

Fundamental Mindset of Evangelism

Text : **I Cor. 5: 9-13, 10: 23-30, 9: 19-24**

S#1.

INTRODUCTION :

Review ...

S#2.

A. With the first lesson in the series we saw :

1. The three **ingredients** necessary for evangelism to occur are :

S#3.

- a. Message ... gospel of Christ
- b. Messenger ... all followers of Christ
- c. Mission field ... all those outside Christ

2. There are certain primary **concerns** about these ingredients :

S#4.

- a. Message ... Must be verbalized clearly and accurately
- b. Messenger ... Must be credible, example doesn't communicate, but can discredit
- c. Mission field ... Must maintain contact, Be IN the world, but not OF the world

3. We must have a **strategy** for the implementation of each ingredient :

S#5.

- a. Message ... Consistently, clearly and accurately verbalized - fruit of commitment
- b. Messenger ... Building redemptive relationships and introducing to the church
- c. Mission field ... Provide points of contact, disseminate basic information

S#6.

B. Our last lesson we further developed the concept of direct relational evangelism.

1. We built a four part sentence which expanded the concept :

- a. Evangelism is a process. (*Salvation is point action with ongoing result*)
- b. Evangelism is a life-related process. It happens while one lives his life.
- c. It is a life-related process in which God is involved. (*Prayer & Providence*)
- d. Evangelism is a life-related process in which God is involved and in which we must be alert and active.

2. We saw that God expects all of His followers to live considering outsiders.

- a. Evangelism is **not** optional. (*Essential to our salvation & survival of church*) **S#7.**

- b. It is a command that must be obeyed. (**John 17:18, Matt 28:19, Mrk 16:15**) **S#8.**
John 14: 15 – If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.

- c. **We each do it in our own way, but each and every Christian must verbalize the gospel to the lost.** **S#9.**

3. We observed that Jesus consistently practiced this kind of evangelism.

S#10.

- a. **John 4** ... He turned a mundane request for a drink into a spiritual discussion.
- b. **John 7** ... He turned the traditions of the feast into a spiritual discussion.

- c. **Luke 13** ... He turned discussion of current events into a spiritual discussion.
- d. **Acts 17** ... Paul turned idol worship into an opportunity to present the gospel.
- e. **Acts 16** ... Paul turned a man's attempted suicide into his being born again.

We have learned that we live among those in the world, but we never lose sight of the our purpose in dealing with them. They are lost and we must offer salvation to them.

Luke 5: 31-32 And Jesus answered and said to them, "It is not those who are well who need a physician, but those who are sick. ³² I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance."

I. There must be a distinction between those in the church and those outside of it. #11

A. In our modern PC culture many try to eliminate the distinction.

1. Their reasoning goes like this :
 - a. God loves everyone.
 - b. He would not sentence one He loves to Hell.
 - c. Jesus died to save the world, so we're all God's children.
2. The truth is God will not ignore rejection and rebellion. (*King of more than planet earth*)
 - a. Failure to accept God as Father breaks His heart.
 - b. God cannot remain just and allow some rebels to go unpunished.
3. God has reached out to save mankind by means of the sacrifice of Jesus. **S#12.**
 - a. Every person on earth sins and needs forgiveness. **Rom. 3: 10, 23**
 - b. Jesus Christ provides the cure for sin, **but** the cure must be accepted.
- * c. Christians are responsible to make sure people know the cure is available.
4. The cure is a gracious gift which is communicated through true faith. **S#13.**
 - a. **Eph. 2: 8-10** For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; ⁹ not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.
 - b. **Heb. 11: 6** – And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder... **S#14.**
 - c. How does one get the faith that can save him from his sins ? **S#15.**
Rom. 10: 17 – So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

* Christians who do not understand salvation do not seek to share it.

B. The scriptures clearly teach that the church is a set aside, separated group. S#16.

1. The very meaning of the word church (*ekklesia*) is to be separated out.
2. The scriptures clearly teach there is a proper “US” and “THEM” differentiation.
 - a. **I Thes. 4: 12** – so that you will behave properly toward outsiders ...
 - b. **Col. 4: 5** – Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most ...
3. Our text emphasizes the difference in our relationship with insiders vs outsiders.

I Cor. 5: 12 – For what have I to do with judging outsiders?

S#17.

Do you not judge those who are within the church?

C. The Corinthians had misunderstood Paul’s instructions. S#18.

1. **I Cor. 5: 9** – I wrote you in my letter not to associate with immoral people;
 - a. They took this to mean to avoid the evil outside of the church.
 - b. That was not at all what the Apostle was teaching.
 - c. *Remember the context. ... They had immorality within the congregation.*
2. **I Cor. 5: 10** – I did not at all mean with the immoral people of this world,
or with the covetous and swindlers, or with idolaters,
for then you would have to go out of the world. (*separate from it*)
 - a. In order to avoid sinful people the church would have to be a monastery.
 - b. Jesus commanded His followers to go into the world and do His ministry. **S#19.**
John 17: 18 – As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.
 - c. Jesus came into the world to save sinners.
I Tim. 1: 15 – It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that
Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I ...
 - d. *To separate one’s self from the world would be to rebel against the will of God.*
3. Christians are not allowed to “judge” those outside the church.
I Cor. 5: 12a – For what have I to do with judging outsiders?
4. This is not to say that Christians should not point out sin as being wicked. **S#20.**
Eph. 5: 11 – Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness,
but instead even expose them; (*or as KJV .. reprove them*)
 - a. Biblically, to judge is to invoke a punishment against.
 - b. Christians may not punish outsiders, i.e., those who are not in Christ.
 - c. Only God has the authority to discipline “outsiders.”
5. The Apostles requires that Christians “judge” those who are in the church.
I Cor. 5: 12b – Do you not judge those who are within the church?

D. What judgment is commanded for Christians to impose on sinful brothers? S#21.

1. **I Cor. 5: 11** – But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he is an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler—not even to eat with such a one.
2. **II Thes. 3: 6** – Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from every brother who leads an unruly life and not according to the tradition which you received from us.
3. **I Cor. 5: 13** – But those who are outside, God judges.
Remove the wicked man from among yourselves.

E. The point is that we are specifically commanded not to separate ourselves from the wicked people of this world. S#22.

1. **WHY ?** It would negate another clear command. Matt. 28 , Mark 16
2. We are sent into the world for the same reason Jesus was sent. **John 17: 18**
3. We cannot make disciples if we have not contact.

II. Contact with the world does not include participation in their evil. S#23.

A. We must never allow the unbeliever to think we accept his evil practices.

1. Never forget why you are having the contact with the outsider.
 - a. You are NOT there to enjoy the event.
 - b. Every contact with an unbeliever is an opportunity to save his soul. **S#24.**
Col. 4: 5 – **Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity.**
 - c. Those outside Christ are lost being “separate from Christ.”
They have “**no hope and without God in the world.**” **Eph. 2: 12**
2. Never allow the outsider to think you endorse their erroneous religious practices.

B. Chapters 8-10 deal with the problem of eating meat in a pagan city. (cf. Rom 14)

1. The Christian lives his life in consideration of others. (**Read .. I Cor 10: 23-30**)
2. **I Cor. 10: 23-24** **All things are lawful, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful, but not all things edify. ²⁴ Let no one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbor.**
3. There were four problems with eating meat :
 - a. Many celebrations were held in the temple and meat served. **Say no**
 - b. Meat offered to idols was sold in the market. **Buy and eat**
 - c. Meat served in unbeliever’s home. **Don’t ask.**

d. Unbeliever proclaims that this is a sacrifice to my favorite idol. **Don't eat**

* **Principle :** *When the source is not stated eat, but never allow anyone to think you are honoring an idol by your presence or by your eating.*

C. This principle has very clear applications in modern life.

1. Can a Christian sing along with an instrument when in denominational service ?
2. Can a Christian light candles in a denominational service ?
3. Can a Christian attend a fiesta party for a "saint ?"

* *The unbeliever must know that we are there out of respect for him, but that we do NOT endorse the erroneous or evil practices.*

* **CONTACT :** *We must overcome our natural desire to be with people who are like us.*

III. The attitude that God wants for us to have is taught in chapter 9: 19-24. S#25.

A. **Read ... I Cor 9: 19-24** (*The way Paul acted when with people unlike himself.*)

B. Notice the motivation for the Apostle's lifestyle. S#26.

1. Vs. **19** ... **Made myself a slave to all, so that I may win more.**
2. Vs. **20** ... **myself under the Law, so that I might win those who are under the Law**
3. Vs. **21** ... **under the law of Christ, so that I might win those who are without law.**
4. Vs. **22** ... **become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some.**

C. *The Apostle surrenders his own will to win others and so he will be saved.* S#27.

1. Vs. **23** ... **I do all things for the sake of the gospel, so that I may become a fellow partaker of it.** (*Not a license to sin w/*)

* 2. The Christian's faithfulness is measured in his willingness to surrender himself and serve God with the life that God has purchased. **I Cor. 6: 19-20**

IV. Jesus lived a perfect example of this mindset. S#28.

A. **Luke 15: 1-2** **Now all the tax collectors and the sinners were coming near Him to listen to Him. 2 Both the Pharisees and the scribes began to grumble, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."** S#29.

1. Jesus "**received**" people that were not socially acceptable to religious people.
 - a. "**received**" (*prosdechomai*) to welcome, to admit, to give access to one's self
 - b. Jesus even eats with these wicked people. (*Pharisees would not touch them.*)
2. Why was Jesus with these "**sinners**" ? ... They **were coming near Him to listen to Him.**

B. Jesus replied by telling three famous parables about loss :**S#30.**

1. Vs. **3-7** ... The parable of the lost sheep.
 - a. Only **1%** was lost, but the shepherd searched until he found that one.
 - b. Application : Vs. **7** ... **joy in heaven over one sinner who repents**
2. Vs. **8-10** ... The parable of the lost coin.
 - a. Only one coin out of ten (**10%**) was lost but no effort was spared until found
 - b. Application : Vs. **10** ... **joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner**
3. Vs. **11-32** ... The parable of the two lost sons. **S#31.**
 - a. One son rebelled and left. (wished his father dead ... just give me my inheritance)
 - b. The other son had no love for the father of his brother, only self.
 - c. Application : Vs. **32** ... **But we had to celebrate and rejoice, for this brother of yours was dead and has begun to live, and was lost and has been found.'**

* *Jesus lived among, taught, and entertained sinners for the joy of the Father.*

C. Jesus lived a life devoted to His purpose :**S#32.**

1. **Luke 19: 10** – **For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.**
2. He totally surrendered Himself to this assignment from the Father. **S#33.**
Phil 2: 5-8 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, **S#34.**
6 who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, **7** but emptied Himself, taking the **S#35.**
 bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men. **8** Being found in form of a appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.
 3. The Apostles commended this commitment to all who follow Christ. **S#36.**
 - a. **Gal. 2: 20** – **I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.**
 - b. **Phil. 1: 21** – For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.
 4. Jesus requires this same level of commitment out of each of us.
Matt. 6: 33 – **But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.** (cf. **Matt. 10: 37-39**)

Have you committed your life to Christ.

S#37.

Is your life devoted to creating joy in Heaven.

INVITATION :

During the invitation song **S#38.**

Lesson Text :

I Corinthians 5: 9-13

9 I wrote you in my letter not to associate with immoral people; **10** I *did* not at all *mean* with the immoral people of this world, or with the covetous and swindlers, or with idolaters, for then you would have to go out of the world. **11** But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he is an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler—not even to eat with such a one. **12** For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Do you not judge those who are within *the church*? **13** But those who are outside, God judges. Remove the wicked man from among you.

I Corinthians 10: 23-30

23 All things are lawful, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful, but not all things edify. **24** Let no one seek his own *good*, but that of his neighbor. **25** Eat anything that is sold in the meat market without asking questions for conscience' sake; **26** For the earth is the Lord's, and all it contains. **27** If one of the unbelievers invites you and you want to go, eat anything that is set before you without asking questions for conscience' sake. **28** But if anyone says to you, "This is meat sacrificed to idols," do not eat *it*, for the sake of the one who informed *you*, and for conscience' sake; **29** I mean not your own conscience, but the other *man's*; for why is my freedom judged by another's conscience? **30** If I partake with thankfulness, why am I slandered concerning that for which I give thanks?

I Corinthians 9: 19-24

19 For though I am free from all *men*, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I may win more. **20** To the Jews I became as a Jew, so that I might win Jews; to those who are under the Law, as under the Law though not being myself under the Law, so that I might win those who are under the Law; **21** to those who are without law, as without law, though not being without the law of God but under the law of Christ, so that I might win those who are without law. **22** To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak; I have become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some. **23** I do all things for the sake of the gospel, so that I may become a fellow partaker of it.

24 Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but *only* one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win.