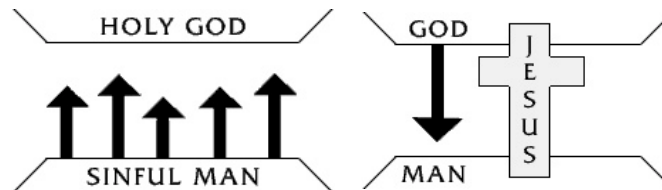


# EVANGELISM

Evangelism is the practice of attempting to convert people to a religion.  
-WIKIPEDIA.org



## 4 SPIRITUAL LAWS

1. God LOVES you and offers a wonderful plan for your life.
2. Man is SINFUL and SEPARATED from God. Therefore, he cannot know and experience God's love and plan for his life.
3. Jesus Christ is God's ONLY provision for man's sin. Through Him you can know and experience God's love and plan for your life.
4. We must individually RECEIVE Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord; then we can know and experience God's love and plan for our lives.

## IS THIS EVANGELISM?

It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ and of every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to endeavor 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.

## WHAT ABOUT THIS?

Evangelism is not a matter of converting someone to a different belief, it is a matter of welcoming those who are isolated and in need of a community. Evangelism is founded on the beliefs that people have a need for religious community, for deep relationships, for spiritual exploration, for social involvement. Evangelism for has everything to do with salvation. A religious community is a place that can save us from the crushing banality of consumerism, instrumental relationships, superficiality, alienation and isolation. Our communities are a place where we can connect with our true selves, with each other, with our communities, with our sense of the sacred.

**“evangelism is more relational than confrontational, more communal than solitary, and is more a beginning point than an end.”**

**“EVERYTHING YOU DO IS EVANGELISM.”**



## How has the church messed up evangelism?

- messed up by presenting a false dichotomy between evangelism and justice.
- finger wagging
- The church has screwed up evangelism by aggressively beating people over the head with "the message". no one care about d "the love." if the church wud instead aggressively share "the love" then people would get the message...people really dont care what you know until they know that you care... The church makes a "D minus in love lessons...
- Distorting the gospel.
- Made evangelism a belief and set of rubrics rather than a action where we seek to live in Christ's likeness.
- I think that evangelism in impoverished areas, specifically Africa, can lead to dishonest evangelism. Also, I don't think infomercial evangelism was what Jesus had in mind.
- In trying to spread good news of great joy for all people, we've made it bad news for most people.
- The "church" hasn't messed up evangelism, humans have... That problem won't change until Messiah returns. It seems that Jesus had a lot to say about the Holy Spirit, but the "church" doesn't seem to walk in the fullness of God which is walking in the power of the Father, the power of the Son and the power of the Holy Spirit.

# EVaNGeLiSM

## How would you define evangelism?

- IMHO evangelism is not about telling folks you're right it's about providing them something they want to be a part of.
- my def of evangelism= sharing the message and love of Christ to those beyond the household of the faith...
- trying 2 clean the fish b4 getting them in the boat - only the Spirit can truly clean thru sanctification
- love Brian McLaren's definition about participating in God's healing of the world.
- sharing the gospel through the power of the holy spirit.
- a lived life of engaging with folks in things that really matter where relationships are built and love is cultivated.
- letting Jesus change us, being honest about the fact that He did it and believing with our lifestyles (and sometimes words) that He can do even more.
- I would define it as bringing the love and message of Christ to others genuinely.
- Sharing (in word and deed) good news of great joy for all people.
- We think too much about it & think it has to be contrived when really, Jesus said, "they will know you by your love for each other". Love isn't always peace loving gushy mushy mushy. Love is honest: sometimes that means it's a little mushy gushy, but sometimes that means speaking the truth in love even when it hurts our hearts to have to do so...
- Evangelism is not winning converts but announcing to the world who the true Lord of heaven and earth really is, whether they acknowledge it or not. Evangelism is telling people that they ARE saved, therefore, BE reconciled.

# Why mainline churches don't use the "e"-word? (evangelism)

What are some of your previous experiences of evangelism?

Four Spiritual Laws?

What do we THINK evangelism is?

Print out some various different ideas and definitions of what evangelism is - from Campus Crusade website and others

So why have mainline churches been so afraid of evangelism?

What about today? Do we still need to be so afraid?

Can we come up with a definition of evangelism, an understanding of it that will help us to live out our calling as followers of Christ to the best of our ability – and still be something that we won't run away from...?

PC(USA) Definition: "We are called to invite all people to faith, repentance, and the abundant life of God in Jesus Christ, to encourage congregations in joyfully sharing the Gospel, and through the power of the Holy Spirit to grow in membership and discipleship."

Blog Definition: **Evangelism is bearing witness to what God has done, is doing and will do in the world and in one's life, engaging others in Spirit-dialogue and inviting people to faith.**