



Evangelism – Sunday School

Course Syllabus

Course Description

This course is a systematic and practical study of biblical evangelism. It emphasizes the preparation and practice of evangelism, with the aim of better equipping God's people and churches to fulfill God's purpose in giving us the ministry of evangelism.

Course Instructor

TC & Dana Goodnight

Course Objectives

- To understand and articulate a biblical theology of evangelism.
- To understand the role of the church in evangelism.
- To understand the elements of preparation for effective evangelism.
- To understand the various methods of evangelism.
- To provoke a greater urgency for the work of evangelism.
- To promote a personal commitment to pray for and participate in the evangelistic outreach of the church.

Course Requirements

Required Reading:

- Gilbert, Greg. *What is the Gospel*, 128 pages
- Newman, Randy. *Questioning Evangelism*. Read just the Introduction and Part 1, 62 pages

Recommended Reading:

- Alleine, Joseph. *Alarm to the Unconverted*. 110 pages
- Washer, Paul. *The Power and Message of the Gospel*. 288 pages
- Packer, J.I. *Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God*, 122 pages

Discussion Questions:

There are discussion questions in each chapter that will be used for discussion during class.

Personal Conversion Story:

You are to write your own personal conversion story according to the guidelines given in class. You will give your personal conversion story in class and receive feedback.

Team Evangelism Plan:

Together with one other person in class, make a plan of evangelism that you will carry out over the next 4 months together. Make the plan realistic so that you can actually implement it. The two of you will present your plan to the class. The plan should be presented according to the following simple outline.

- Introduce your plan

- Explain how you will implement the plan

After you present your plan the class will give feedback. However, in the end the plan is your own and so it is up to you to decide what you are going to do. You will then begin to put it into practice. Pray together through the whole process from developing a plan to implementing it.

After you begin implementing your plan, you will give a short report on your progress in class once every three weeks. The content of the report should be according to the following outline.

- What you have been doing
- Your assessment of what you have been doing
 - What you will continue to do
 - What you will change
- The outcome
 - The response of the person(s)
 - The effect upon you –
 - Lessons you are learning about evangelism that have helped you to grow in this area of church life
 - Lessons you are learning about yourself that have helped you to grow as a Christian

Unplanned Providential Evangelism:

You are to pray for at least one occasion each month where you personally engage in unplanned evangelism outside the church building. The goal is to develop a mind and heart where you are looking for opportunities to share the gospel whenever out among people.

Friendship Evangelism Project:

Develop a new “friendship evangelism” relationship over the next three months. As you begin to get to know the person, do a little research related to the person’s background so you can better connect with him as you get to know him. Once every three weeks you will give updates about how the relationship is developing and your evaluation of what you are learning about friendship evangelism through this experience.

Church Involvement:

Once a month: Write a brief report of your evangelistic activities to share with the church or with your small group. Use the “Report” outline above as a guide for preparing this report.

Once a month: Send in important items related to what you are doing in evangelism to be included in the church prayer bulletin.

Tracts:

Part 1 - Write a tract that is no more than one page in length (like the one on “Eternal Life”). The tract should simply and clearly share something of the gospel to attract the attention of unbelievers to seek to know more.

Part 2 –

- A. Read and evaluate the quality of each of the 5 tracts handed out in class, assessing their value in handing out to non-Christians.
- B. After assessing each,
 - note which of the 5 communicates well to a non-Christian audience
 - note which of the 5 communicates the gospel correctly and clearly
 We will discuss everyone’s evaluations in class together.

Use one or more tracts whenever you think appropriate in witnessing to others.

Book Discussion:

Prepare to discuss the books assigned for class (Gilbert and Newman). Preparation should include the following.

- A simple overview of the content of each book
- Key lessons you learned from each book
- Any weaknesses found in each book

Course Outline

Introduction

Section 1: Biblical Theology of Evangelism

Section 2: Foundational Matters of Evangelism

Section 3: Preparation for Evangelism

Section 4: Practice of Evangelism

Section 5: Obstacles to Evangelism

Section 6: Concluding Appeals