrifice your child for a bunch of sinners?

2 Pe 3:9 *The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.*

We must realise how God sees an evangelist. You are performing the **“heartbeat of God”** when you lead others to salvation.

Rom 10:13-15 *For "WHOEVER CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE SAVED." (14) How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? (15) And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO PREACH THE GOSPEL OF PEACE, WHO BRING GLAD TIDINGS OF GOOD THINGS!"*

God works through believers like you and I to reach the lost, and for that reason the “Great Commission” was given to all believers – sadly, many are called but few are chosen (willing).

Discussion: Is it possible to evangelise effectively without having a passion (zeal) for the lost, hurting and broken people in the world?

3. He/She must possess a certain boldness

Act 4:31 *And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.*

1Ti 3:13 *For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a good standing and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.*

To be an effective evangelist we must speak the Word of God (proclaim the good news of Christ) with boldness - without fear of rejection or timidity. We must however guard against boldness being misunderstood by others as arrogance – therefore it is imperative to have boldness, but shrouded in humility.

We must therefore pray & ask God to give us this boldness and also to help us to stay humble. We must also realise that we need the Holy Spirit to enable this boldness in us without coming across as arrogant or haughty (high & mighty). We will quickly lose prospective converts if they see us as proud, arrogant or conceited.

One of the most effective ways of identifying with someone is to meet them at their level, meaning that we make them feel comfortable speaking to us & engaging with us, more than they would have if they felt uncomfortable speaking to us.

The apostle Paul, one of the greatest evangelists that ever existed, made this a priority in his ministry.

1Co 9:18-23 *What is my reward then? That when I preach the gospel, I may present the gospel of Christ without charge, that I may not abuse my authority in the gospel. (19) For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more; (20) and to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to those who are under the law, as under the law, that I might win those who are under the law; (21) to those who are without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ), **that I might win those who are without law**; (22) to the weak I became as weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, **that I might by all means save some**. (23) Now this I do for the gospel's sake, that I may be partaker of it with you.*

The fear of rejection is a very real threat to simple, efficient evangelism. It is only by having humble boldness in preaching the Gospel to the lost, that we can overcome this fear of sharing with others. Practical experience, knowledge of the Word of God, and super natural boldness from the Holy Spirit within us, are the catalysts of effective evangelism.

These attributes will help us to overcome the fear of sharing the good news with others and will enable us to do the work of an evangelist. 2Ti 4:5 *But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.*

Discussion: Is it possible to evangelise the lost efficiently without boldness? Will boldness without humility harm my efforts to reach the lost & broken?

4. Know your Bible, know your Bible, know your Bible

A pastor and a once good friend of mine had always made a point of teaching this example. If I were to give you a yellow R100 note – would you know that it's a fake? Of course you would. But if I were to give you a blue R100 note and it looked almost exactly like the real thing – would you then know that it was a fake? Probably not...only those who **knew** their currency (like bank tellers) would spot a very good fake note. And this is how false teachers and prophets “deceive even the elect”by mixing the truth with a lie.

Mat 7:15 *"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves."*

Mat 24:11 *Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many.*

Mat 24:24 *For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.*

But if you know your Bible & you know it really well, no one can deceive you. In the same manner, if you know your Bible, you can ensure that you teach & preach the whole truth & only the truth to others (remember...disciples making disciples making disciples).... Ensuring that the chain reaction of making disciplined learners, is done in truth and integrity according the unchanged Word of God. You can then warn new believers against these false teachers and prophets, who are there only for their own gain....money & power, authority & influence over people. These are the ones that cause hurt & division amongst people in the church, that cause new believers to leave the church hurt, broken & disillusioned. It is our responsibility to protect these people against such. The only way to do that competently, is to know your Bible.... (Ref: 2Tim3:16-17 Expansion on the Description of the Word)

Knowing your Bible will also increase your boldness in ministering to others. It will also cause you as an evangelist, to live by certain principles like for instance not being ashamed of the Gospel of Christ.

Rom 1:16 *For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.*

Mar 8:38 *For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."*

Discussion: How can I ensure that I get to know the Word of God really well?

How will this benefit me in my new evangelical ministry?

Check out www.e-sword.net to help with your Bible study.

What are the 2 most important things that I have learnt in session1 today, - that stood out the most to me?

How can I implement these 2 teachings in my everyday life & new evangelical ministry?

RE-CAP: What are the 4 essential attributes that every evangelist should have?

NOTES:

Session 2

Types of Evangelism

Mar 16:15 *And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.*

We have this command from Christ and there are many different ways of fulfilling this command. Let's look at some of the simplest yet efficient ways of evangelising the lost.

1. Demonstrative / Lifestyle Evangelism (by example)

This type of evangelism is only really effective in demonstrating your lifestyle to those that are closest to you, those who know you well. Mostly it's family & friends that see & interact with you on a daily basis that will be influenced by the way you live your life, by the way you act, re-act, speak & handle situations. It is a powerful tool to use but you need to ensure that the image you portray to them as a Christian is consistent & in line with the fruit of the Holy Spirit - *Gal 5:22*. The following is a self-study exercise you can practice for everyday life:

<u>PUT OFF</u>		<u>PUT ON</u>		<u>SCRIPTURE</u>
Purify yourself	Everything contaminating body & spirit	Perfecting	Holiness	2 COR 7:1
Lay aside	All filthiness & wickedness	Receive	Word	JAMES 1:21
Received	The flesh	Sow	Spirit	GAL 6:7,8
Crucify	The flesh	Live & Walk	In the spirit	GAL 5:16,24,25
Crucify	Old man	Be alive	To God	ROM 6:6,11
Cast off	Works of darkness	Put on	Armour of light	ROM 13:12-14
Put to death	Our members	Put on	Love	COL 3:5,9-14
Put off	Old man	Renew	Mind	EPH 4:17-32
Do not be partakers	Of the world	Walk	In the light	EPH 5:1-15
Abstain	Sexual immorality	Live	Orderly life	1 THES 4:3-12
Flee	Love of money	Pursue	Fruit of the spirit	1 TIM 6:10,11
Flee	Youthful lusts	Pursue	Faith, love, peace	2 TIM 2:22
Turn away	Evil	Love	As brothers	1 PET 3:8-11
Lay aside	All evil	Desire	The Word	1 PET 2:1,2
Escape	Corruption & lust	Diligence	Fruit of the spirit	2 PET 1:4-11
Hate, Die to	Worldly life	Keep	Spiritual life	JOHN 12:24,25
Get rid of	All hindrances	Plant, receive	More seed	MARK 4:3-20

2. Friendship (One on one) Evangelism

As the term implies, this is a very informal type of evangelism to those closest to you. Unlike lifestyle evangelism which is a passive type of evangelism, friendship evangelism is an active type. This approach evangelises by developing relationships with friends, colleagues & family and being a support system to them. It involves spending time with them, getting to know them, caring for and sharing your faith with them in a natural and organic way. You can share your faith with them in a very subtle way – not putting any pressure on them, slowly but surely winning their trust, hearts & souls for the Kingdom of God.

3. Group / Mass Evangelism

This type of evangelism is done in Groups of 10 or more and can include large groups that number into the thousands. It is usually done by prior arrangement in prisons, schools, universities, work places, hospitals, police stations, fire stations and via organised events like open air meetings and even Christian film showings (with a short evangelical talk afterwards) at your local community hall or movie theatre. This type of evangelism is usually referred to as a mass outreach, and persons speaking at such events must have experience & be well versed in the Word, in order to reach the lost at these meetings.

4. Opportunistic Evangelism (as and when)

Evangelising on an “as and when” basis requires one to be on the look-out for any & all opportunities to evangelise anyone at any time in any place. This is where your passion for the lost comes in very handy. This is a really exciting way of evangelism & usually works best if there is a catalyst (conversation starter) that gets the other person/s attention & gets them asking questions. An intriguing bumper sticker, tract or even a t-shirt with a Christian message usually works well. Once it captures the other person/s attention and they start to look inquisitive, the opportunity arises to clarify what it is they are looking at, and if asked the right questions it will give you a great opportunity to share the good news of Jesus with them.

5. Passive Evangelism

This is a great way to get started with evangelism if you’re feeling nervous & don’t know what to expect from your first attempts at evangelism. It also helps getting past that initial fear of rejection that plagues so many would-be evangelists. It usually involves the distribution of tracts, booklets, stickers & small Bibles. It can also involve Social media posts on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, other online platforms, or even WhatsApp status messages. It really is a way of dipping your toes in the “evangelism pool” and to get started, but it shouldn’t stay there though – one must strive to become more active & to grow in your calling as an evangelist as soon as possible. Many believers refute or doubt the efficiency of passive evangelism, but studies have shown that it does serve a purpose and is helpful, both for evangelists to get started, as well as for the lost to receive encouragement and inspiration and to get them interested and attracted to the Gospel message.

6. Active street Evangelism

This is probably the most difficult and frowned upon type of evangelism. It involves actively going out into the streets or door-to-door & preaching the Gospel to anyone who will listen. An easy & effective way of street evangelism is to tell people that you and some friends are out on the streets praying for people and sharing the love of God. Then, ask them if you can pray for them. More than half the people would usually say yes – many of them would even welcome it. Ask their name and pray a simple prayer over them like this: “Lord I thank you for _____. Thank you that you love him/her so much and care so deeply about them. I thank you that even though we have messed up and sinned, you gave your only son Jesus to die for us on the cross, so that we can have forgiveness and eternal life and so that we can know you personally. Lord, bless _____ in Jesus name, Amen.” Once done praying, go into what Jesus did and what we have to do to be saved. The “Romans Road” way of salvation is very effective in circumstances like this. (We will look into the “Romans Road” way of salvation in more detail in the next session). You can also share the “Sinners Prayer” with them to help lead them to Christ. I have enclosed a copy of it at the end of this session. Ensure that when doing this type of evangelism that you go out in a group for safety and that you are sensitive to the prompting of the Holy Spirit to avoid dangerous situations. Try to go out 2 by 2 – keeping to at least 4 in the group.

7. Hospitality evangelism

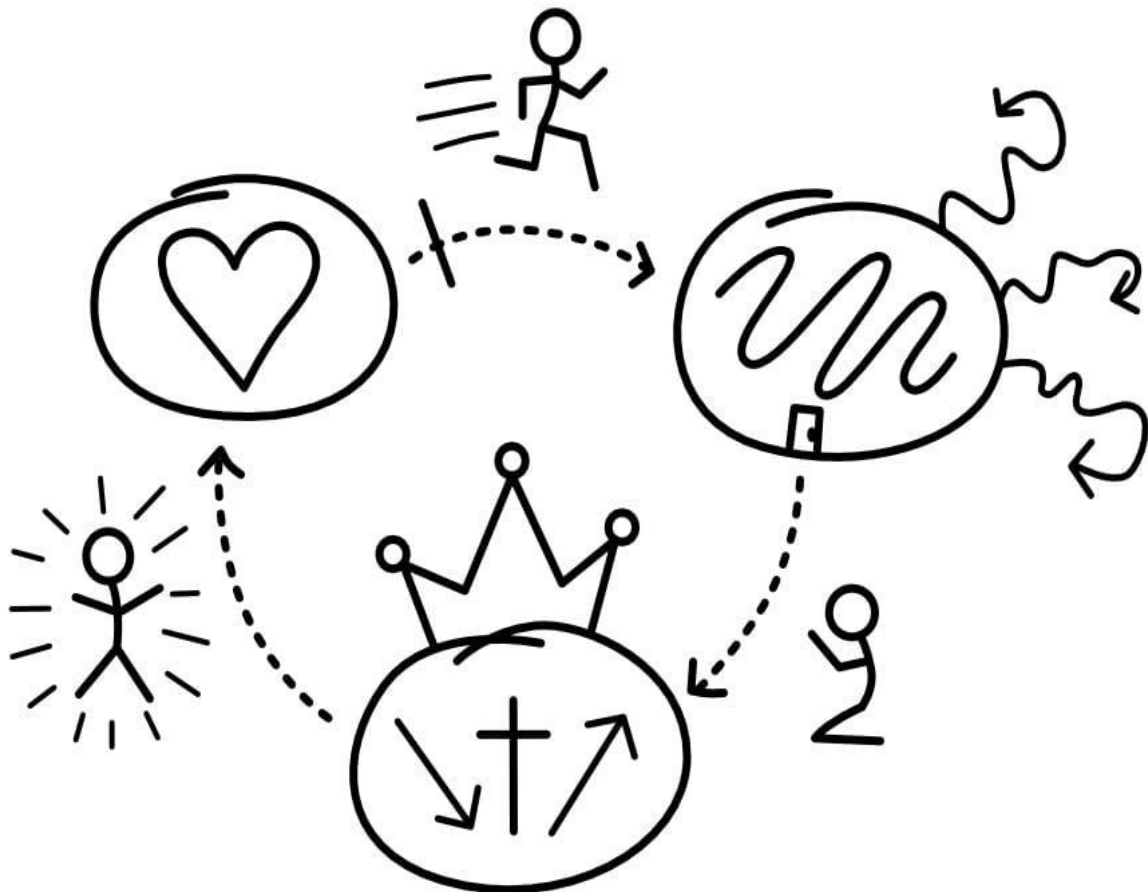
This approach uses the simple efficiency of hospitality to evangelise the lost. It involves inviting people to your home and building relationships with them. As you get to know them, you can share your faith with them in a natural, low-pressure and organic way. Much the same as friendship evangelism, but casting your net a bit further than just your immediate family & friends. It is mostly a long-term type of evangelism and can take many weeks or even months to get them to a place where they are ready to accept the Lord Jesus as their God & Saviour. So be patient...don't force them, if they are called, God will draw them unto Himself & do the work in their hearts. *Joh 6:44-45 No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day. (45) It is written in the prophets, 'AND THEY SHALL ALL BE TAUGHT BY GOD.' Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me.*

8. Service evangelism

Service evangelism is all about meeting the needs of others and showing them the love of Christ through acts of service. This could involve anything from volunteering at a local soup kitchen or street shower, to hosting a “prayer drive-through” or helping someone in your neighborhood who is going through a difficult time. Through your service to those in need, opportunities will arise for you to evangelise them and thus not just catering for their physical or financial needs, but also more importantly to their spiritual needs.

9. The 3 circles evangelism method

The three circle method is a step by step model of God's perfect plan, our sin, and what Jesus did for us. I've seen different variations of this model but essentially they all teach the same message. It's a very effective illustration method that keeps people listening to find out what each circle is about, following the steps curiously until they see the final picture. This method is really effective when evangelising children, especially between the ages of 7 & 14 years of age, but works equally well with adults of all ages.



As you can see, there are many different ways to evangelise. It is important to find the approach that best suits your personality, gifts, and circumstances. You could use more than one approach in your evangelism strategy, even multiple techniques – it all depends on the situation you find yourself in, and the method that makes you feel most comfortable. No one method is better than another. The most important thing is that you are sharing the gospel with others and pointing them to Christ.

Discussion: Pick 2 of the 9 methods of evangelism listed above as your preferred methods and tell us why these 2 methods are best suited to you.

RE-CAP: Close your study guides & name at least 5 of the different types of evangelism.

THE SINNERS PRAYER

EVERY PERSON ON THE PLANET HAS ETERNAL LIFE...

THE ONLY QUESTION IS...WHERE WILL YOU SPEND IT, IN HEAVEN, OR IN HELL?

When your body (the shell you live in) dies, your soul (the real you) lives on.

If you had to die today, where will YOU spend eternity?

Have you ever had the opportunity to dedicate your soul (self) to God?

Well...if you haven't, and if you're reading this, this is it... this is your opportunity.

Sincerely pray this prayer, and truly mean it with everything that's inside of you, and your life (soul) will be saved, because of what Jesus Christ did for you on the cross.

Heavenly Father, I believe in You, and that Your Word is true.

I believe that Jesus Christ is Your Son, and that He died on the cross, so that I may have forgiveness for my sins, and have eternal life.

I believe in my heart, and confess with my mouth, that You, Father God, raised Jesus from the dead on the third day.

Please forgive me for every sin I have ever committed, just as I now forgive everybody that has ever sinned against me, - unconditionally.

I commit to turning away from my sinful life.

Lord Jesus, come into my heart as my personal Lord and Saviour today. (Rev.3:20)

I need You to be my God and my friend.

I commit to You, my entire life, and ask You to take full control from this moment on.

Father, I pray this in the Holy name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

If you've sincerely prayed this prayer and repented from the bottom of your heart...God will see your heart and save your soul.

You may ask, "Now that I am saved, what's next?"

First of all, you need to get into a Bible-based, Holy Spirit filled church, keep on trying new churches until you've found what you are looking for.

Watch out for false Pastors and teachers who are just after your money (Matt 7).

Start reading God's Word and praying every day.

Once you have found a church, you will want to become water-baptised.

Ask the Pastor at your church about that.

The principle for this prayer is found in Romans 10: 9-10.

Session 3

The Gospel

1. What is the Gospel (Good News) of Jesus Christ?

Every born-again believer should know the good news of Jesus Christ off by heart. Many folks however complicate the good news of Christ without need. The gospel message that we should be sharing with the lost (remember – these are people that don't really know the Bible) should be a short, simple, easy to understand and uncomplicated message. Did you know that secular sales people are taught that they can make or break a sale within the 1st 30 seconds of a presentation? Well the same goes for approaching a person that you want to share the gospel with. Rule of thumb....**keep it simple!**

The gospel message can be summarised in 1 easy to remember verse in the Bible. Rom 6:23 *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.* This however is just an illustration of simplifying the message.

The 3 vital elements of the gospel message are:

- 1) All have sinned
- 2) God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to pay for our sins by giving His life on the cross
- 3) All you have to do is believe that He did, repent of your sins & ask God for forgiveness to be saved from the consequences of your sins

Simple isn't it? As long as the message you are proclaiming contain these 3 important elements, you can adapt the message to suit your style in any way you want, as long as it is the absolute truth according to the Word of God.

Once you have the other person interested in what you have to say, you can add other truths into your message i.e. you must believe that God raised Jesus up on the 3rd day & what the true meaning of repentance is etc. but it remains important to keep the message simple and easy to understand.

Discussion: How would you summarise the gospel of Christ in less than 3 minutes?

2. How do I start sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ?

Various approaches can be tailored to suit your style of evangelism but you will have to work on it to perfect your technique, so as not to lose the persons interest. You could for instance start off by asking someone if you could pray for them as in par 6 of session 2 – active street evangelism. Or you could ask them questions to get them thinking about their salvation i.e. If you had to die today, would you (your soul) go to Heaven or to Hell? One of the tracts that we hand out makes the statement “Every person on earth has eternal life” (This gets them thinking and interested in what you have to say next) and then asks the question “Where will you spend your eternal life, in Heaven or in Hell?”

Reading or quoting directly from the Bible is also a very simple but effective way of sharing the good news – remember the Word of God is an anointed book and will always touch the heart of someone that is searching and open to learning more of God & His way of salvation. One of the most recognisable and easiest formats to follow is the **Romans Road**.

The Romans Road is a way of explaining the good news of salvation using verses from the Book of Romans. It is a simple yet powerful method of explaining:

1) Why we need salvation, 2) how God provided salvation, 3) how we can receive salvation, 4) what the results are of salvation.

The first verse on the Romans Road to salvation is [Romans 3:23](#), *"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."* We have all sinned. We have all done things that are displeasing to God. There is no one who is innocent. [Romans 3:10-18](#) gives a detailed picture of what sin looks like in our lives. The second Scripture on the Romans Road to salvation, [Romans 6:23](#), teaches us about the consequences of sin - *"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."* The punishment that we have earned for our sins is death. Not just physical death, but eternal spiritual death – removed from God!

The next verse on the Romans Road to salvation picks up where [Romans 6:23](#) left off, *"but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."* [Romans 5:8](#) declares, *"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."* Jesus Christ died for us! Jesus' death paid the price of our sins. Jesus' resurrection proves that God accepted Jesus' death as the payment for our sins.

The next stop on the Romans Road to salvation is [Romans 10:9](#), *"that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."* Because of Jesus' death on our behalf, all we have to do is believe in Him, trusting His death as the payment for our sins - **and you will be saved!** [Romans 10:13](#) says it again, *"for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."* Jesus died to pay the penalty for our sins and rescue us from eternal spiritual death. Salvation & the forgiveness of sins, is available to anyone who will trust in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour.

The final aspect of the Romans Road to salvation is the results of salvation. [Romans 5:1](#) has this wonderful message, *"Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."* Through Jesus Christ alone, we can have a relationship of peace with God. [Romans 8:1](#) teaches us, *"Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."* Because of Jesus' death on our behalf, we will never be condemned for our sins. Finally, we have this precious promise of God from [Romans 8:38-39](#), *"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

Discussion: Can you list the verses of the Romans Road in their correct order?

Which other scriptures can you think of to use as a starting point to evangelise someone?

Example: Who is Jesus really? (Joh 1: 1-3) (Joh 14:6)

3. Verses (principles) to live by

As an aspiring evangelist it is important to have a “code” or a set of principles to live by. These are found in scripture and are vital for an evangelist in their everyday walk with Christ and also to live their lives beyond reproach as an example to a lost, hurting & broken world.

I have listed a few scripture verses below which are important to me personally as an example, but each one of you must have his/her own set of verses (principles) according to which you live your lives. Write them down and learn your verses off by heart, memorise them & make them a part of your life – no matter where you are – you will always have these in your heart and no one can take it away from you. (Ref: Jos 24:15b)

Rom 1:16 *For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.*

1Co 1:18 *For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.*

Rom 10:14 *How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?*

Rom 10:17 *So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

Joh 3:16 *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*

Mar 16:15 *And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.*

Joh 14:6 *Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*

Eph 2:8-9 *For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, (9) not of works, lest anyone should boast.*

Mar 8:36-38 *For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? (37) Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? (38) For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."*

1Jn 1:9 *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

The above list of verses (principles) are in no way exhaustive, but suffices to demonstrate the principles that are important to me personally. (All scriptures are from the NKJV)

RE-CAP: List 2 easy ways to share the Gospel with others & 2 scripture verses that has special importance to you. Can you recite these 2 verses from memory?

NOTES:

Session 4

Practical applications of evangelism

1. How to deal with problematic situations

From time to time it may happen that you encounter a difficult or problematic situation in evangelising someone. The way you prepare yourself before evangelising, and the way you react when these situations do manifest, are important. Always pray for wisdom, protection, and the leading & guidance of the Holy Spirit before you start your day – not only on days that you are planning to evangelise, but every day – you never know when you'll be evangelising someone & the situation goes pear shaped. Some people just don't want to hear what you have to say, or are just not ready to make a commitment to Christ. If you find yourself in a situation that feels uncomfortable or may lead to conflict, back-off and act wisely – don't force it. Situations can escalate rather quickly to a point where you no longer act in love as a Christian should, but out of emotion. (Remember the fruit of the Spirit). Don't try to force someone to make a decision, and don't feel bad or rejected if they don't want to commit. One of the best pieces of advice I've ever received was from a European evangelist, who taught me to see myself as a news reader. Stay impartial, deliver the good news in love, with compassion, tender mercy and a zeal for their souls, but if they do not respond the way you want them to, or flat out reject your message, you must realise that you've done your part. You've delivered the news, you can't force them to accept it. The ball is in their court now & God may still be busy working in their hearts. They may yet come to salvation sometime in the future, but you've done your part for now. Forget about it and move on – don't fret – don't let it discourage you. You still have a lot of people to evangelise in your future and not everyone will accept your message.

Remember that the Word of God says to NOT enter into debates or foolish arguments with stubborn people Tit 3:9-11 *But avoid foolish disputes, genealogies, contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and useless.* So don't get dragged into these types of arguments, it will waste your time & leave you frustrated.

If a close friend or relative does not accept your message, don't force it – just be a friend to them and try a passive approach as discussed in session 2 par 1 or 2 (demonstrative or friendship evangelism). Don't give up on them though – pray earnestly for their salvation – God hears your prayers and can do a miracle in their lives, if they don't harden their hearts.

Do's & don'ts when approaching someone:

Do

Don't

Motivate them	Confront them
Be Kindhearted	Be Theatrical
Have Respect	Be Haughty
Be Gentle	Be Forceful

2. Dealing with people from other religions

Always remember – **Practice what you Preach!** The Christian faith is based on LOVE.

God's love for mankind: Joh 3:16 *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*

Our love towards other Christians: Joh 13:34-35 *A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. (35) By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."*

Our love towards God and the world: Mar 12:33 *And to love Him with all the heart, with all the understanding, with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself, is more than all the whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."*

When dealing with people from other religions it is imperative that you have respect for them & their religion. Obviously you already know that their religion is false, but they don't. They most likely grew up or were taught that way from an early age, and to them it is the truth. You can't make them feel that you have no respect for their religion, for them, or their beliefs. You will lose them and along with that the opportunity to ever lead them to Christ. It's important to know the different types of religions that you may encounter & it will do you good to study their beliefs, so as to know what you'll be up against and how to minister to them. (Ref: 1Pet 3:15). It is sensitive territory to them, and I would advise you to build your experience in evangelism first, before attempting to convert people from other religions. The most significant way to evangelise people from other religions is to tell them about the LOVE of Christ and of God the Father. Many other religions do not operate in love, some of them are even based on fear, like for instance Islam. It is only when these people are told of the LOVE of God & Christ Jesus, that they will open up their hearts and be receptive to the gospel.

3. The dangers of evangelism

Christians have an obligation to follow the Great Commission. The Acts of the Apostles and other sources contain several accounts of early Christians following this directive by engaging in individual conversation and in mass sermons to spread the Good News.

Most Christian groups have organisations devoted to missionary work which in whole, or in part include proselytism of the non-religious and people of other faiths (including other variants of Christianity). Jehovah's Witnesses and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons) are known in particular for their doctrinal emphasis on proselytising.

The World Council of Churches has released a document that describes the act of proselytising as follows:

Proselytism includes certain activities which often aim at having people change their church affiliation and which we believe must be avoided, such as the following:

- *making unjust or uncharitable references to other churches' beliefs and practices and even ridiculing them;*
- *comparing two Christian communities by emphasizing the achievements and ideals of one, and the weaknesses and practical problems of the other;*
- *employing any kind of physical violence, moral compulsion and psychological pressure e.g. the use of certain advertising techniques in mass media that might bring undue pressure on readers/viewers;*
- *using political, social and economic power as a means of winning new members for one's own church;*
- *extending explicit or implicit offers of education, health care or material inducements or using financial resources with the intent of making converts;*
- *manipulative attitudes and practices that exploit people's needs, weaknesses or lack of education especially in situations of distress, and fail to respect their freedom and human dignity.*

Unfortunately evangelism is busy earning itself the same reputation as proselytism – as the two are very closely related and often times confused for one another. There are however remarkable differences between the two as we have seen in the preceding sessions.

(Discuss the differences). The danger of being labelled a proselytiser (instead of an evangelist) lies in the fact that they often see you in the same light and therefore you may be exposed to legal censure and even prosecution in some countries.

Proselytism is illegal or severely regulated in many countries like Afghanistan, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Comoros, Egypt, Eritrea, Greece, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Malaysia, Maldives, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, North Korea, Oman, Palestinian territories, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Western Sahara, and Yemen.

Proselytism is somewhat regulated in Botswana, Bulgaria, Chad, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Georgia, Guyana, Honduras, India, Israel, Kazakhstan, Libya, Mauritania, Mauritius, Moldova, Nicaragua, Niger, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago, and Tuvalu.

Proselytism is even frowned upon in South Africa which is (for now) still regarded as being a mostly Christian country and has religious freedom written into its constitution. Some institutions like prisons, schools & universities have forbidden proselytism and as a result even pure, loving & caring evangelism has been dealt a huge blow in these institutions.

Provision has now also been made for the new “Hate Speech Bill” to include religious terminology as hate speech, and severe prosecution would be the order of the day for evangelists should they offend anyone when this bill is passed in SA, by simply telling them the truth about their lifestyles (examples) according to the Word of God. We are truly living in the times described in Isa 5:20 *Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!*

Mat 24:37 *But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.*

2Ti 3:1-4 *But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: (2) For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, (3) unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, (4) traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God.*

I've often in the past told people that the time will come – even in our own country – that we will be persecuted for speaking the truth according to the Word of God, even though it is done in love and for the benefit of a lost, broken & hurting world. It would seem that those times are not far off. You need to be resolute and courageous when those times come upon us. Surely our reward in heaven will be greater than our persecution on earth.

Deu 31:6 *Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you."*

Jos 1:9 *Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."*

2Co 4:17-18 *For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, (18) while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.*

NOTES:

Session 5

1. Practical application

(Ref: Mat 13:12 / Heb 5:14 / Mat 25:14-29)

In this session we will discuss and apply some practical examples of evangelism, in order to identify any specific fears or difficulties that each one of us may have.

Split up into groups of 4 or 5 and take turns evangelising the other participants – each one should get a 5 minute time slot in which he/she is to practice on another member of the group. Each member being evangelised should act as if they are a person from a different background i.e. an atheist, a backslidden or nominal Christian, a sinner that has no regard for faith or religion, or simply someone who is searching for the truth.

We will allow +-30 - 40 minutes for this exercise and then we will gather again as a group to discuss the challenges we had.

Discussion: What are the 2 challenges or difficulties that were most commonly found in the preceding practical exercise?

How can we overcome these challenges and turn them into positives?

RE-CAP: What should every evangelist do before they start their day?

How should we deal with people from other religions when attempting to evangelise them?

How should true believers respond to the dangers of evangelism?

Name 2 of the do's & don'ts when approaching someone to evangelise them.

2. My first outreach – practical training

Plan an activity & a date for your first real-world evangelism outreach.

Use examples from the 9 different types of evangelism that was covered in session 2 of this training guide.

NB: This practical outreach will be regarded as **Session 6** of the SEE Course.

Dear Future Evangelist,

Please take note of the following:

Evangelise ministries is not affiliated to a specific church denomination.

We do not promote any specific religious doctrine other than that contained in our Statement of Faith that can be viewed on our website @ www.evangelise.co.za

Notes to the student and/or lecturer:

- This is a self-study course.
- There are no official or recognised diplomas or degrees accompanied by this course upon completion – true evangelists will not seek recognition from the world...their recognition comes from our Lord Jesus Christ.
- This guide is intended make the learner feel at ease, and to convey a simple but effective way of learning how to evangelise the lost.
- The SEE course has been designed to be easy to understand and to implement, either on your own or preferably as a group in your local church.
- Discuss it with your pastor if you would like him/her to present it in your church.
- Your pastor or church leader may also add their own church logo or details to this guide.
- For those who want to do so, this guide is available free of charge in Word format on our website @ www.evangelise.co.za
- Bible based truths or facts may also be added to this guide, always ensuring that it is 100% aligned with the context of the unchanged Word of God.
- Have copies of this guide printed to hand out to the class if you are to present it in your church. (We can assist with printing of hard copies)
- Always teach those under your care accurately, in truth & integrity, knowing that teachers shall receive a stricter judgment (James 3:1).
- This guide is never to be sold & should always be available to all - free of charge (Mat 10:8b).
- Share it with those in your community and with other churches and church leaders (2 Tim 4:5).

2 Chron 15:7 But you, be strong and do not let your hands be weak, for your work shall be rewarded!