

Sharing Jesus without losing your cool — Evangelism for today

Introduction: The Evangelism Landscape

What should “evangelism” look like today? Evangelism is not something we **do**. It is **who** we **are**.

The “Building Blocks” of sharing our faith:

1. Our evangelism must be ***rooted in our own relationship with Christ***

John 15:4-5 NKJV - 4 "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. 5 "I am the vine, you [are] the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

Matthew 4:19 NKJV - 19 Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Eph 5:18-19 NKJV - And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.

2. Our ***motivation to share comes from Jesus's love for us*** and, thus, our ***love*** for Him and others

2 Cor 5:14-15 NKJV - 14 For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; 15 and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.

3. ***Prayer is powerful and needed***

John 17:20-21 NKJV - "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, [are] in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me."

4. We are **sent** ones.

John 17:18 "As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.

Acts 1:8 NKJV - "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

2 Cor 5:20 NKJV - Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore [you] on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.

5. ***God is already at work***

John 6:44 NKJV - "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.

John 12:32 NKJV - "And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all [peoples] to Myself."

6. Be **clear on the Gospel**

John 3:16; 6:47; 5:24; Ephesians 2:8-9

John Hopper: Four "pillars" (from *Giving Jesus Away*) (CCRR)

1. The character of God: Deut. 7:9-10; Romans 11:22 God is both holy and thus just as well as love. He is holy and loving.
2. The consequences of our sin Romans 3:23; 6:23
3. The reconciliation and forgiveness made possible by Jesus John 14:6; Acts 4:12; 1 Peter 3:18
4. Our response: Faith in Jesus or believing in Jesus for eternal life John 5:24; John 6:47; John 3:16

7. Learn and practice ***"spiritual conversations"***

One definition is "a dialogue that helps direct people's attention towards the spiritual world. These conversations are often entry points into further discussions about one's faith background as well as the Gospel message."

John 4: Woman at the well

Conversations: "Good" —> "God" —> "Gospel"

Good: Beyond the weather. Goes deeper. Opens door to spiritual.

God: Allows discussion of who they perceive God to be.

Gospel: Need for a Savior. More explicit explanation.