

PEOPLE GROUPS/INTENTIONAL EVANGELISM

Four Questions to Ask Yourself:

What is evangelism?

Why is it important to develop a culture (DNA) of evangelism?

How does a church develop that culture?

Can anyone do evangelism?

What Is Intentional Evangelism?

(Accts 1:8) Evangelism is **witnessing**. It is **connecting** with people. (Acts 2:8). Evangelism is communicating the good news of Jesus Christ in the person's **heart** language. Parameters determine our message. On any given Sunday **85** % of the population won't be in a church service on Sunday morning. What is the 'gospel message problem'? Answer: Lack of passion. We take the path of least resistance. The more I witness, the more **ready** I am to witness.

The Disconnect Between the Message and the Person We Are Trying to Evangelize...

- We don't spend enough time with **lost** people. (If we love God we will love other people)
- Our **language** (The sender to the receiver)
- The Bible determines our **message**
- We need to know their **needs** (Their heart language)
- **Context** determines how we share (Example of roofer, intellectual)
- Build a **bridge** (connection) to carry the gospel
- Be Biblically **faithful** and culturally **relevant**

It starts with our passion and our practice. Then make sure we are speaking the same language. This is effective evangelism (communication). When we evangelize a 'pocket of **lostness**' we need to reach them in their **context** (community). We then baptize them into our community which then becomes their community. This becomes an indigenous church. The basis of this is prayer.

How Does the Church Planter Put this Together?

- Be **intentional** in developing a strategy among your people group.
- **Equip** them to do evangelism.

Practical Steps for the Church Planter to Take to be Intentional

- **Model** it himself (People won't follow you where you don't lead)
- **Experiment** (Get out and do it!)
- Do it in the **church service** (Example of baptism service)
- **Celebrate** the **witness**
- 4 big events a **year**

Can Anyone Evangelize?

Even **lost** people can evangelize! (Examples of Cornelius, Lydia, and the demon possessed girl). Remember: No one is more passionate about witnessing than a new Christian is- so go with them! Ask yourself: When was your last witnessing encounter?

Additional Notes/Homework:

Develop an intentional system within your church

- How will my church do this?
- How will I personally do this? (Gathering Journal)