



Evangelism

"Evangelism is, first and foremost, us participating with the Holy Spirit to tell people about God and his love for them and to invite them into a relationship with him."

– Matt Mikalatos (Good News for a Change)

In studying Christian apologetics last month, we focused on what and why we believe. This month, we focus on sharing our faith with others. This year we've memorized several related verses, including:

- **Romans 1:16** The gospel is the power of God for salvation of people!
- Acts 1:8 We are witnesses for Christ!
- **1 Peter 3:15** We should be prepared to share the hope of the gospel!
- Matthew 28:19-20 We are commanded to tell others about Him!

Yet sometimes sharing the gospel seems so pressure-packed and intimidating. We are better at evading than evangelism. What if we make a mess of the message? What if the person with whom we share is offended? What if s/he asks a question we can't answer? What if we fail?

Jesus said, "I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5)

As we abide in Christ, God will use us to impact others' lives for His glory. As we live with gospel intentionality, we'll notice God-provided opportunities to share our faith. And as we trust and faithfully follow, the Holy Spirit will guide our words and actions.

Are you prepared <u>and</u> willing to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ?

Current Month Assignments

- Read *Good News for a Change: How to Talk to Anyone About Jesus* (Mikalatos) and prepare a book summary to share with the group.
- Review the gospel presentations information in the *Resources* section and come prepared to share the gospel in 5 minutes at our next meeting. You may utilize one of these methods or another one of your choice.
- Start working on your *DM Year in Review Summary* (it will be due at our last DM meeting). Spend time reflecting on this DM year. There is not a required format for this assignment, but it should include your thoughts on the following items:
 - Which month's topic/focus has had the greatest impact on your walk with Christ this year? Why?
 - o In what area/spiritual discipline do you believe God is calling you to greater growth and development? What action steps will you take in this area as you move forward?
 - o What has been the most valuable/meaningful part of David's Men for you? Why?
 - o Which memory scripture from David's Men has meant the most to you? Why?
 - o How is God leading you with respect to next steps in your faith journey with Him?
- Memorize this month's verses. Review verses from previous months to ensure they are deeply rooted.
- Man-date: As usual, this would be a great opportunity to practice saying your verses.

Resources:

- Some methods of sharing the Gospel:
 - 3 Circles Life Conversation Guide: https://vimeo.com/96082854 (NOTE: You can download a free app for this guide at http://lifeonmissionbook.com/conversation-guide.)
 - The Navigators website has information on several methods, such as *One-Verse Evangelism: How to Share Christ's Love Conversationally and Visually* and *The Bridge Illustration* (you can also Google videos online discussing these tools): https://www.navigators.org/topic/evangelism/?post_type=resource
 - o Google The Romans Road

Memory Verses

The Gospel

Romans 3:23 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 5:8 - But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

John 1:12 - But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

Ephesians 2:8-9 - For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

+ 1 (for DM veterans)

1 Peter 2:24 - He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.