The Growth Institute: Apologetics and Evangelism An overview of methods of evangelism: 11/30/22

Note: these articles are for discussion in class and some ideas present need critiqued/modified.

Use the Evangelism Linebacker (video)?

Using Gospel Tracts (from: https://enjoyingthejourney.org/why-you-should-use-gospel-tracts/)

Recently I wrote a brief article on "Why You Should Use Gospel Tracts." If you have not read it already I hope you will do so now. I am convinced that this is one of the great tools at our disposal for the advancement of the gospel! It is something *everyone* can do.

Like every tool, gospel tracts can be used effectively or ineffectively. How can we make the most of our opportunity?

- Choose gospel tracts that are simple but complete. Be sure that the gospel message is plain and Scripture is prominent. At the same time, a gospel tract is not a book and should be very readable. People typically will only spend a few moments with it. It doesn't matter how nice the piece looks if it lacks clarity of message.
- **Use literature that is well done**. A tract that is designed well and beautifully printed is more likely to be received and kept. There are a number of places that do a first class job. I use <u>Faithworks Media</u> for our tracts. Our home church has used <u>Crown Publications</u>. There are many others as well. Share any suggestions you may have in the comments.
- **Keep tracts accessible to you.** Carry some with you each day. Keep a supply in your car or home. In this way you are always ready with something to give people at a moment's notice about Christ.
- **Pray over the tracts you distribute**. Each witness should be accompanied by prayer. Ask the Lord to open the eyes and hearts of those who will read the literature. Claim the promise that God's Word will not return void (Isaiah 55:11).
- Offer the gospel tract in a kind, humble way. I love to begin by saying: "Can I give you something encouraging to read?" A smile and a kind tone go a long way. If you are offering it to someone who has served you in some way, include a generous tip. Remember that our attitude toward them may determine their attitude toward what they are reading. Gypsy Smith said, "God wrote five gospel

- records Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and the believer. And most people will never read the first four!"
- **Give tracts at appropriate times**. Look for every opportunity you can, but remember that every circumstance is different. Often when I am in line I may say to someone who is helping me, "I wanted to give you something good to read when you get a break later." Always be polite and courteous.
- **Keep it personal, not professional**. We should not distribute gospel literature like the local business does fliers about some "special." We are not selling. It is not about the numbers. Make each witness personal. You may say, "This is something that made a real difference in my life." Share a personal word of testimony with the tract. Remember that outside of the gospel the most powerful tool you have is your own testimony.
- **Don't be discouraged by rejection.** Sometime people will not accept literature. A Jewish man recently gave a tract back to me and said he would not read it. I continued a cordial conversation with him and before I left had made a new friend. Always keep the door open for the gospel in the future.
- Follow up on the tract if possible. Often you will not see the person again to whom you gave a tract. Yet one of the most effective ways to use gospel literature is to say, "Let me give you something to read, and once you are finished with it I would like to know what you think about it." Tracts can open the door for further conversations about Christ.
- Never let a piece of paper substitute for personally speaking to others about their soul. We should not hand out tracts "instead of" learning to engage others with the gospel, but "in order to" engage others with the gospel. Learn how to walk someone through a gospel tract and explain the way of salvation.

The Ethiopian eunuch was reading the Scriptures but needed some man to guide him to God (Acts 8:31). Everyone does. Tracts can help point the way and each of us can do our part.

From: https://mwtb.org/blogs/witnessing-with-tracts/29369729-50-ways-to-use-gospel-tracts

50 WAYS TO USE GOSPEL TRACTS

The following are 50 responses to a **Moments With The Book** poll asking tract buyers how they have used tracts in the past. If you have any other ways that you have used tracts, feel free to <u>send them to us</u>. Maybe we'll add them to the list.

You might not agree with all of the items below (we certainly wouldn't use some of them), but hopefully they will give you some ideas of how you can use the "silent messengers" where you live.

No matter **where** or **how** you choose to distribute tracts, we have these suggestions:

- **1.** Obey all local ordinances. (Some areas or stores, including the US Post Office, have prohibited the distribution of literature). This also includes littering, etc.
- **2.** Leave at least two copies of a tract so someone will feel better about not taking the last one. Plus you'll double the number of souls witnessed to!
- **3.** Most importantly, ask God to use you, seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit for each tract placed, and then pray for the Lord of harvest to bless it.
- 1. Leave in phone booths.
- 2. Put in greeting cards.
- 3. Leave at roadside rests.
- 4. Put on car windows in parking lots.
- 5. Leave on sitting areas of shopping malls.
- 6. Pass out door to door.
- 7. Pass out to fellow campers.
- 8. Tack up on bulletin boards.
- 9. Put in pockets of used clothing given away.
- 10. Leave in dressing rooms of clothing stores.
- 11. Pass out at parades, festivals, and special events.
- 12. Leave in city parks on benches, etc.
- 13. Put in helium-filled balloons.
- 14. Leave at funeral homes.
- 15. Leave in newspaper machines.
- 16. Hand out at stadium entrances, etc.
- 17. Put in sealed bottles in the ocean.
- 18. Mail out to names in a telephone book.
- 19. Leave in laundromats.
- 20. Give to attendants at parking garages, etc.
- 21. Leave in motel rooms (in the drawers, telephone book, etc.)
- 22. Leave in glove compartment of car you test drive.
- 23. Place in six-packs of beer, or in toilet tissue rolls in grocery stores.
- 24. Include in bills paid by mail.
- 25. Slip in pump handles at self-serve gas stations.
- 26. Hand to store employees, check-out clerks.
- 27. Leave in returned library books.
- 28. Put in magazines in waiting rooms.
- 29. Put up tract racks in stores, beauty parlors.
- 30. Put in correspondence to prisoners, etc.
- 31. Leave in bank where deposit slips are.
- 32. Leave in zip code book in post office.
- 33. Leave in restrooms at restaurants, etc.
- 34. Leave with (generous) tip in restaurants.
- 35. Give to hospital and nursing home patients.
- 36. Leave on tables at flea markets.

- 37. Hand out at zoos, picnic areas, beaches.
- 38. Leave on seats on bus, cab, airplane, etc.
- 39. Leave in locker at "Y" or health club.
- 40. Pass out on busy street corners.
- 41. Put in mouth of vending machines.
- 42. Pass out at schools after dismissal.
- 43. Leave in cafeteria at work, school.
- 44. Leave for newspaper boy, milkman, etc.
- 45. Put in each box or bag of merchandise sold.
- 46. Put in airport lounges, bus terminals, etc.
- 47. Send to relatives of deceased in obituaries.
- 48. Send to parents in birth announcements.
- 49. Give to students at Vacation Bible School and Sunday School.
- 50. Rent booths at fairs for tract displays.

Excerpts from DudeDisciple.com/methods-ofevangelism

The Pray and Say

I like to use this method when I go on outreach events with people on the streets. It's quite simple, you just 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.

I would say that about 8/10 people will say it's okay for you to pray for them.

Sometimes, I will just pray the Gospel message over them in short form. Like this:

"God I thank you for John. Thank you that you love him so much and care deeply about him. I thank you that even though we have messed up and sinned, you gave your only son Jesus to die for him on the cross so that he can have eternal life and so that he can know you personally. Lord, I bless him in Jesus name, Amen."

Once I'm done praying, I'll go into what Jesus did and what we have to do to be saved. Sometimes, I will just pray a simple prayer with them and share the Gospel right afterward.

Here are some other short versions of the Gospel message...

The G.O.S.P.E.L Journey

God created us to be with him (Genesis 1-2)

Our sins separate us from him (Genesis 3)

Sins Cannot be Removed by good deeds (Isaiah 64:6)

Paying the price for sin, Jesus died and rose again. (John 19:30)

Everyone who trusts in him alone has eternal life (1 John 5:11-13)

Life with Jesus starts now and lasts forever (John 10:10)

The Romans Road

Romans 3:23 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

Romans 6:23 – For the wages of sin is death but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord

Romans 5:8 – But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we still sinners Christ died for us

Romans 10:9 – If you declare with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Romans 10:13 – For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

The 1 Minute Gospel

From The Gospel and Personal Evangelism Book

"Here's what I understand the good news to be: the good news is that the one and only God, who is holy, made us in his image to know him. But we sinned and cut ourselves off from him. In his great love, God became a man in Jesus, lived a perfect life, and died on the cross, thus fulfilling the law himself and taking on himself the punishment for the sins of all those who would ever turn and trust in him. He rose again from the dead, showing that God accepted Christ's sacrifice and that God's wrath against us had been exhausted. He now calls us to repent of our sins and to trust in Christ alone for our forgiveness. If we repent of our sins and trust in Christ, we are born again into a new life, an eternal life with God."

The Four Spiritual Laws

- 1. God loves you (<u>John 3:16</u>; <u>10:10</u>).
- 2. Man is sinful and separated from God. (Romans 3:23; 6:23).
- 3. Jesus Christ is God's only provision for man's sin. (Romans 5:8; 1 Corinthians 15:3 6; John 14:6).
- 4. We must individually receive Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord (<u>John 1:12</u>; <u>3:1 8</u>; <u>Ephesians 2:8 9</u>; <u>Revelation 3:20</u>).

Steps to Peace with God (Billy Graham Method)

1. Gods plan - Peace and life (God loves you and wants you to experience His peace and life. The Bible says "For God so loved the

- world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)
- 2. Our Problem Separation (Being at peace with God is not automatic. God gave us free will to choose and we chose to disobey him. This is what separates us from God.
- 3. God's Remedy The Cross: Jesus Died on the cross and rose again. Paying the penalty for our sins, Jesus bridged the gap between us and God.
- 4. Our Response Receive Christ: We must trust and receive Christ as our Lord and Savior. (John 1:12)

Walkthrough the Bible Method

One of my favorite ways of going deep into the Gospel is by summarizing key points from the Bible, from beginning to end.

- 1. God's creation
- 2. Adam and Eve
- 3. God's Love and Purpose for Humanity
- 4. Man's Sin & Separation from God
- 5. Payment for Sin
- 6. Why our good works cannot save us
- 7. God coming to earth as a man, Jesus Christ
- 8. Jesus' Life
- 9. Jesus' Death
- 10. Jesus' Resurrection
- 11. It is finished The price is paid
- 12. The free gift of life and how to receive

From that point on, I handle any questions or objections that might come up and address those as well.

In the end, I always like to ask if they would like to receive Jesus into their life.

Testimony Gospel Method

As you develop a relationship with people at work or in school, it's very normal for them to ask about your life in a conversation.

It's important to note that your personal testimony is not the Gospel itself, but it's one of the best ways to incorporate the gospel into your story because it's a part of your life.

<u>arabahjoy.com</u> shows a very easy way of sharing your testimony with the Gospel through Pauls message in Acts.

Here's how it goes:

Read Acts 26:1-23

Then, use these 3 elements to create your testimony:

- 1. Talk about what your life was like before you received Christ (Acts 26:4-11)
- 2. Describe how God spoke to your heart and opened your eyes to spiritual truth. Include the basic facts of the gospel and your response of faith. (Acts 26:12-18)
- 3. Finally, share how your life has changed since receiving the forgiveness available in Christ. (Acts 26:19-23)

Sharing The Gospel Through Questions

Way of The Master Evangelism Method

The way of the master method comes from a street evangelist called Ray Comfort who has a unique way of sharing the Gospel with people. This strategy involves walking people through the law by asking questions and then allowing the person to come to the conclusion themselves. If you're looking for some examples of modern-day evangelism, Ray Comfort's youtube channel is one of the best places to look. Here is one example of how his method works:

The Share Jesus Without Fear Method (From the book)

This method of evangelism allows the bible to do most of the talking for you. If you're not sure what to talk about or how to explain, let the Bible do the work for you.

First, Ask these questions to the person you're talking to:

- Do you have any kind of spiritual beliefs?
- To you, who is Jesus?
- Do you think there is a heaven or a hell?
- If you died tonight, where would you go?
- By the way, if what you were believing is not true, would you want to know?

These five questions, asked in the order listed above, can help change the conversation from the secular to the spiritual. And if your friend answers "yes" to the final question, you will have the opportunity of sharing your faith with your friend.

Instead of directly telling someone the Gospel in your own words, simply open your Bible and let God's Word speak for itself. For this to work, you will need a Bible (preferably a small one because small Bibles tend to be less intimidating to non-Christians), and a few salvation passages to share. Some passages that serve this purpose are listed below:

1. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

- 2. "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23)
- 3. "In reply Jesus declared, 'I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again'" (John 3:3).
- 4. "Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me'" (John 14:6).
- 5. "That if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. As the Scripture says, 'Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame'" (Romans 10:9-11).
- 6. "And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again" (2 Corinthians 5:15).
- 7. "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me" (Revelation 3:20).

Ask your friend to read a verse out loud and then have them explain the verse to you. Take him through all the verses listed above. If your friend interprets a passage incorrectly, don't argue or offer your interpretation, but politely ask him to read it again, and then explain it a second time. Misinterpretation should not be much of a problem if you use the Bible verses listed above.

Even if your friend mentions that he doesn't believe in or agree with the Bible, it is best not to argue. You can state that you simply want him to understand what the Bible says about eternity. Isn't it wonderful to know that it's not our responsibility to convict? Conviction is God's job. All we can do is share.

Ideas and concepts are taken from the book: Share Jesus Without Fear By William Fay, published by Broadman & Holman Publishers, Nashville, TN.

Visual Demonstrations

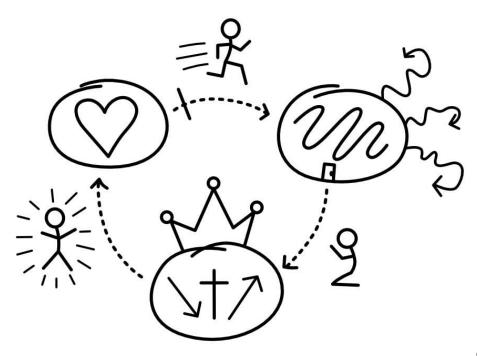
Sharing The Gospel With a \$20 Bill Method

Another great visual method of sharing the gospel can be done by using a \$20. This method shows that no matter how many times you crumple or stomp on a \$20 Bill, it still has value. It is the same way with people. Even though we have sinned against God and broken his commandments, he still wants us to come to him just as we are and believe in what Jesus did for us.

3 Circle Method

The three circle method is a 3 step model of God's perfect plan, our sin, and what Jesus did for us. I've seen different variations of this model

written on paper and as a sticker on someone's phone. It's a very effective illustration that keeps people listening to find out what each circle is about.



Sharing the

gospel using 3 circles by mike.allbutt.net

Gospel Skits And Plays

Best for Group Settings, these Gospel skits are great for capturing a crowds attention and opening their hearts to hear the message of truth. Make sure to follow up with an explanation of what the skit was about and talk about how it explains the Gospel.

Here are some of my favorite skits:

Lifehouse Skit Knocking Skit The Heart Skit

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jp1J1JzFphY

You can also check out <u>skitguys.com</u> for Unique Gospel skits that you can purchase.

Chalk Gospel Evangelism Method

Chalk Gospel Evangelism is a creative way of teaching the Gospel to children through a chalk drawing. This method is great for large groups of children such as at an apartment complex or at an orphanage.



Chalk Gospel by

Courtney from Womenlivingwell.org

Wordless Book / Bracelet Method

This Method can be incorporated in just about anything, from bracelets to booklets, the concept is illustrated through 5 colors set in order:

GOLD ~ God wants us to be in heaven with Him.

BLACK ~ Our sin separates us from God.

RED \sim Christ died on the cross as the only payment for our sin.

WHITE ~ Accept God's forgiveness and the free gift of eternal life.

GREEN ~ Grow closer to God every day.

The wordless booklet

The Story Tracts and Video (Story4.us/FBCSpringfield)

Preparing for Engaging the Community Next Week: Pastor Jacob