





THRIVING CONGREGATIONS



Presentations, lunch, & group discussions about Evangelism and the Church

February 3, 2024



Christ Our King Presbyterian Church

> 10 Lexington Road Bel Air, MD 21014



AGENDA

Welcome
Fear of Evangelism
Reframing Evangelism
Tools for Evangelism
Final Thoughts and Questions

Lunch

Table Discussions

Introduction

The dreaded E-word. Evangelism seems to be such a daunting task in our discipleship. It is often the thing we are least willing to do even when our churches continue to dwindle. Is there a perfect solution? How can we gain many new members? Do I really have to do it? These are just a few questions that keep us from stepping out in faith to follow Jesus into the world and to those who need him.



• FEAR OF EVANGELISM

Misconceptions

Uncertainty

Failures

• REFRAMING EVANGELISM

Clarity

Confidence

Success

EVANGELISM



noun

1: the winning or revival of personal commitments to Christ

2: militant or crusading zeal

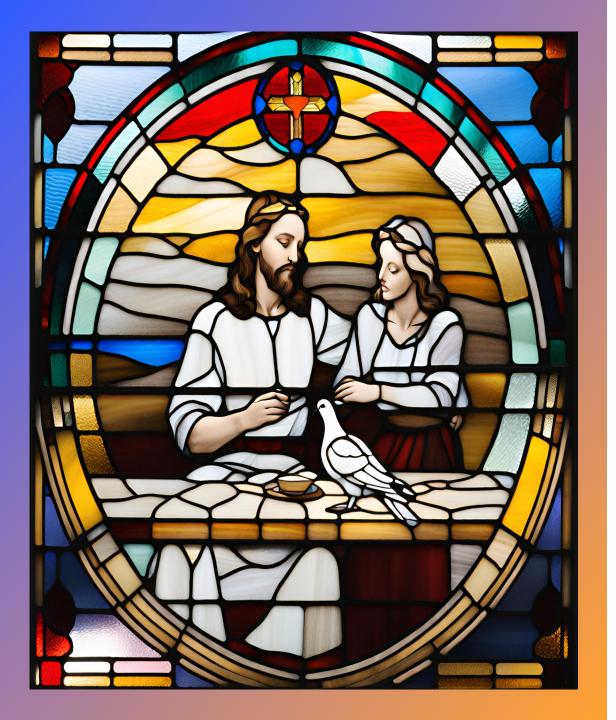
EVANGELISM



In Christianity, evangelism or witnessing is the act of preaching the gospel with the intention of sharing the message and teachings of Jesus Christ. It is sometimes associated with Christian missions.



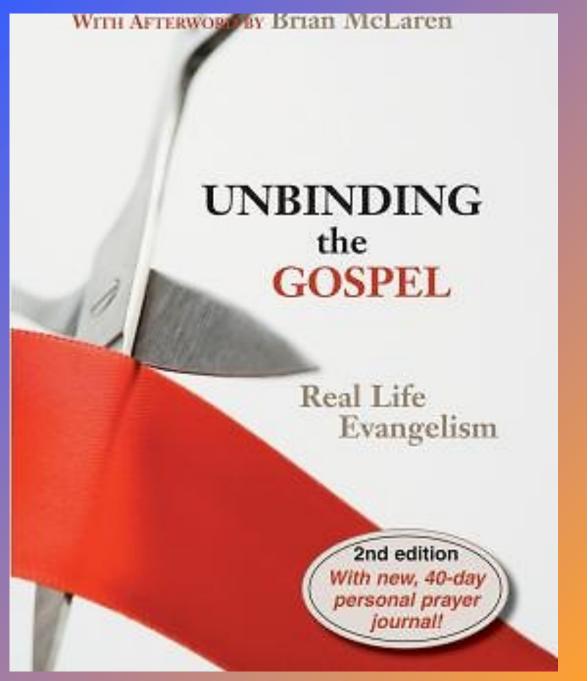
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Disciple 1 365

TOOLS FOR EVANGELISM

Unbinding the Gospel



Part One

- 1. Breaking the Curse
- 2. Why Do Evangelism?
- 3. If You Don't Like Statistics

Part Two

- 4. Three Stories of Victory
- 5. Real Life
- 6. What New Members Want

Part Three

- 7. How's Your Church Doing?
- 8. The Holy and the Practical
- 9. Smart Sailing
- 10. Getting Started

Mainline Decline

	United States Population	Membership of Mainline Denominations	Percent of Population
1960	179 million	26 million	14.4%
2000	280 million	21 million	7.4%

WHAT NEW MEMBERS WANT

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Transformed lives

To feel loved, accepted, and comfortable in the church Learning about God (Jesus, Spirit) and growing spiritually

TRINITY OF RELATIONSHIPS .* .

Individual relationships with God
Healthy relationships between church members
A love for people outside of the church

Make an E-vent

Form a small team to review *Unbinding the Gospel*. Determine if it is a good fit for your context.

Develop a group between 8 and 20 leaders in your church. Together read *Unbinding the Gospel* over 8 to 10 weeks.

With the group leaders, add everyone who is responsible for worship, and willing to lead a small group. Read *Unbinding Your Church*. Plan for worship and small groups.

Using planning and worship materials from *Unbinding Your Church*, focus on the E-vent for six straight weeks for worship services.

Have the whole church working in small groups and study *Unbinding Your Heart*. This coincides with the worship series during the E-vent.

Following the E-vent, begin the work of living into a new evangelism mindset for your church and confidently share with community around you.

Weeks 1-10

Weeks 11-26

Weeks 27-32

Weeks 27-32

Moving Forward







Summary

The presented concepts are only a few ways of changing how we do evangelism. No matter how you move forward, prayer and relationships are central to being successful. We are not called to have all the answers, but to be willing to ask questions and to offer a heartfelt and honest picture of our faith, in order that others may see Christ in US.

OVERCOMING FEAR OF THE E-WORD

Thriving Congregations



Chair





Edwin Lacy Presbytery Staff







Jeff Young



THANK YOU

Here is some fun with AI creations