

This midweek study will explore the doctrine of evangelism and its implications in the Christian life.

Essential Doctrine: Evangelism

It is the duty and privilege of every Christian and of every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to make disciples of all nations. The new birth of man's spirit by God's Holy Spirit means the birth of love for others. Missionary effort on the part of all rests thus upon a spiritual necessity of the regenerate life, and is expressly and repeatedly commanded in the teachings of Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ has commanded the preaching of the gospel to all nations. It is the duty of every child of God to seek constantly to win the lost to Christ by verbal witness undergirded by a Christian lifestyle, and by other methods in harmony with the gospel of Christ.

1 Evangelism is commanded (Matt. 28:18-20).

- ▶ *Who enjoys being told what to do?*
- ▶ *When you were young, was there anything you really should have done on your own, but needed to be told to do? For example, brushing your teeth?*

Read Matthew 28:18-20.

- ▶ *What is the main command given in this text?*
- ▶ *Why do you think Jesus saw the need to command us to share the gospel?*
- ▶ *Look at verse 18. Why did Jesus tell us this fact? How should it compel us to evangelize? How does it give us hope when we share?*
- ▶ *Look at verse 20. Why do you think Jesus reminded us He would be with us? How should this affect our desire to share the gospel?*
- ▶ *What four commands did Jesus give in this passage?*
- ▶ *How should we carry out those commands?*
- ▶ *Jesus told us to teach others all the commandments He gave. What does this tell you about your role after someone becomes a Christian?*

2 Evangelism should be compassionate (Romans 10:1).

- ▶ *What is your reaction when someone tries to sell you something?*
- ▶ *How do we as Christians sometimes resemble bad salesmen when it comes to sharing the good news?*
- ▶ *What are some common complaints non-Christians have about Christians "pushing their religion" on them?*

Read Romans 10:1.

- ▶ *How does Paul model for us the proper heart for evangelism?*
- ▶ *How can we approach people with Jesus in a way that shows we genuinely care for them?*
- ▶ *How important is a solid, loving relationship with God to evangelism?*
- ▶ *How can we ask the Holy Spirit to work in us to care for the unsaved the way Jesus cares for them?*

3 Evangelism should be driven by and towards joy (Psalm 67:3-4).

- ▶ *Imagine you are witnessing to someone. She asks you, "Why do you care whether I believe in Jesus? You're already going to heaven." How would you answer her?*

Read Psalm 67:3-4.

- ▶ *According to this Psalm, who should praise God?*
- ▶ *Did the Israelites merely want the nations to know about God? What did they want the nations to experience?*
- ▶ *What should be our motive in sharing the gospel with others?*
- ▶ *How should it make us happy to share the gospel with others?*

WRAP IT UP

- ▶ *Given the ideas we've discussed this week, what should our evangelism look like?*