

## **Making Evangelism Personal**

1 Corinthians 9.16-27

### **Intro:**

We tend to make many things personal in our lives and those things we are willing to move heaven and earth to ensure their success. The apostle Paul was all in and had the same mentality towards Jesus' authority in his life and sought to carry it out in leading lost souls to Christ. Paul understood the burden placed upon him to preach the gospel and said, "***woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!***" (1 Cor. 9.16). We must see the need to make seeking and saving personal. We must see the beauty of encouraging each other in the work of ministry, thus building up one another. We must be ready for the increase the Lord will give when our labors are completed. If we do not believe it, it will not be personal. Make talking to people personal.

### **Discourse:**

#### **I. What Makes Evangelism Personal? (1 Cor. 9.16-17 *we owe God our service*)**

- A. Understanding the Debt Paid for Me.
  - 1. Jesus purged our sins by Offering By Himself (Heb. 1.3)
  - 2. He purged our conscience so we could worship God (Heb. 9.14)
  - 3. He did this with His own blood (Rev. 1.5)
  - 4. He did this for even me (Gal. 2.20)
- B. Appreciating what it took to Clear My sins.
  - 1. The beating the Lord took for Me.
  - 2. The cross was endured by Jesus to clear me (Heb. 12.2)
  - 3. The blood was shed to purchase me (1 Pet. 1.18-19)
  - 4. The resurrection of Christ was necessary to justify me (Rom. 3.24-25)
- C. Seeing Non-Believers as Lost should Motivate Me.
  - 1. Knowing we were once lost at one time (Tit. 3.3-5)
  - 2. If you die in your sins (John 8.24) Must see non-Christians as needing salvation. ***What must I do to be saved? Acts 16.25-34***
  - 3. Brought to repentance (a change of mind and actions)(Matt. 9.13)

#### **II. Why Make Evangelism Personal? (1 Cor. 9.19-22 *we want to benefit all men*)**

- A. Because God made Saving Man Personal (John 3.16-17).
  - 1. God putting on flesh is an amazing thought (John 1.1; 14).
  - 2. Him loving man enough to live and die for mankind (1 Pet. 1.22-23).
  - 3. God taking care of the devil and his power (Heb. 2.14; 1 Jn. 3.8).
- B. Because of the message of Jesus Christ and Him crucified (1 Cor. 2.2).
  - 1. This message saves all men and it saved me.
  - 2. It teaches me to live a crucified life before God today (Gal. 2.20).
  - 3. The message teaches me how I was crucified with Christ (Rom. 6.1-6).

C. Because of the power it has to deliver (**Acts 26.17-18**) *Notice what it offers...*

D. Because of the benefit it has given to us personally. **We must share these things.**

1. Hopefully seeing the hope of better living. (*the abundant life in Christ - Jn. 10.10*)
2. Hopefully we understand the blessings of eternity. (*knowing we will see the face of God in peace - Rev. 22.5*)
3. Hopefully we will see the blessing of being saved. (*encouraged to avoid the wrath of God on that final day - Rom. 5.9*)

### III. How can I Make Evangelism Personal? (1 Cor. 9.24-27 **we must be DISCIPLINED**)

A. **I** must take **ownership** of the One who has taken ownership of me (Phil. 3.12).

1. Beginning with me, I must see the necessity of owning Christ as Lord.
2. I must let all see Christ living in me, the hope of glory (Col. 1.27).
3. His words must be my words, I merely represent Him.

B. Getting my **Family** to take **ownership** of the life in Christ (Josh. 24.15).

1. It begins with the spiritual leader of the home—the man (Luke 1.17).
2. It requires the wife to be in support of the truth being shared.
3. It is necessary for the children to see how the parents share the gospel.

C. Understanding **my importance** to the church of Christ (1 Cor. 12.14-18).

1. Every part is doing its share.
2. Getting involved where your strength is.
3. Growing in areas where you are not as strong.

D. Simply **mustering up the Courage** to talk to people about Jesus (2 Tim. 1.7).

1. Remembering God has not given us the spirit of fear... *cowardice*.
2. Soundness of mind or self-discipline is the basis of our courage.
3. Telling people what you know and did to be saved and remain holy.

### **Conclusion:**

Making evangelism (*simply talking to people about the truth of the gospel*) personal is vital to the well being of the individual child of God, the local congregation and the one we are speaking to about the message of Jesus. Let us take ownership of our relationship with the Lord and let us take ownership of helping people see Jesus as the Lord of our lives. Making evangelism personal.