



Part 1

What's Your Style?

6 DIFFERENT EVANGELISTIC STYLES

1. CONFRONTATIONAL = IN-YOUR-FACE CHALLENGE
e.g. Acts 2:38-40
2. INTELLECTUAL = APOLOGETICS
e.g. Acts 17:16-34
3. TESTIMONIAL = TELLING YOUR STORY
e.g. John 9:25
4. RELATIONAL = EARNING THE RIGHT TO SPEAK
e.g. Mark 5:19
5. INVITATIONAL = COME & SEE
e.g. John 4:29
6. SERVING = ACTS OF KINDNESS
e.g. Acts 9:36

→ Go round the group taking one of these six at a time and explaining what they are and how they work?

→ Which of those are you? Which do you lean towards? Maybe more than one? Which would you see yourself operating in or would like to grow in?

→ Do you consider yourself good, indifferent or poor when it comes to sharing your faith? What holds you back? What additional training would you find helpful?

→ Do you / have you known anyone who's really good at personal evangelism? Which of the methods in the above list did they utilise?

→ Which of these do you think is the most effective or important? Having said that, why is that it is important to have such a variety of different approaches?

THE TENSION: COMMISSION & NEED v PERSONALITY & GIFTING

ON ONE SIDE

- * COMMISSION (Matthew 28:18-20)
- * COMPASSION (Matthew 9:36-38)
- * SPIRIT STIRRING (John 15:26, 16:8, 2 Peter 1:9)

ON THE OTHER SIDE

- * We all have different PERSONALITIES and SKILL-SETS and considerable LIMITATIONS, at least in our OWN MINDS.
- * We know we NEED to ... we probably desperately WANT to ... but don't really know WHERE TO START.

→ Do you ever find yourself struggling with this tension – the need / desire to do more and yet the frustrations of limitations and failure? Why are you frustrated and what would you like to do about it?

→ Does your individual personality make a difference in all of this? Where might extroverts flourish while introvert struggle and vice-versa?

→ Are your limitations really that bad? Do they sometimes become excuses? And is there anything there that could not be eliminated by training / practice / boldness?

THE CHALLENGE

- a) Are we prepared to 'WALK ACROSS THE ROOM?'
- b) Are we CONNECTED to the world we're trying to reach?
- c) Are we INTENTIONALLY trying to share life-changing message of grace?
- d) Are we still SENSITIVE to the compassion of the Holy Spirit or have we become COLD & HARD?
- e) Have we unwittingly bought into an ENTITLEMENT MENTALITY?
- f) Are we in danger of becoming INWARD-FOCUSSED, SELF-SERVING at the expense of the GOSPEL?

→ How easy is it for a church to become inward-looking, introspective? What are the warning signs? What are the potential end results? How do you avoid it?

→ Look at each of the challenge questions from a) to e) and answer honestly whether you individually or we as a church have any tendencies in those directions?

→ When it comes to personal evangelism, is maturity as a Christian an advantage or disadvantage or maybe a bit of both?

OUR STRAPLINE

"EYES up, HEARTS open, FEET walking, HANDS outstretched, KNEES bent."

→ What do each of those mean and are yours?

OBJECTIVES

- * To move you from FEAR to FAITH.
- * From HIDING IN CORNERS to WALKING ACROSS ROOMS.
- * From 'OUGHT TO' to 'CAN DO.'
- * Give you TOOLS fit for the job.

→ In conclusion, how important is this topic? Is it more important now than ever? Is it harder now than ever? What would you like to get out of this series above all?