

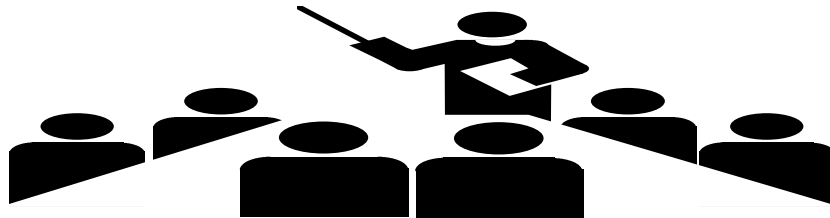
EVANGELISM WORKSHOP



Facilitator

The Rev. Dr. Darryl B. Starnes, Sr.

Director, Bureau of Evangelism
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church
Charlotte, North Carolina



Topic:

“The Meaning of Evangelism”

Teaching Outline

The Meaning of Evangelism

- A. Biblical Clues to the Meaning of Evangelism
- B. Some Selected Definitions
- C. A New Definition of Evangelism

EVANGELISM WORKSHOP

Dr. Darryl B. Starnes, Sr., Facilitator

TOPIC: *THE MEANING OF EVANGELISM*

I. Ten Biblical Clues to the Meaning of Evangelism

- A. The Proclamation of the Gospel
 1. *Evangelion*- translated *gospel*, occurs 77 times (Mk. 1:14, 15)
 2. *Evangelizo*- translated *preach*, occurs 55 times (Rev. 14:6)
 3. *Evangelistes*- translated *evangelist*, occurs 3 times (2 Tim. 4:5)
- B. Making Disciples - *matheteusate* (Matthew 28:19)
- C. Bearing Witness to Jesus Christ- *marturia* (Acts 1:8)
- D. Fishing for Men (Mk. 1:17; Luke 5:10)
- E. Being the Salt of the Earth (Matthew 5:13)
- F. Being the Light of the World (Matthew 5:14-16)
- G. Bearing Fruit That Remains (John 15:8, 16)
- H. Being the Aroma of Christ (2 Corinthians 2:14, 15)
- I. The Ministry of Reconciliation (2 Corinthian 5:17-21)
- J. Advertising the Deeds of God (1 Peter. 2:9, 10)

II. Selected Definitions

- A. The 1918 Anglican Definition: *"To evangelize is so to present Christ Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit, that men shall come to put their trust in God through Him, to accept Him as their Saviour, and serve Him as their King in the fellowship of His Church."*
- B. The D. T. Niles 1951 Definition: *"It is one beggar telling another beggar where to get food (bread)."*
- C. The 1977 Church Growth Definition: *"...to proclaim Jesus Christ as God and Savior, to persuade people to become His disciples and responsible members of His Church."*
- D. The 1974 Lausanne Covenant Definition: *"To evangelize is to spread the good news that Jesus Christ died for our sins and was raised from the dead according to the Scriptures, and that as the reigning Lord, he now offers the forgiveness of sins and the liberating gift of the Holy Spirit to all who repent and believe. Our Christian presence in the world is indispensable to evangelism, and so is that kind of dialogue whose purpose is to listen sensitively in order to understand. But evangelism itself is the proclamation of the historical, biblical Christ as Savior and Lord, with a view to persuading people to come to him personally and so be reconciled to God. In issuing the Gospel invitation, we have no liberty to conceal the cost of discipleship. Jesus still calls all who would follow him to deny themselves, take up their cross, and identify with his new community. The results of evangelism include obedience to Christ, incorporation into his church, and responsible service in the world."*

E. George Hunter

1. His 1979 Definitions:
 - a. *"Evangelism is what WE do to help make the Christian faith, life, and mission a live option to undisciplined people, both outside and inside the congregation."*
 - b. *"Evangelism is also what JESUS CHRIST does through the church's kerygma (message), koinonia (fellowship), and diakonia (service) to set people free."*
 - c. *"Evangelism happens when the RECEIVER (receptor, respondent) turns (1) to Christ; (2) to the Christian message and ethic; (3) to a Christian congregation; and (4) to the world in love and mission - in any order."*
2. His Five Approaches to Christian Ministry or Evangelism
 - a. *"Let us help you." (Mother Teresa)*
 - b. *"Let God help you." (Katherine Kuhlman, Oral Roberts)*
 - c. *"Hear the word." (J.I. Packer, John R. Stott)*
 - d. *"Make a decision." (Billy Graham)*
 - e. *"Become a Christian disciple." (The Church Growth Movement)*

III. A New Definition of Evangelism: *"Evangelism is being, doing, and telling the gospel of the kingdom of God, in order that by the power of the Holy Spirit persons and structures may be converted to the Lordship of Jesus Christ."*

- A. The heart of evangelism is the good news about the kingdom of God.
 1. It comes through Jesus Christ.
 2. It is holistic.
 3. It is theologically sound.
 4. It has a sharp point.
 5. It has two razor-sharp cutting edges
 - a. The bad-news side cuts to announce God's wrath.
 - b. The good-news side cuts to announce God's favor and bring healing.
- B. Evangelism is three-dimensional.
 1. It is being. (*koinonia*)
 2. It is doing. (*diakonia*)
 3. It is telling. (*kerygma*)
- C. Evangelism is tied to the Gospel.
- D. Evangelism is a Kingdom-of-God Enterprise.
- E. Evangelism is dependent upon the Holy Spirit.
- F. Evangelism seeks to convert

Resource: *Introduction to Evangelism* by Delos Miles (Nashville: Broadman Press, 1983)