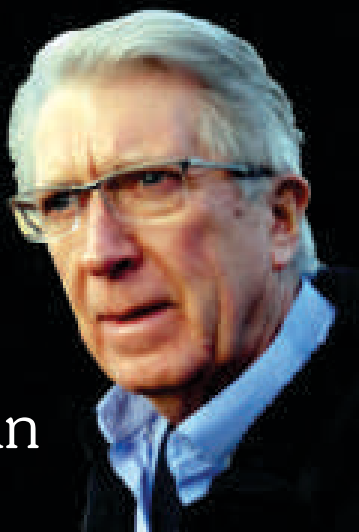


George Ross

Fundamentals
for the
Evangelistic Christian



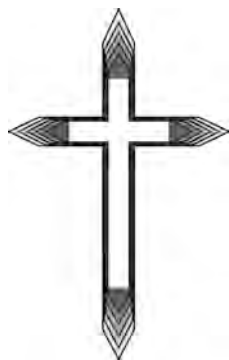
the evangelist

**BE IT!
INSPIRE!
LIBERATE!
RECOGNISE!**

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations."

Matthew 28:19

the evangelist



Fundamentals

for the
Evangelistic Christian

George Ross

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Introduction

What is to be done with the tendency of **shrinking church membership** in the western world?

Once mighty church groups are losing members faster than they gain new converts. Many churches don't expect lifetime commitment from their members.

I'm going to call it a **renewed opportunity**. We must take up our responsibility as evangelists for God's Word.

That's what I'm asking!

Yes, I'm hopeful that church members will move from a **benign**, passive reliance on old infrastructure and awake to that power of the Holy Spirit that comes from their **individual calling**, thus allowing God to unleash His will, by **using us** in the place where He has placed each of us.

The exciting news (from my Christian perspective) is that **this is not optional**. The *born-again you* has **no choice** but to add value as an evangelist in some meaningful way to God's vineyard.

This is the **foremost task and responsibility** we have as professed members of the **Remnant Church**, its churches and institutions.

There is no higher priority than the commitment we all must make of **I WILL GO** in the light of each one's individual position as appointed by the Almighty.

It's a story about **talent**, the very talent that God gave each of us,

Get busy for the Lord!

Introduction

and that talent will express itself as **we must get busy for the Lord.**

Maybe you don't agree with everything I say in this book, but I hope that you will disagree in such a positive way that you'll **do something!**

DOING SOMETHING. That's the essential idea, isn't it? Well, that's what James 1: 22 says! And that's really the moral of this book's theme, **to be an Evangelist.**

NOT:	He sat in a pew for fifty years, claiming membership of a denomination and watching the world go by.
NOT:	He made a lot of money.
NOT:	He became famous.
RATHER:	He was a doer.

Agree or disagree with me on any matter, but if you are the *born-again you* that you claim to be, you must agree with me on this: **Getting off the sidelines, being a player, is not optional.**

No. In fact, being an evangelist is a **command** and is **the mandate of Christ for all believers.** (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-20; Acts 1:8)

Preaching the gospel to every creature is the **Great Commission** for all believers and our **primary assignment** in this world.



Do it - NOW!

My Utterance

Dear Reader

We keep trying (longing) to veer back to the path of the good old days, the tent in the veld, the Lister generator in the distance with the 32 volt lights and the smell of burnt paraffin in the air. The metallic-sounding Tannoy speakers.

Yet we feel safe in these chaotic times for the church, as we fall back on the command-and-control model of leadership – a model that no longer exists.

Dazzled by the still-abiding myth of our past security, we shy away from recognising new evangelising methods, requiring nothing less than the “God-given talents” of the youthful individual.

Now we must take immediate charge of these new-fangled technologies and build piece by piece a series of evangelistic efforts, small and large, over time.

That’s scary because it challenges the established hierarchal halls of authority.

So, my dear reader, let's prepare for this unbounded quest, which will ultimately result in something more alive, perhaps stranger and certainly far, far better.

YOU

*But you,
keep your head
in all situations,
endure hardship,
do the work of
an evangelist,
discharge all the duties
of your ministry.*

2 Timothy 4:5



1

It's all about
Evangelism

- 
- #1 *Before we start*
 - #2 *Good excuses*
 - #3 *But I'm so busy!*
 - #4 *The NOW quiet time.*
 - #5 *A passion for the lost soul*
 - #6 *Two kinds of Christians*
 - #7 *A burden for the lost soul...*
 - #8 *Winning souls for Christ*
 - #9 *Three score and ten, that's all
we have*
 - #10 *A passion and fire for
the ministry*
 - #11 *The Rabbi tells a story*

#Yet before we start,
let me be perfectly
clear...

Evangelism is not an optional extra!



Because God is *intentional* and evangelism is a *platform for you to display His goodness*. As He is intentional, not accidental, you were made by Him for Him, so allow Him to show you His will for your life by using the talent He gave you!

When Jesus first called His disciples, He said:

"Come, follow Me, and I will send you out to fish for people."
(Matthew 4:19.)

Or let me paraphrase James 1:22:

"Get busy for the Lord!"

Or:

Focus on the *verbs* (do words), not the *nouns* (thing words)

I am a fanatic about evangelising, but it goes beyond that statement. Evangelising has become a professional obsession. I simply believe that evangelism *per se* is the principal reason, ultimately, that the dear lost soul receives the

TRUTH THAT NEVER CHANGES.

*Do you think
folk will read this book?
I mean, evangelists are
in the minority, and how
many of them need to
read this stuff?*

*That's the wrong
question! What I intend
to illustrate, is that all
born-again Christians are
evangelists, albeit in
different forms.*



The purpose of the Evangelist is simply to be available as the Holy Spirit prompts and to give opportunity to talk about the good news of Jesus, that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, who was sent by the Father to live a perfect life in our place, to die on a cross for our sins, and by His resurrection, give us eternal life, the forgiveness of sins, and the power to change.

So that's evangelism to me, delivering the Good News to the unsaved!

Yet all-important! The Evangelist does his part by delivering the truth in a Christ-like manner, but he cannot be convinced that a particular direction is from God.

This is the Holy Spirit's task.

#2 *Yes, there are
ALWAYS
good excuses.*



To the outsider, **YOU** are the point person! **YOU** are the person others see as representing the church.

You may be the only Bible some people read...

You may be the only Jesus some people see...

But also remember: **YOU** have a responsibility to uphold your church's goodwill, its ethics and the reputation it has built up over the decades.

"Whether you think you can or can't, you're right!" (Henry Ford)

We all have our field of influence, mostly the people around us.

Those are the ones we should lead to Christ.

Small but important...

Just a small but important point: the Evangelist doesn't **motivate** people.

Rather the Evangelist, by using God's Word, **awakens** the latent talent (which is God's gift) by providing opportunities that justify people choosing to follow and obey His will.

I guess one of the problems is that when we talk about evangelism, we instinctively think of standing on the street corner and preaching!

That's not what I'm promoting.



Evangelism is summed up by the Three Angels' messages and the Great Commission

And that's what I want to illustrate in these pages.

Fortunately we are all **different**. God made us that way, as He has a **different purpose** for each of us!



Luke 9:59-60 has the answer to that one:

He said to another man, "Follow me."

But he replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."

Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

Follow Me



Jonah was a reluctant evangelist!

Nineveh is well-known as the place where Jonah was sent by God to evangelise the Assyrians.

Jonah was reluctant to go, probably because he did not have the attitude of a Christian evangelist. He had no hope that his hearers would respond to God's message for their own welfare, **and so he tried to run from the Lord's command.** (Jonah 1:3)

God intercepted Jonah and sent him to the Ninevites by making a great fish swallow him. **"And the Lord commanded the fish and it vomited Jonah onto dry land."** (Jonah 2:10)

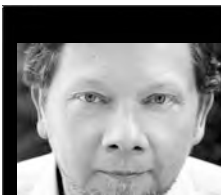
Maybe you're also reluctant!

My answer would then be:

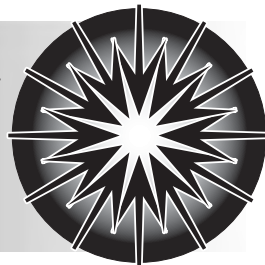
If God can use someone as reluctant as Jonah to accomplish the **greatest urban revival in Bible history** (the entire pagan city of Nineveh turned to the Lord!) then...

He can use you, too!

#1 The Evangelist is fully aware that his calling is to be useful to his fellow man.



Eckhart Tolle explains that when your attention is fully in the Now, presence will flow into and transform what you do. There will be quality and power in it.

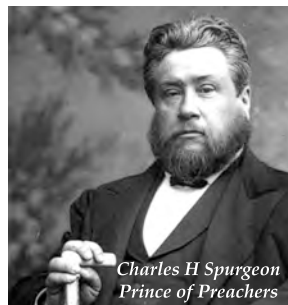


The Evangelist knows that Quiet Time is a time dedicated to **one-on-one time with God and His Word**. It helps him to grow in his relationship with God. This can be through **prayer** or **meditating on scripture**.

Remember, our lives unfold one day at a time, and today's choices shape our tomorrows. Let's embrace the present moment and live purposefully!

NOW MATTERS: Charles Spurgeon urged believers to recognise the importance of today. We should not squander our present moments by constantly worrying about the future. **Instead, we must serve God faithfully in the here and now.**

Spurgeon's approach mirrored that of the apostles. They never deferred repentance or faith to tomorrow or a more convenient time. Instead, they urged people to respond promptly to God's call.

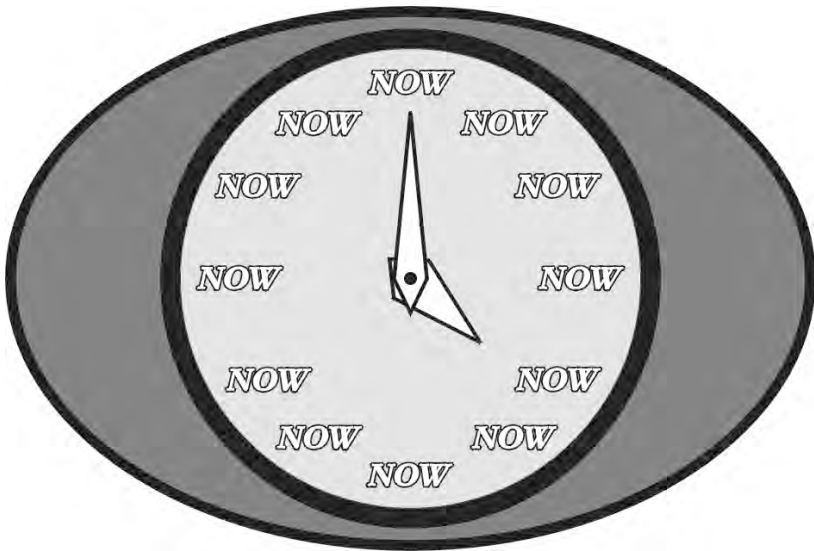


*Charles H Spurgeon
Prince of Preachers*

Yesterday is gone forever, tomorrow hasn't happened, and may not even happen, because we may not be here!

All we have is the NOW moment.

Most people don't know how to listen, because their mind is distanced from the present moment. A major part of their attention is taken up by thinking. In computer terms we refer to the current or present moment as *Real-Time Processing*.



*The Evangelist needs to keep his mind on the **NOW moment**, remembering Matthew 6:34:*

“Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.”

#5 *The Evangelist has a passion for the lost soul and presses on towards the goal.*

“I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 3:14)

Paul makes a **conscious effort** to keep his eyes on the prize promised to him by God. He lives a focused life.

He has regarded his life on earth, particularly his former life as a Pharisee, as rubbish compared to the life he now attains to, **the life of knowing Christ.**

Say it out loud!

They say:

I say:

**My language
(phrasing)
is extreme.**

**I am a realist;
the times are
extreme.**



Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For His sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ.

(Philipians 3:8)

#6 *The Evangelist understands
there's only one thing
worse than living this
life as an unbeliever...*

And that's DYING as one.

“He said there were two kinds of Christians: those who sincerely believe in God and those who, just as sincerely, believe that they believe. You can tell them apart by their actions in decisive moments.”

Richard Wurmbrand in his book
In God's Underground



Many people die without having the experience of an extended amount of time on a death bed. Many people die instantly and unexpectedly, with no opportunity to trust in Christ.

2 Corinthians 6:2 declares: "In the time of my favour I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you. I tell you, now is the time of God's favour, now is the day of salvation."

Now is the day of
SALVATION

*No man has ever
repented
of being a Christian
on his deathbed.
(Hannah More)*

The Evangelist
fully understands that
although the story of the
criminal on the cross demonstrates
that last-minute conversions are possible,
the Bible warns us to repent *now*, without waiting
another moment.

John the Baptist warned, "Repent, for the kingdom
of heaven is at hand" (Matthew 3:2). Jesus had
the identical message concerning the need
for immediate repentance: "Repent for
the kingdom of heaven is at hand."
(Matthew 4:17)

#7 *The Evangelist has a burden for the lost soul.*

The Evangelist knows that everyone he meets, including churchgoers, will have two appointments, death, and the judgement.

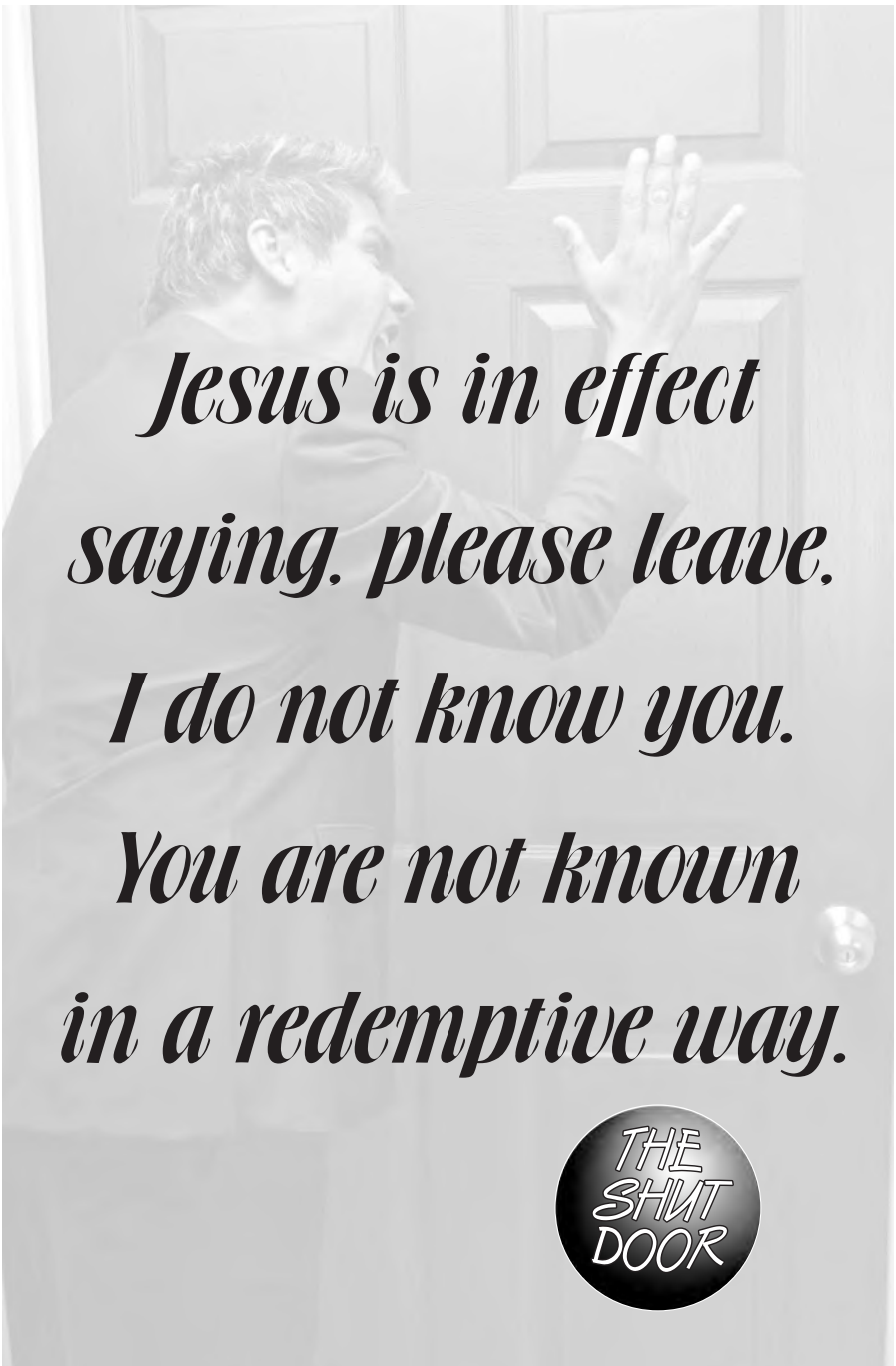
He thinks about Luke 13:23, where a man asks Jesus, "Lord, will those who are saved be few?" He often ponders that verse. Will the majority of people alive today, even those in front of him in the church, will they go to heaven or the eternal death?

Then he ponders Jesus's words in Luke 13:24: "Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able."

But here's where the problem gets worse! As he reads verse 25: "Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, 'Sir, open the door for us.' But he will answer, 'I don't know you or where you come from'."

So, he realises what Jesus is saying is that some if not the majority of us are on our way to eternal death. It also says to him that the folk in front of him, if they were to die tonight, would be burnt up by the everlasting fire, they think they can get through the narrow gate by living on Broadway.

At that moment the Evangelist starts to realise the responsibility that has been given to him.

A grayscale photograph of a man with short, dark hair, wearing a dark jacket, standing in front of a closed wooden door. He is shouting with his mouth wide open and his right hand pressed against the door. The text is overlaid on the image in a bold, italicized, black serif font.

*Jesus is in effect
saying. please leave.
I do not know you.
You are not known
in a redemptive way.*



The Evangelist realises
he is *part* of
a team of workers...

... all with the same goal of
winning souls for Christ.

The Evangelist finds that in some churches his warm, earnest preaching startles the listener, but does not convince. In other churches, however, where good gospel preaching and sound doctrine have been the rule, he can see the words drop into the souls of the hearers from their nodding and rapt expressions.

In this house of prayer, he observes that it is nothing new for them to hear the living Word, and that God has been setting some other evangelist to plow and to sow.

Then he realises he has been sent to be a reaper, and though he is the one to bring in the sheaves, yet it is the groundwork of the previous preacher that provided for the reaper to do this blessed work.

He realises that his calling is one that is full of toil – but this toil is a good sacrifice, all for the Lord. The author of Hebrews writes, “Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.” (Hebrews 13:16)

The Old Testament also rejoices in the principle that, because of God’s promises, “Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy!” (Psalm 126:5)



Some sow, others reap is a phrase that often appears in the Bible.

In John 4:36-38 it means that one person may sow the seeds, but another person may reap the benefits. The phrase teaches us that while fruit may be coming only later, and that we may not see growth, **yet that doesn't mean our sowing won't produce growth.**

The phrase is often used to remind people that their actions have consequences, and that they will reap what they sow.

Note: Tens upon tens of millions of lost souls are at stake each year!

***For in this the saying is true:
"One sows and another reaps."
John 4:37***

 *The Evangelist reminds his hearers that within a few years we will all have mixed our bones with mother earth.*

He reminds those that have ears there will be a judgement for all, the challenge being to the arrogant who heard the gospel and despised Him. This is the Great White Throne Judgement – what will you say?

You will need to have your apology ready, because you will be called upon to say why judgement should not be pronounced upon you.

The Evangelist's burden here is for the unbeliever who will have a different judgement to the believer: Those who didn't trust in Christ, will stand before God. Satan, his fallen angels and all unbelievers will be cast into the lake of fire, experiencing the "second death" (see Revelation 20).



The judgment seat of Christ

serves as a place where believers (those who have accepted Jesus Christ as their Saviour) will be evaluated –
2 Corinthians 5:10

After the Great White Throne Judgement, eternity begins!

The great white throne of judgement is where Christ will ultimately judge unbelievers.

Revelation 20:11-14 describes this judgement: "Then I saw a large white throne and the One who was seated on it; the earth and the heaven fled from His presence, and no place was found for them."

For we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ...

#10 *The Evangelist has a passion and fire in his ministry*

In Mark 3:17 Jesus calls twelve men to be His disciples, including James, son of Zebedee, and his brother John. To these two he gave the name *Boanérges*, which literally translated means *sons of thunder*.

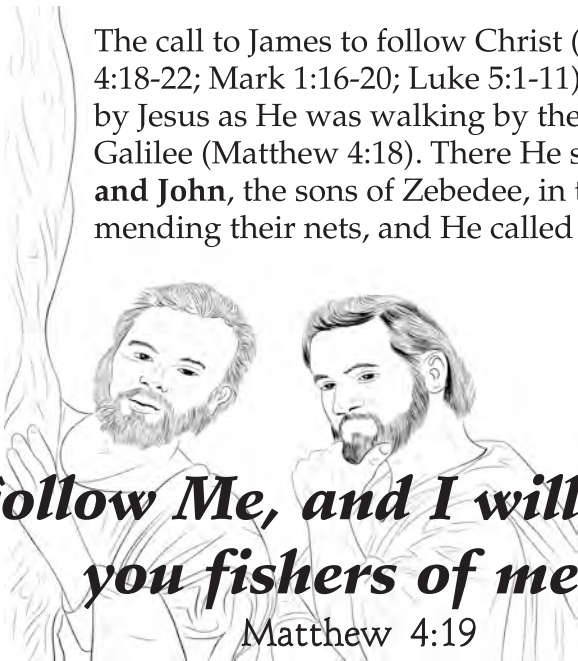
Jesus recognised the **passion and fire** within these sons of thunder. He saw how it could be used for good, and also, sadly, how it could be used for evil.

Luke 9: 52-54: “And He sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for Him; **but the people there did not welcome Him**, because He was heading for Jerusalem. When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, *Lord, do You want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?*”

What were these Sons of Thunder thinking? Were they racially inclined? Yet obviously Jewish folk and Samaritans had a problematic relationship. Here was an opportunity to destroy a community of Samaritans! Maybe they saw this as an opportunity for Jesus to demonstrate His power! But Jesus rebuked them.

Acts 8:14-17 tells us that the Gospel message was being received by the Samaritans and the church sent Peter and John to investigate. In summary then, every time evangelists develop their own vision instead of seeking God’s will, they are giving people their own vision instead of God’s.

Not a good exchange!



The call to James to follow Christ (Matthew 4:18-22; Mark 1:16-20; Luke 5:1-11) was given by Jesus as He was walking by the sea of Galilee (Matthew 4:18). There He saw **James and John**, the sons of Zebedee, in the boat mending their nets, and He called them.

***Follow Me, and I will make
you fishers of men.***

Matthew 4:19

Their father, Zebedee, was presumably a fisherman, "probably of some means".

Although named several times in the gospels, the only times he actually appears are in Matthew 4:21-22 and Mark 1:19-20, where he is left in the boat after Jesus called James and John. Mark's note that Zebedee was left with the "hired men" implies the family had some wealth. Zebedee lived at or near Bethsaida.

***Charles Spurgeon stated unequivocally:
"Soul-winning is the chief
business of the Christian minister;
indeed, it should be the main
pursuit of every believer."***

#1 *The Evangelist asks: when does night end and day begin?*

Shimon Peres told the following story:



Picture credit
Rivka Gruzman

A rabbi gathered his students around him and asked them: "How do we know the exact moment when night ends and day begins?"

"When it is light enough to tell a sheep from a dog," said one boy.

Another student said: "No, when it is light enough to tell an olive tree from a fig tree."

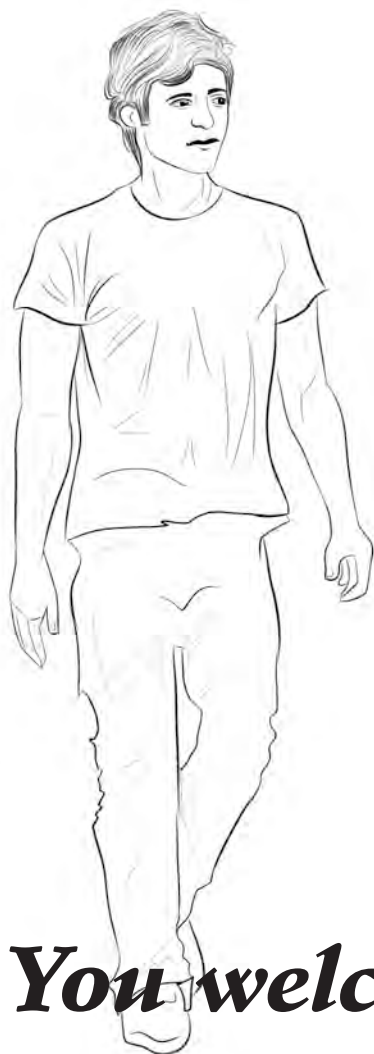
"No, neither is a good definition," said the Rabbi.

"Well then, what is the right answer?" asked the boys.

And the Rabbi said: "When a stranger approaches, and we think he is our brother, and all conflicts disappear, that is the moment when night ends and day begins."

ALL CONFLICTS DISAPPEAR

The Evangelist sees the humanity in both stranger and brother.



So, the Evangelist asks himself when dealing with a **stranger**, how long would it take for the day to begin?

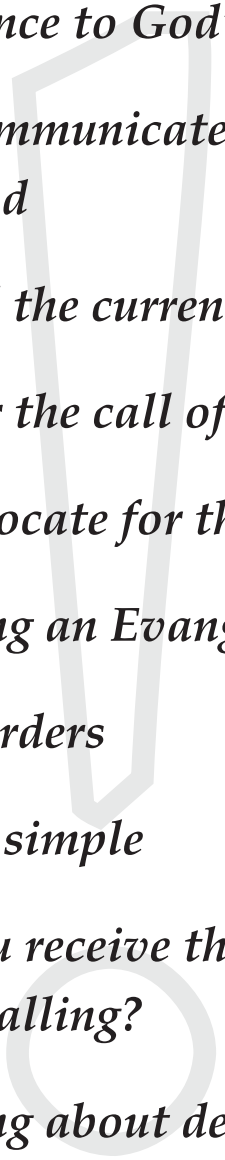
Let's start that one with a Bible verse: "For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

You welcomed me.



2

The Evangelist
has been
called

- 
- #12 *Obedience to God's calling*
 - #13 *God communicates through the mind*
 - #14 *Beyond the current horizon*
 - #15 *To hear the call of Jesus*
 - #16 *An advocate for the Truth*
 - #17 *On being an Evangelist*
 - #18 *Holy Orders*
 - #19 *Keep it simple*
 - #20 *Did you receive the challenge of the calling?*
 - #21 *Thinking about death*

*The Evangelist has been **called** and he realises that Jesus has spoken to him for a specific purpose, and to have a close relationship with Himself*

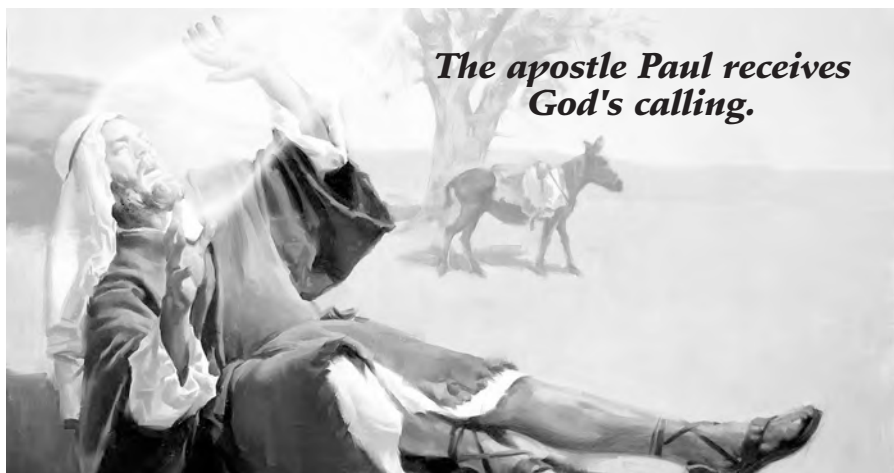
He understands that in this *close relationship with Himself*, the things in our lives take on a totally different form. He asks God to “take me by the hand; lead me down the path of truth.” (Psalms 25:5 MSG)

In this, the Evangelist has learnt and understands that:

- God designed us in such a way that we hear best from Him in the context of a friendship with Jesus.
- God intends us to figure out His will freely and intelligently as we engage in regular conversations with Him and the lost soul.
- God’s will is to be personally present with you and speaking with you moment by moment as you go through life.
- Then you’ll grow to understand Him more and more like His Son, Jesus.
- And yes, obedience to God’s Word is a blessing.

Obedience to God's Word is a

BLESSING



The apostle Paul was called by God on the Damascus Road.

"And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do."

OK! Like Paul, let's put this into practice! The next time the Holy Spirit speaks to your soul with a verse...



Stop and pray on it. Pray about it. Memorise it. Think or meditate on it.

This is renewing your mind!

The renewing of your mind brings your will into agreement with God's Will.

The Evangelist understands that God communicates with him mostly through his mind

God may choose any one of many different ways to communicate, according to what's best at particular times and in particular circumstances.

But more often, the Evangelist hears God speaking **through thoughts**, and He will use ordinary practices such as reading the Bible, praying quietly, learning from circumstances or seeking counsel from other Christians to reach out to as he thinks about them.

God may use dramatic means to get our attention, when necessary, but His goal is to be so closely connected that the Evangelist will pay attention whenever He speaks.

Usually, God speaks as He did to Elijah in 1 Kings 19, through what the Word describes as a “still, small voice” to encourage the Evangelist to keep walking closely with Him through life.



The Evangelist knows that when he reads the Bible, the **Word becomes alive**, and **God speaks to him**.

1 Corinthians 2:14-16:

The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them, because they are spiritually discerned. The spiritual person judges all things but is himself to be judged by no one.

For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

**Evangelism = souls saved.
PERIOD.**

#11 The Evangelist **projects** his vision beyond the current horizon, and is reminded of Paul's poetic metaphor

*"For now, we see through a glass,
darkly; but then face to face: now I know
in part; but then shall I know even as
also I am known."*

1 Corinthians 13:12

This famous statement of Paul's about the **difficulty of knowing God** in this life says a lot more than at first meets the eye. The Apostle could see beyond the present moment.

If one thinks about it, the meaning of St Paul's words is clear. Paul reminds Christ's followers that they will only understand God fully when they die and go to heaven.

The image is at once vivid and memorable: if we try to see through an obscured piece of glass, our vision will be clouded and imperfect.

But there will be no glass, no barrier of any kind, when we die and come before God 'face to face'.



That is why Paul the evangelist could say in Philip-
pians 3:14: **"I press on toward the goal to win the prize
for which God has called me heavenward in Christ
Jesus."**

The Evangelist understands:

Present knowledge is partial but sufficient.

Contemporary English translators were onto something.
When we look at the image of God within, we are
looking through a glass darkly.

Paul's metaphor of a dim mirror might seem pessim-
istic, but it is also very hopeful. When we look in the
mirror, we are not dreaming. We do not see a figment of
our imagination. We are seeing something real. It may
be indirect and indistinct, but that's pretty exciting
when what you're looking at is **God**.

*#15 The Evangelist knows that
to receive salvation means
one has heard the call of Jesus.*

Zacchaeus wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man, he could not see over the crowd, so he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore fig tree along the way Jesus was coming.

When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." (Luke 19:5)

Zacchaeus had a **seriously cool idea** by climbing in the tree to see Jesus. He realised that it's about **passion and imagination and persistence**.

**PASSION
IMAGINATION
PERSISTENCE**



Jesus recognised talent, and the Evangelist understands human needs.

"The deepest human need," wrote the great American psychologist William James, "is the need to be **appreciated**."

The most talented humans, since they enjoy such a wide range of choices, will take their talents to places where they feel **most appreciated**.

The Evangelist understands this and realises that he must recognise God-given talent and win the great war to get this talent to work in the spreading of the Gospel.

#1 *The Evangelist advocates for truth*

The Evangelist realises that, whilst there are many people who easily accept things on faith, many want proof. **So I like proof, I see no future in believing something just because somebody told me.**

Then what about Thomas? He wanted to see Jesus alive again as much as anyone – but he wasn't going to believe it just on someone's say-so. Some have called him a "doubting Thomas" for that. **I don't, I admire him for being realistic.**

The Evangelist is an advocate for truth.

That is, the Gospel, the truth that **Jesus saves lives** and to where it leads. Let us ask for evidence like Thomas did, and let us hold accountable those who would divert us from it.

The Evangelist honours the doubters and the group that interests him are the few that are active doubters, those who have enough drive to do something. What if you realise they are the ones reflecting reality?

What if... you listened to them?



“Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself: handle Me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see Me have.” (Luke 24:39)

Yet, dear reader, if you feel called to be an evangelist, I suggest you check your own SPIRITUAL HEALTH LIST.

As the Apostle Paul counselled: "Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves." (2 Corinthians 13:5)

Test yourself!

#1 *On being an Evangelist*

The intention in the following pages is to expand or even *redefine* the calling of the Evangelist to include a few bedrock areas of approach, the effective practice of which determines success or failure in reaching the lost soul.

This calling is for those who share the love of His heart that have been given eyes to see.

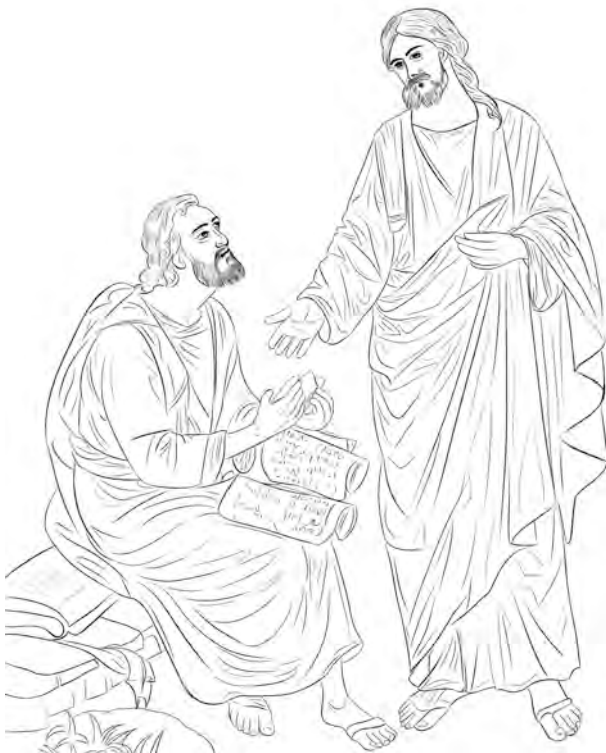
Who are these who respond to the call and receive Christ in faith? Jesus calls them the **chosen** or, as the Greek word may be translated, the **elect**.

These are *the remnant* whom the Father has chosen in Christ from before the foundation of the world to be holy, obey His commandments and be Evangelists for the truth in the last days.

Only these chosen ones will constitute the company of the redeemed when Christ returns in glory.

*The way to a man's heart
is to talk to him about the things
he treasures most.*

Dale Carnegie



As Jesus passed on from there, He saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collectors booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed Him.

(Matthew 9:9 NIV)

Jesus said:
"I have not come to call the righteous,
but sinners to repentance."

Matthew 9:13

*The Evangelist is under
Holy Orders and does not offer
himself on his own initiative*

This, my dear friend, is God's eternal choice. It refers to the Chosen Remnant, the **constant faithful** who respond sincerely to Christ's call.

The Evangelist knows his calling is only for those who have listened to and obeyed the voice of Jesus.



**So, may I ask, dear friend,
have you listened to
God's voice?**

Just what is Jesus saying in Matthew 22:14? We know that many have heard this calling, yet respond only with lip service (we're talking nominal church members here). Sadly they have never responded in repentance and faith.

Jesus is looking for help, for He cannot do this alone. He sees the fields waving with corn and ripe for the kingdom of God, and the labourers are few.

**So who will come
and help Him
do the work?**



There is no turning back, like Lot's wife did with her desire for the wicked city.

No! Christ has barred the way.

Christ stands between us and God and for the same reason He stands between us and the world. He is the mediator between God and man and between the reality of man and the world.

The call goes out to all people, **but only the elect experience the internal call.** Matthew 22:14 reminds us: "For many are called, but few are chosen."

So we ask: What does Jesus mean when He says many are called, but few are chosen?

**It is only they who are chosen
who can be called to enter
the harvest field.**

#19 *The Evangelist knows
the cross is lifted high
only when he can say...*

... along with the Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 2:4:

*“And my speech and my preaching were not with
enticing words of man’s wisdom, but in
‘demonstration of the Spirit and of power’.”*

He also knows as every minister should be able to say
with Paul in 2 Corinthians 3:12:

*“Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great
plainness of speech.”*

**The Evangelist is well aware that some have
attempted to make the Gospel a subject of oratory.**



***To what
purpose
are fine
speeches
in the Gospel
ministry?***



The Evangelist understands that people need to be drawn to **God**, not to man.

DL Moody, the great Bible preacher of the 19th century, was **neither cultured nor refined**. He was uneducated and untrained for the ministry. He did not fall into the categories of philosopher, thinker, or theologian.

Yet, despite any social or educational shortcomings, and the lack of any formal training, Moody's was a preaching ministry that few, if any, would rival.

*Friend, I guess you have been
reading this because you are
challenged by the book's title,
"The Evangelist"*

The Evangelist understands that this calling has been laid on his heart in order to point the way to the **place of deliverance** for the dear lost soul. But before you proceed, be warned: it's not always that easy.

We need to be less confrontational in our evangelism efforts. We need to avoid offending people. You can win over people more easily by being polite and kind. Being mean or unpleasant is like being full of vinegar. You will push more people away by acting sour or bitter.

I've heard that one before! Sometimes, a fellow-believer expresses their fear of witnessing, because they know that sharing the Gospel will offend their family, friends and neighbours and they don't want to be the bad guy; yet the evangelist looks for ways to share the saving message of Christ without offence.

It may seem paradoxical, but an inoffensive gospel is no gospel at all!

- Here's my take: Look at the Gospel presentations by Peter, James and Paul in the book of Acts 4:8-12. They are anything but non-confrontational!

*Christ offends men because His Gospel
is intolerant of sin.*

CH Spurgeon



Yes, so back to the previous page. The place of deliverance in the Bible refers primarily to **spiritual deliverance from sin** through Jesus Christ in the New Testament. The concept of deliverance underscores the immeasurable love, mercy, and power of God to save and restore His people.

Some words emerging from this chorus of enthusiastic evangelists:

The church I belong to demonstrates how beautiful something can be.

My church's Bible-teaching has shown me a way of changing my life and my future for the better.

I have learnt that the ultimate defence against negativity is to follow God's Word.

My Sabbath observance is a place where truth becomes more important than worldly technology.

- These are words and phrases that are too seldom heard in the sacred halls of the church hierarchy.

The Evangelist realises people don't really think about death

Herein lies his work and calling.

Too many folk spend their life worrying about money and goods. They put things off and fail to notice what is really important. They want everything to change, but in themselves refuse to change.

**So, the non-Christian
has to face **death**.**

Those who do not believe that the Bible is God's Word still have to deal with the problem of death. They must face the great unknown.

It is something that they don't look forward to facing.

***As Christians, we do not
place our hope merely in
life after death, but rather in
life after life after death.***





"Many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt."

Daniel 12:2

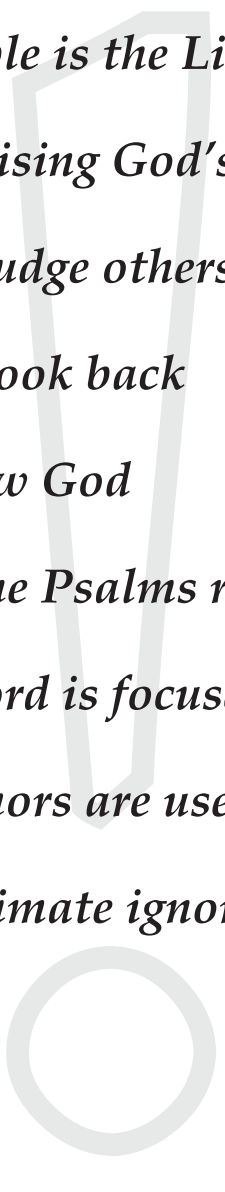
***Yet the believer in Christ is...
"Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ."***

Titus 2:13



3

In
Accordance
with the
Bible

- 
- #22 *A renewed mind*
 - #23 *The Bible is the Living Word*
 - #24 *Recognising God's Voice*
 - #25 *Don't judge others*
 - #26 *Never look back*
 - #27 *To know God*
 - #28 *Read the Psalms regularly*
 - #29 *The Word is focused on the reader*
 - #30 *Metaphors are useful*
 - #31 *The ultimate ignorance*

#22 The Evangelist has a renewed mind.

***Do not conform to the pattern
of this world, but be transformed
by the renewing of your mind.***

“Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is His good, pleasing, and perfect will.” (Romans 12:2)

Since God often speaks to the Evangelist through his mind and wants him to develop what the Bible calls the **mind of Christ** (the ability to make decisions as Jesus would, mentioned in various texts), it’s crucial for him to follow the Bible’s teaching in Romans 12:2.

The Evangelist invites God the Holy Spirit to renew his mind every day. He will cleanse it from such dirt and clutter as false beliefs and attitudes, unhealthy feelings, and misguided plans. **Then the Holy Spirit will replace all of that with true thoughts that reflect God’s purposes for him and his calling.**

***The Evangelist invites God
the Holy Spirit to renew his mind
every day.***



Readily recognise what He wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

Paraphrased from Romans 12:2

In our prayers we talk to God, in our Bible study, God talks to us, and we had better let God do most of the talking.

D L Moody

*The Evangelist knows that
the written word becomes the
Living Word when he reads it*

He knows the Word of God is a **living, creative force** – *Jesus Himself* – and that He is actively at work when he reads God's written word, **the Bible**, prayerfully.

When he reads the Bible, he asks Jesus to make the Bible's words come alive for him and become conduits through which He sends His thoughts, faith, and love into the soul of the reader.

Then he focuses on what Jesus sends him and orients himself toward it, so that it will begin to **transform his life and power to his ministry and a blessing to others**.

The Evangelist also keeps in mind when speaking to non-Christians that: "**The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.**" (I Corinthians 2:14)

*And the Word
became flesh and dwelt among us,
and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only
begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.*

(John 1:14)



Peace and Purity:

The dove is often associated with peace and purity. Its gentle nature and white colour represent innocence and harmony.

In the Bible, the dove's appearance during Jesus' baptism symbolised the peaceful presence of the Holy Spirit.

Wisdom on Tap:

Among the 77 points for the Evangelist presented here, none is more important than tapping into that great storehouse of wisdom known as the Bible:

the Living Word of God.

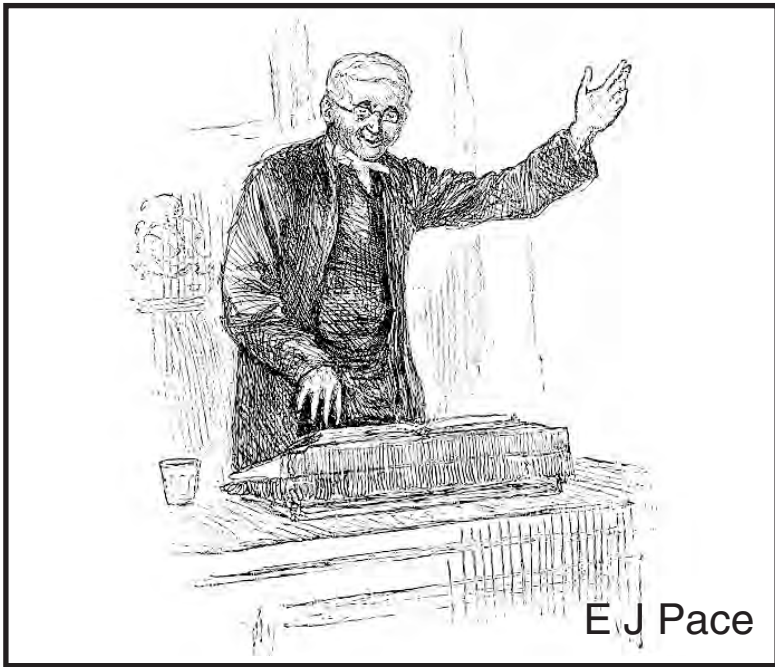
#24 *The Evangelist recognises God's voice above all others*

He has learnt to recognise God's voice when He speaks, and to confidently respond to what He says.

When thoughts recur, he prays about them to discern if they may be coming from God. Most important: he keeps in mind that God will *never* send him a message that contradicts the Bible's principles.

He also knows God's voice carries the weight of authority within it, and expresses a spirit of peace, confidence, joy, reasonableness and goodwill.

If he believes God may be speaking to him, he asks Him to confirm this. As he studies and meditates on the Bible, he is alert to the circumstances he encounters, and experiences the Holy Spirit's impressions in his mind.



An important thing to remember is that only a believer, a person saved by His grace through faith in the Lord Jesus, can recognise God's voice. Jesus said in John 10:27: "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me."

That great orator and preacher, Charles Spurgeon, said: **"Having once discerned the voice of God, obey without question. If you have to stand alone and nobody will befriend you, stand alone."**

God calls the humble and obedient to fulfil His mission. His power is made perfect in our weakness. Only with the realisation that you can do nothing without Jehovah are you ready to be used by Him.

Only then will you be able to fulfil the Good Father's wonderful plan for your future.

#25 *The Evangelist does not judge others*

Some inspiring words from Dietrich Bonhoeffer:

“Judging others makes us blind, whereas love is illuminating. By judging others, we blind ourselves to our own evil and to the grace which others are just as entitled to as we are.”

Let me put it this way:

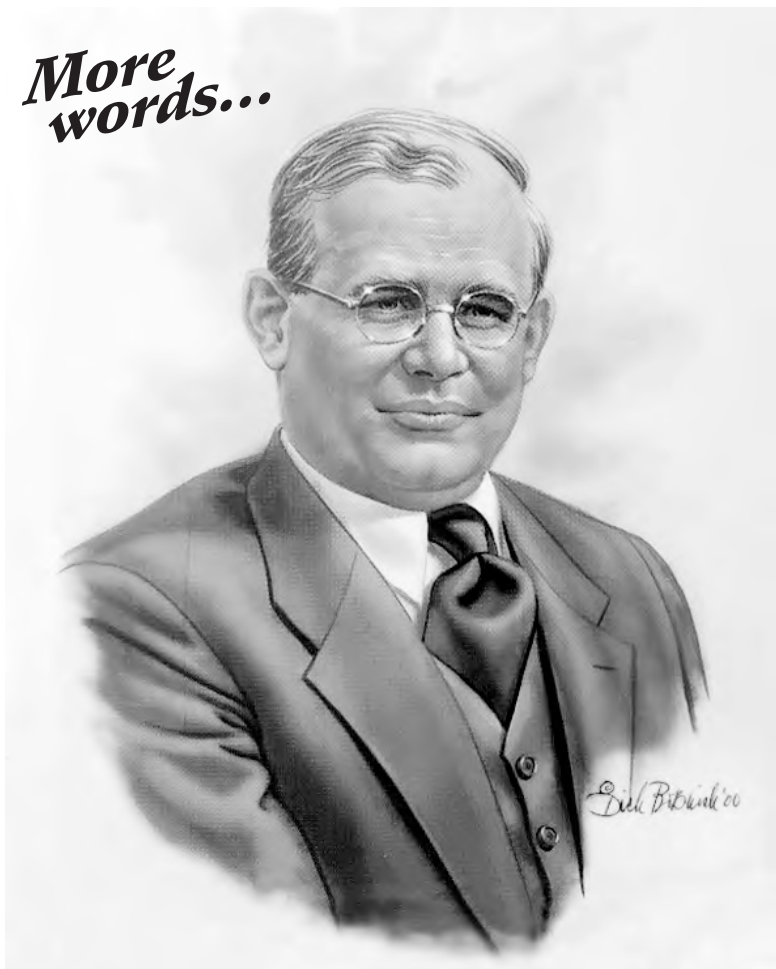
There’s a simple mantra that gives a whole new approach on the idea of a mindset that embraces evangelism: **Don’t look for things that went wrong and try to fix them, look for things that really work and build on them.**

However:

“Silence in the face of evil is itself evil: God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act.”

Not to act *is* to act!

***More
words...***



Dietrich Bonhoeffer, author of *The Cost of Discipleship*

**"Jesus himself did not try to convert
the two thieves on the cross; He waited
until one of them turned to Him."**

(Letters and Papers from Prison)

**"Discipleship is not an offer that man
makes to Christ."**

(The Cost of Discipleship)

#25 *The Evangelist never looks back*

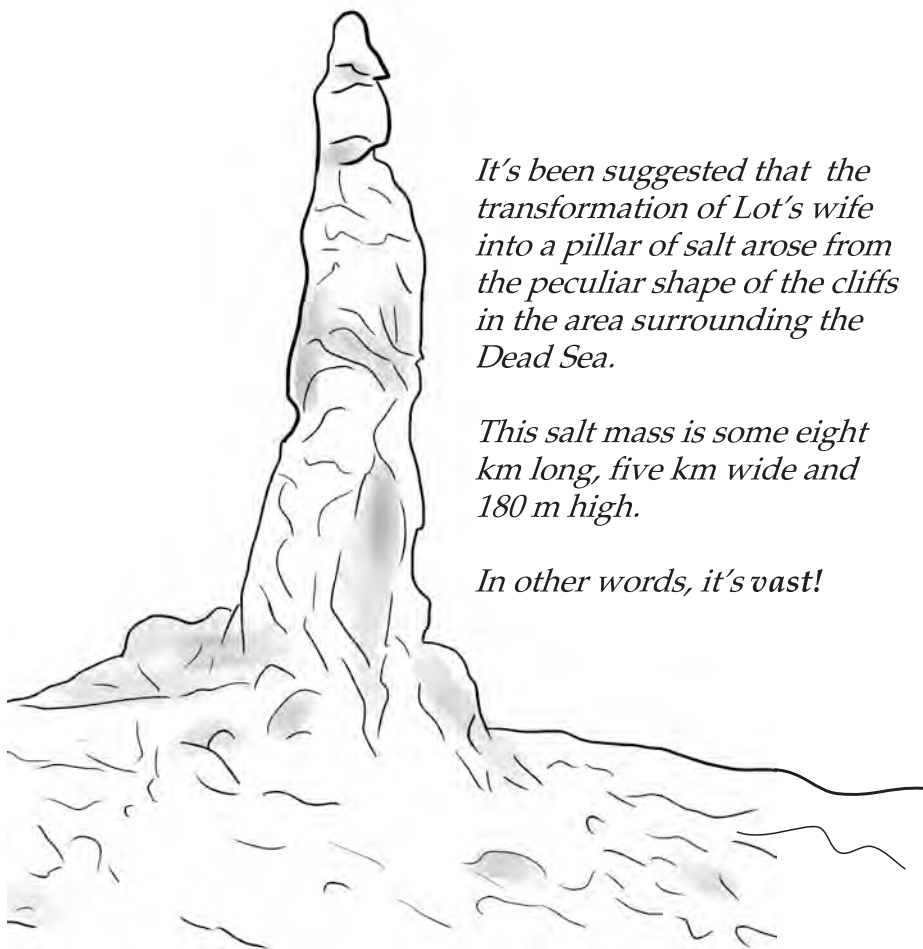
When Lot, his wife and two daughters left Sodom, the angels told him to hurry. Lot and his family were a little slow in going, and so the angels took them by the hand and led them out of the city. Then one of the angels said: "Run for your lives! **Don't look back.** Run to the hills, so that you won't be killed."

"And Jesus said unto him, no man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." (Luke 9:62)

We can learn a good lesson from this. It shows us that God saves those who obey Him, but those who do not obey Him will lose their lives.

The Evangelist knows that many folk use the term *God is still working on me* purely to justify their doing the things they know are displeasing to God.





It's been suggested that the transformation of Lot's wife into a pillar of salt arose from the peculiar shape of the cliffs in the area surrounding the Dead Sea.

This salt mass is some eight km long, five km wide and 180 m high.

In other words, it's vast!

This huge mass of salt now has a name: *Jebel Usdûm*, literally 'mountain of Sodom'. This vast structure is crystallized rock salt covered with chalky limestone and gypsum. It's said to resemble a human figure. So, this is probably the origin of the story of Lot's wife and her transformation into a (huge) pillar of salt.

Sodom and Gomorrah are now supposed to be under the waters of the Dead Sea, at the upper and northern end of it.

#27 *The Evangelist meets people
who can memorise the entire
Bible and yet not **know** God.*



WISDOM AND
UNDERSTANDING
ARE TAUGHT BY THE
HOLY SPIRIT

Understand
don't memorise.

Learn principles,
not formulas.

Love
builds up.
Knowledge
puffs up.

The Evangelist in his sermons teaches the **basic principles** of the Christian life that are taught by the Holy Spirit.

The following are centered on Biblical teaching, bringing the glory to Him alone, and the fulfilment of each is **essential** to the healthy Christian life.

<i>Seek God</i>	not sin
<i>Fear God</i>	not men
<i>Love God</i>	not the world
<i>Believe God</i>	not the deceiver
<i>Obey God</i>	not your appetites
<i>Serve God</i>	not self
<i>Worship God</i>	not comfort.

Evangelists know themselves.

Evangelists must first and foremost know themselves and be aware of their impact on others.

Evangelists - at any level - have an enormous responsibility. They are responsible for giving the Good News and hence the future of others.

- But that is not all, because the Evangelist also understands that evangelism is about creating more evangelists!

#28 The Evangelist reads the Psalms on a regular basis

Yes, the Evangelist admits to grappling on occasion with the apparent success of the wicked and with the faithful's struggles.

***But then, something
changes as he reads
Psalm 73:17.***

Asaph entered the sanctuary of God, and there he gained a new perspective. He understood the **final destiny** of the wicked.

Suddenly, their prosperity seemed fleeting, like a dream upon waking. The Lord would ultimately despise their fantasies.

The Evangelist now realises that like Asaph he was always with God and that God held him by the right hand, guiding him with counsel.

The Evangelist's heart's desire was for God alone. Earthly riches and prosperity paled in comparison to the strength and eternal portion he finds in God's Word.



A Levite

***Until I went into the sanctuary
of God; then I understood
their end.***

***Surely, You set them in slippery
places;
You cast them down to
destruction.***

(Psalm 73:17-18)

Psalm 73 was written by Asaph, one of the chief musicians in David's court, and the words of this Psalm reminds him to seek God's presence and find his ultimate satisfaction in Him.

#29 The Evangelist knows the reading of the Word is focused on the reader

When the dear soul reads God's Word, the understanding is always tailored to the reader. You do not find Ezekiel blessed with the same revelation as that of Isaiah. God does not give Nahum's revelation to the herdsman Amos.

So, it is with us as we read the Word; each will find a message **uniquely focused to his/her need** at the time. This revelation will be inspired and directed by the Holy Spirit.

The Evangelist encourages his hearers to engage with the Word of God, because that's his calling, and he knows it's a profound and personal experience.



*All Scripture is breathed out by God
and profitable for teaching, for reproof,
for correction, and for training in
righteousness, that the man of God may
be complete, equipped for every good work.*

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Repeat after me:

**I represent God's Word and the
church of which I am a mem-
ber in a responsible and
Christ-like manner to
bring the lost soul to
salvation in Christ.**

*I
AM
FULLY
RESPONSIBLE*

#30 *The Evangelist often speaks in metaphors*

Figurative or symbolic language often conveys the truths of a doctrine more effectively than plain 'vanilla language' would have.

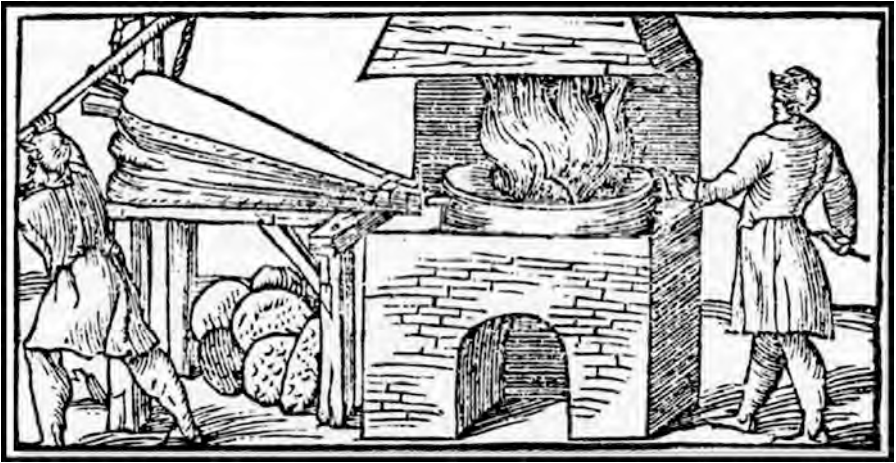
The prophet Jeremiah knew this; in Jeremiah 6:29-30 he compares the people of Israel to precious ore being refined in a smelter. The image is that the dross is burnt away, so that only the pure metal remains.

He extends the metaphor to symbolise his failure: so hard was the metal that the bellows were burnt. In other words, he was unable to melt the people's hearts and persuade them.

The Evangelist knows this can happen! As the written words of the prophets show, in the long history of Heaven-sent messengers **this has been the rule rather than the exception.**

*The bellows blow fiercely to burn
away the lead with fire,
but the refining goes on in vain;
the wicked are not purged out.
They are called rejected silver
because the LORD has rejected them.*

Jeremiah 6:29-30



So I ask, dear friend, have you been called by the Master to be an Evangelist?

You know you have heard His voice.

Will you say: Yes, Lord, I hear Your voice, please show me Your Will for my life so that I can be a worker for You! Or do you wait for the dreadful words:

I never knew you: depart from me! (Matthew 7:23)

The Evangelist has lived long enough to witness various forms of atheism and deism, all based on reason rather than Divine Revelation or the teaching of the Holy Spirit.

For they are all short-lived.

God's Church has been attacked from almost every quarter, *yet the truth has been enriched by those attacks*. This is because the faithful have set to work to study the points of contention, resulting in strengthening the walls that seemed weak, by leaning on **Christ, who has been the Sure Foundation.**

The Evangelist will meet the highest form of ignorance

*The ultimate ignorance
is the rejection of
something you know
nothing about and
refuse to investigate.*

Dr Wayne Dyer



*Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words
of this prophecy, and blessed are those who
hear it and take to heart what is written in it,
because the time is near.*

Revelation 1:3

Wilful ignorance is the consequence of a conscious rejection of the knowledge of the truth revealed in Christ and made known in the Gospel proclamation.

God will not overlook this!

It is subject to a divine judgment and fire that will devour the enemies of Christ.

In a conscious and knowledgeable rejection of Christ in the Gospel proclamation, the sin of wilful ignorance excludes man from that forgiving mercy of God, the mercy that can forgive all other sins of ignorance.

*If we deliberately keep on sinning
after we have received
the knowledge of the truth,
no sacrifice for sins is left.*

(Hebrews 10:26)

This is when the Gospel message is rejected by folk who have made up their minds and don't want to know anything about the

TRUTH THAT
NEVER CHANGES.

**The Word remains true,
it is the *listener* that gets
to choose.**

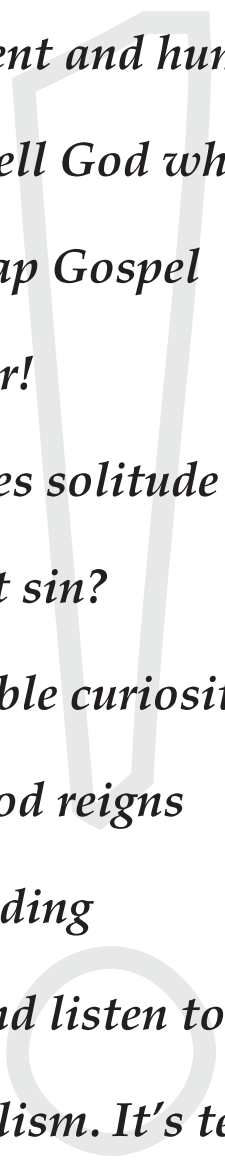
WAKE UP AND SMELL THE

G  **FFEE!**



4

The
Character
of the
Evangelist

- 
- #32 *The motive to hear God's Will*
 - #33 *Confident and humble*
 - #34 *Don't tell God where to go!*
 - #35 *No cheap Gospel*
 - #36 *Be eager!*
 - #37 *God uses solitude*
 - #38 *A secret sin?*
 - #39 *Insatiable curiosity*
 - #40 *Your God reigns*
 - #41 *The sending*
 - #42 *Hear and listen to God*
 - #43 *Evangelism. It's team work*

The Evangelist must at all times give serious consideration to his motives for hearing God's Will

*Is this because he is truly open to whatever
God has to say?*

Committed *to putting His guidance into
action and fulfilling His purposes, even
when doing so is challenging?*

He must regularly ask himself: Why do I want to hear from God?

Is it for a selfish reason, such as wanting to be the **celebrity in the church**? He knows that his ministry requires at all times to ask God to give him an openness to hear and respond faithfully to **His Will**.

“Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is – His good, pleasing and perfect will.”
(Romans 12:2)



***“I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my
God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.”***
(Psalm 84:10)



The Evangelist does not
need to be a

celebrity

in the church.

He stays lowly, humble.

The Evangelist is
spiritual and is willing
to be a **doormat** for all
to wipe their boots on.

*The Evangelist does not mind
what happens to him at all,
so long as God is glorified.*

*Charles Spurgeon put it this way: "The minister who
cares for any man's opinion when he is doing his duty
(fulfilling his ministry) is unworthy of his office."*

Remembering that our call came not from men, but
from God Himself, keeps our faces before the throne
and our hearts open to His commands. There is no
politicking or plagiarising in the courts of heaven. A
fresh word from God will be given the men of God
when their desire is to please Him and Him alone.

As Vance Havner once said, "You don't need to
know key men to get along. You need to know the
'Keeper of the Keys'."

*The Evangelist is confident and knows
that he has important work to do
for God... yet he remains humble*

He is confident that God is willing to speak to him just as powerfully as He did to the people in the Bible, because He values us just as much.

However, he doesn't let pride creep into his soul, because he must be humble in order to **faithfully receive and respond** to the messages God has for him.

What did Jesus say about pride?

Jesus says that pride is one of the many "evil things that come from within and defile a man." (Paraphrased from Mark 7:21-23)

What does Proverbs say?

"Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well-advised is wisdom." (Prov. 13:10)

What did C H Spurgeon say?

Spurgeon provides Biblical balance to a topic that rejects both **outright pride** and the **masked pride** of false humility. Spurgeon explains: "It is not humility to underrate yourself." He further says: "Humility is not telling falsehoods against yourself; humility is forming a right estimate of yourself."

Quotable

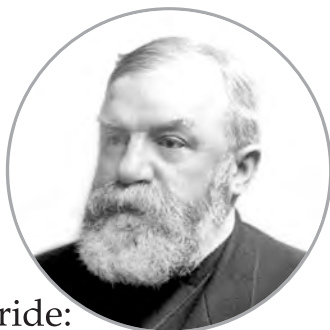
C S Lewis, the famous Christian academic and writer, said: "The Christians are right: it is Pride which has been the chief cause of misery in every nation and every family since the world began."

He also said: "Pride is the opposite to love."
(Not *hate* as is so often misquoted.)



Dwight L Moody, renowned preacher, evangelist and Christian educator, held strong convictions about faith, humility and the role of the Holy Spirit. One of his notable quotes addresses the topic of pride:

"I firmly believe that the moment our hearts are emptied of selfishness and ambition and self-seeking and everything that is contrary to God's law, the Holy Spirit will come and fill every corner of our hearts; but if we are full of pride and conceit, ambition and self-seeking, pleasure and the world, there is no room for the Spirit of God."



#34 *The Evangelist knows you can't
put God on a railway line
and tell him where to go!*

Thank you, Pastor Osman!

The Evangelist knows that no matter *how much* he wants to hear from God about something or how hard he may try to convince Him to speak, he will only hear from God when **He chooses** to communicate.

The Evangelist focuses on developing a **respectful relationship** with God and waits for His timing to deliver messages.

Also, if God chooses not to give him specific guidance about something he prayed about, if what he's considering is within the Bible's **moral principles**, he can **confidently go ahead** and make his own decision about what to do and be within God's Will.

***Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
and do not lean on your own
understanding. In all your ways
acknowledge Him, and He will make
straight your paths.***

Proverbs 3:5-6



Then Jesus made it clear to His disciples that it was now necessary for Him to go to Jerusalem, submit to an ordeal of suffering at the hands of the religious leaders, be killed, and then on the third day be raised up alive.

Peter took him in hand, protesting, "Impossible, Master! That can never be!"

But Jesus didn't swerve. "Peter, get out of my way. Satan, get lost. You have no idea how God works." Then Jesus went to work on his disciples. "Anyone who intends to come with me has to let me lead. You're not in the driver's seat; I am."

Matthew 16: 21-26 (*The Message*)

**The Evangelist prayerfully
considers whether he is
standing with *Scripture* or with
his *personal preferences*.**

*The Evangelist does not
preach a cheap gospel*

Revival Service: Izak de Villiers

Microphones, people, squeeze boxes and posters in the big tent on the bare premises where Ackerman's had been demolished:

Jesus Saves!

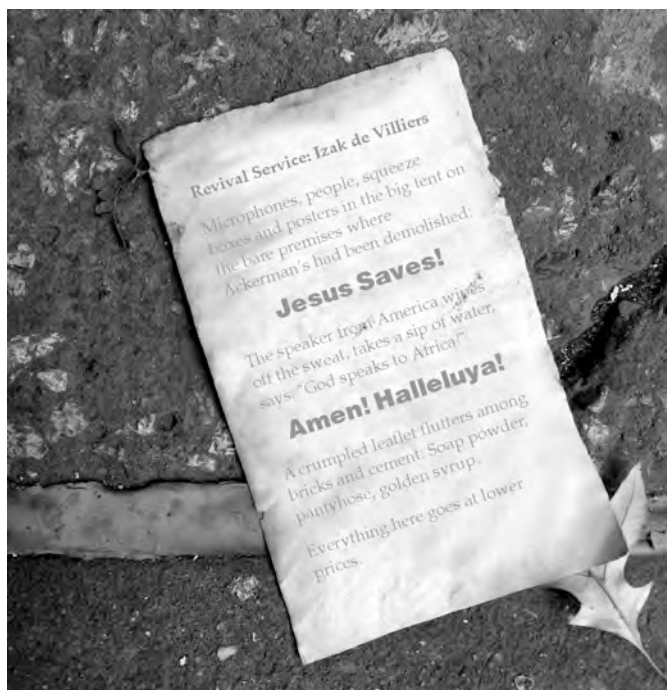
The speaker from America wipes off the sweat, takes a sip of water, says: "God speaks to Africa!"

Amen! Halleluya!

A crumpled leaflet flutters among bricks and cement: Soap powder, pantyhose, golden syrup.

Everything here goes at lower prices.

Translated from the original Afrikaans by Louis van Rooyen



A **cheap gospel** is a concept that criticises the notion of receiving grace, forgiveness, or salvation **without** genuine effort, repentance, or transformation. For example:

Theological:

In a Christian context, cheap grace might refer to someone who professes faith and seeks forgiveness, but continues to live in ways that contradict the teachings of Christianity, **without** any real effort to change or improve their behavior.

General Usage:

In a broader sense, the term can be applied to any situation where something valuable is taken lightly, **without** understanding or respecting its true worth.

The Evangelist, like all of us, at times can feel a lack of enthusiasm

Yet he knows that's why enthusiastic people are so often creative and joyful!

When you are eager, you are enthusiastic about your service to God and others. There are many examples in God's Word. Here are a few:

- ✓ Be "*eager* to serve" (1 Peter 5:2)
- ✓ Be "*eager* for the gifts of the Spirit" (1 Corinthians 14:12)
- ✓ Have an "*eager* willingness" to finish the work of faith we've begun (2 Corinthians 8:11)
- ✓ Wait in "*eager* expectation" for God (Romans 8:9)
- ✓ Be "*eager* to do what is good" (Titus 2:14)



In 2 Corinthians 2:14 we read: “Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ.”

Triumphant people are enthusiastic people!

If you *really* surrender your life to Jesus Christ and follow him (Jesus Christ, who is more up to date than the internet news, who has the answers that really answer) you *will* have enthusiasm.

He will keep it going for you, so that you can overcome your defeats, so that you can make a real contribution to mankind.

*The Evangelist has learned through
experience that God uses solitude
to strengthen the disciple*

*“But when you pray, go into your room,
and shut the door and pray to your
Father, who is in secret. And your father
who sees it in secret will reward you.”*
(Matthew 6:6)

The Evangelist knows.

Whatever he is going through or
whatever he is feeling discouraged
about, he knows that God is always with
him and will give him strength when he
needs it. He surrenders all to Him,
knowing that God will see him through.

*Silence and solitude
are important for
developing Christian
maturity.*

Solitude

***is an important concept in the Bible,
and it is associated with several
key principles.***

***Solitude can be valuable for dealing
privately with pain and for
effective prayer.***

***The inward life is
important to God, and
solitude creates space
for God to speak
to the heart.***



The Evangelist needs to ward against the Secret sin of many successful evangelists

What is this secret sin?

Charles Spurgeon's secret sin wasn't sex, it wasn't money, it wasn't power. No, the great Spurgeon's secret sin, his 'darling sin', was pride.

"My pride is so infernal that there is not a man on earth who can hold it in," he wrote in a letter to a friend, quoted in his Autobiography (2:100).

In his Diary he confesses: "Pride is my darling sin, I cannot shake it off." (Autobiography 1:146)

"Oh, may I be kept humble!" he also cries. "Pride dwells in my heart." (Diary, Autobiography (1:144)

The truth is, though, Spurgeon had much to be proud of. Crowds hung on his every word. Biographers lauded his popularity. Kings and queens sought his company. He was a red-carpet celebrity.

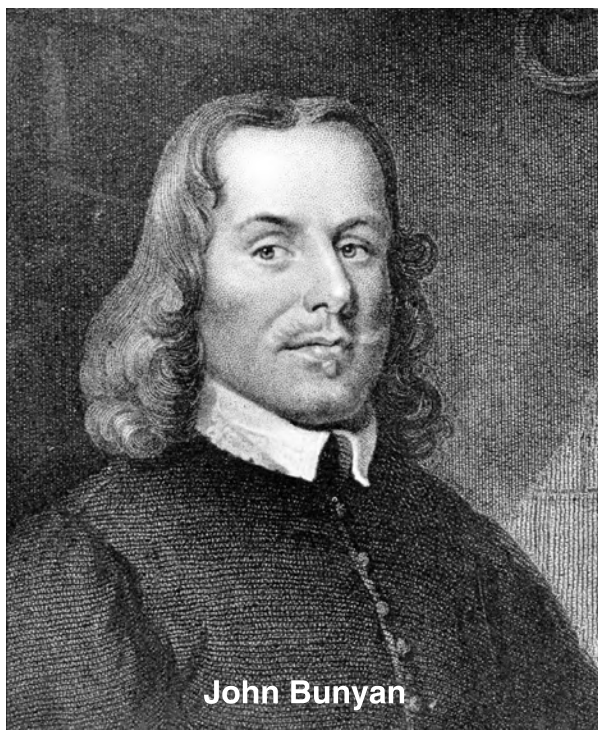
Yet his Achilles' heel was not influence. God had answered his youthful prayer that "prosperity and fame may not injure me." (Letter to his father, Angus Library, Oxford.) He simply was not seduced by the fame and fortune afforded by a royal London lifestyle.

No, for Spurgeon, pride emerged in controversy, not notoriety.

"I will tell you when I have been afraid of pride, that is, when I have been in the middle of a fight, and everybody has abused me, including some of whom I have felt that they were not worthy to be set among the dogs of the flock. I fear I have been proud then." (The Metropolitan Tabernacle: Its History and Work, 36)

Spurgeon laments how easy it is to magnify a *gift* until it becomes a *vice*, and concludes: "Let us measure ourselves by our Master, then pride will impossible."

- **Yet the Evangelist must at times direct his preaching skills to himself; as the salient features of the very Christianity he preaches are humility, modesty, humbleness or meekness, which in themselves are the opposite of pride.**



"If my life is fruitless, it doesn't matter who praises me, and if my life is fruitful, it doesn't matter who criticises me."

John Bunyan

After preaching a successful sermon, John Bunyan descended the steps from the pulpit and a voice whispered, "You spoke well today, John!" Being fully aware of the dangers of pride when doing the work of the Master, he replied "Get thee behind me, Satan!"

John Bunyan was born on November 28, 1628, in Harrowden, near Bedford, and died on August 31, 1688, in London. His famous book, *The Pilgrim's Progress*, has been translated into more languages than any other book except the Bible.

A final word from Spurgeon:

"That demon of pride was born with us, and it will not die one hour before us."

(Spurgeon's Gems, 12)

The Evangelist has an insatiable curiosity

He says to himself: **I shall persist** until I get it, **no matter** how dense it may make me appear at the time.

I shall
become questioner in chief and
swallow my pride and
ask until I understand.

Ask

Ask

Ask

Then...

ASK AGAIN!

The Evangelist has a rule:
Sweat the details, probe that text verse,
that little BIG thing... probe until you find out
what it means!



I repeat!

Swallow your pride, especially if you're a **top evangelist**.

The dumber the question, the better!

If someone is irritated because they think you are less smart than they thought because of your 'stupid' questions, well... consider that to be

TOTAL VICTORY.

#40 The Evangelist is encouraged and blessed with the words of Isaiah 52:7

***How beautiful on the mountains are the
feet of those who bring good news, who
proclaim peace, who bring good tidings,
who proclaim salvation... who say to Zion:
"Your God reigns!"***



This is repeated by Paul in Romans 10:15:

***And how shall they preach, except they be
sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are
the feet of them that preach the gospel
of peace and bring glad tidings of
good things!"***

The Evangelist is burdened with Paul's words (Romans 10:15):

How will anyone call on Jesus – *to express saving faith in Him* – unless they first **believe** in Him? And how will they believe in Him if they never **hear** about Him? And how will they hear about Him if nobody **preaches the gospel** to them?" (My paraphrase from Romans 10:15.)



Mamertine Prison in Rome, where Paul and Silas were incarcerated.



But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

(2 Timothy 4:5)

This is a letter to Timothy by the Apostle Paul while waiting to be beheaded at the Mamertine Prison in Rome at Nero's instruction.

- I am humbled that Paul remained an evangelist at such a time and in such conditions.

Dear Reader

How would you respond if you were in Paul's circumstances?

The Evangelist #41 ponders Paul's question in Romans 10:15

How will anyone preach the gospel of Jesus unless they are sent by someone to do so?

Paul's question shows that preaching is *not* the first step in the chain that leads to faith in Christ and calling on His name.

Instead, **sending** is that first step.

Who does the sending?

In the case of Paul and the other apostles who had been preaching the gospel around the world, it was Christ Himself who had sent them out. They had been commissioned by Jesus to preach the good news to the world. (Matthew 28:18-20)

Reading Isaiah 52:7 makes the case that this sending of the good news about Jesus was prophesied long ago in the Old Testament:

“How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!”



Isaiah was a Jewish prophet who lived during the eighth century BC. He is believed to have lived from about 740 to 700 BCE. He is an important figure in both the Jewish and Christian traditions, and is known for predicting the **coming of Jesus Christ**.

The object of evangelism is the billions upon billions of lost souls that are at stake.

YET SOME CHURCHES DO GET IT!

Nothing, but **nothing**, is more important to the Evangelist or the church leaders than **unabashed fanaticism for the Lost Soul and the Good News!**

***The Evangelist's language is strong
and often emotional. It's the
fundamental call of God's will.***

*The Evangelist knows in order
to have faith, it is important
to hear and listen to God*

As He passed by, He saw a man blind from birth. And His disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

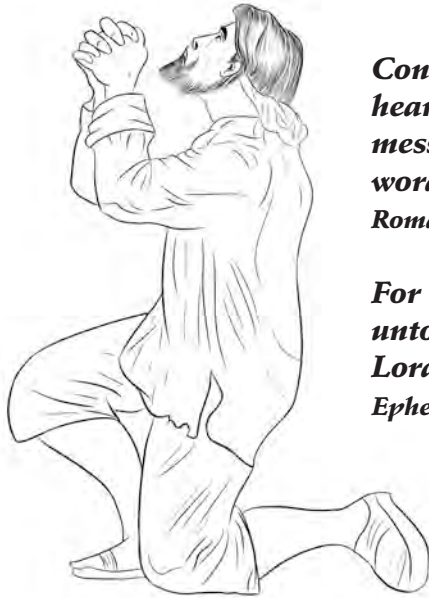
Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. We must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work." (John 9:1-4)

The Evangelist understands that making assumptions reveals quickness to lean on one's own understanding and not that of the Lord. (John 9:1-2, Luke 24:13-27)

Yet to do the work of preaching the Gospel, his goal should focus on becoming a spiritually mature person in a close relationship with God.

That's the **only** way he'll hear clearly what God has to say to him, and the **critical message** he must convey in his ministry.

Hear God and Listen to Him



Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

Romans 10:17

For this cause, I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 3:14

*God. is
that You
whispering?*



John Opie - The Calling of Samuel

#43 The Evangelist knows full well...

The Evangelist knows full well that when he counsels someone who feels called to work for the Lord, he urges them to guard their time and not feel like they have to do everything.

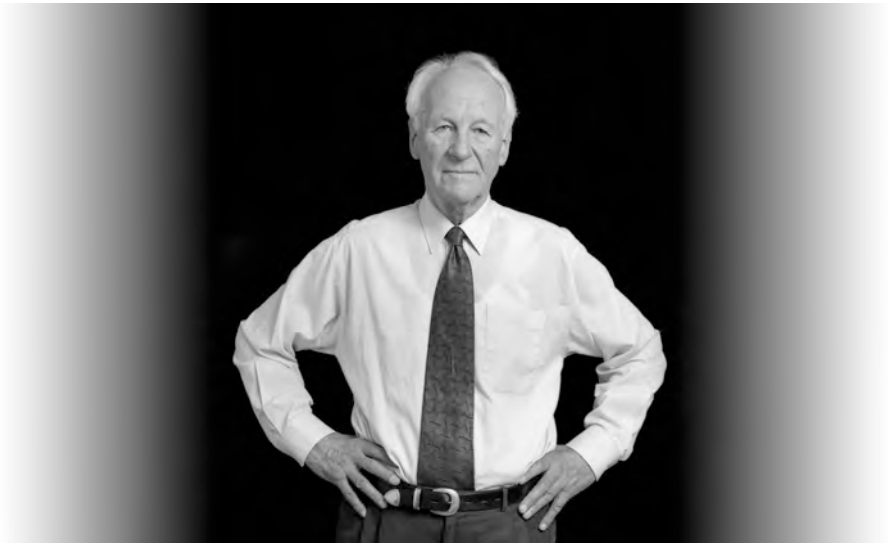
He advises with the following lessons:

- # Churches suffer great harm when pastors try to lead the church single-handedly.
- # Pastors/Teachers suffer great harm when churches expect them to lead without support.
- # Churches tend to stagnate or decline when they don't have at least one elder who takes particular responsibility for preaching and teaching.



It is the whole job of the whole church to preach the whole Gospel to the whole world.

CH Spurgeon



John Stott (1921-2011) was a **pastor to pastors**, a servant of the church in countries across the globe, and author of more than 50 books, including seminal classics such as *Basic Christianity* and *The Cross of Christ*.

“Before we can begin to see the cross as something done *for* us, we have to see it as something done *by* us,” is one of John Stott’s beloved quotes.

***From Him the whole body, joined and held together
by every supporting ligament, grows, and builds itself up
in love, as each part does its work.***

Ephesians 4:16

***If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand,
I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body?***

Corinthians 12:15



**The quality of our plurality and diversity
determines the health of our church.**





5

What
Evangelists
do

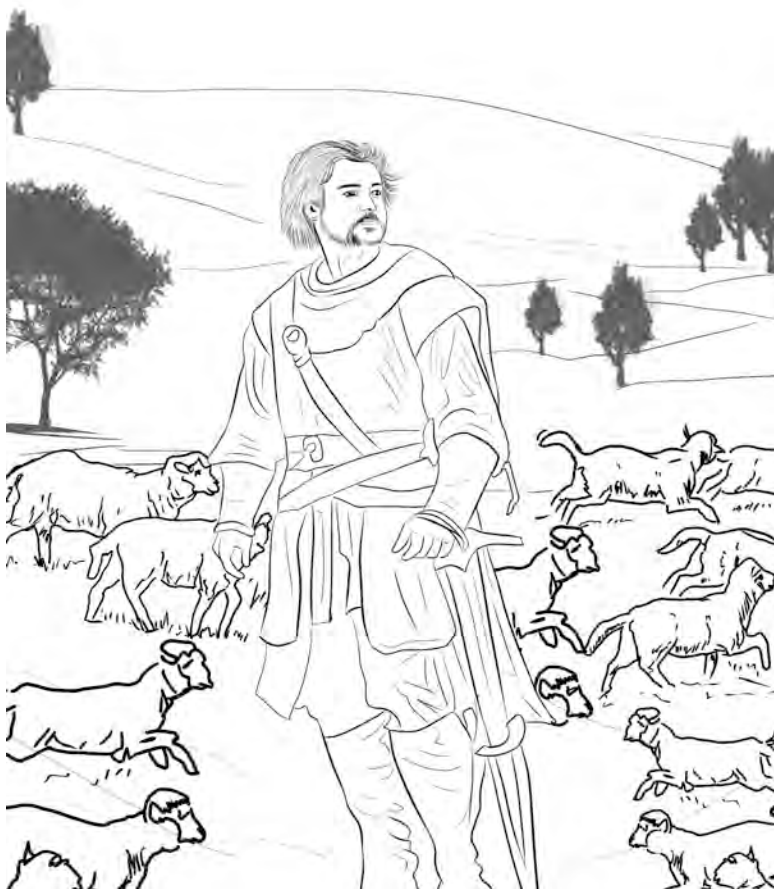
- #44 *The example of the Master*
- #45 *He is not distracted*
- #46 *Empathy for the troubled soul*
- #47 *Looking toward growth*
- #48 *Now hear this...*
- #49 *Remembering history*
- #50 *No new faith*
- #51 *God heals the broken-hearted*
- #52 *Work hard on first impressions*
- #53 *A spiritual vacuum*
- #54 *Visitors ask of his wisdom*
- #55 *Some seek golden promises*

#44 *The Evangelist follows to the best of his ability the example of the Master*

The Evangelist realises that his sermons must not fall like hail making a clatter on a tin roof, but rather like the small rain with the scent of freshly-mown lawn.

He remembers when the Master spoke to the widow at the gate of Nain, she **dried her eyes** when He spoke, Jairus **no longer mourned** for his child, Magdalene **ceased from weeping** and Thomas **ceased from doubting**.

**Now if such be the
Evangelist who will
comfort the broken-
hearted, if he is such a
preacher, then we may
be assured he will
accomplish his calling.**



***He shall feed his flock like a shepherd:
He shall gather the lambs with His arm,
and carry them in His bosom, and shall
gently lead those that are with young.***

Isaiah 40: 11.

These words were beautifully set to music in that great oratorio *The Messiah* by George Frederic Handel (1685-1759).

*The Evangelist is not distracted
by the hearer. He rather uses every
opportunity at his disposal to
change the world*



Left:
George Whitefield
(1714-70)



Right:
John Wesley
(1703-91)

When famous preachers **John Wesley** and **George Whitefield** engaged in evangelistic efforts in the eighteenth century, they didn't focus on how many people accepted Christ or how much they were accomplishing.

Instead, they simply testified that they had **offered Christ** to the thousands of people who listened to their preaching. In summarising their evangelism, the emphasis fell on the **divine offer**, not the human response which is defined in Matthew 13:8: 'I offered them Christ.'

The Evangelist searches his heart and examines his motives when reading of the great evangelists of the past.

George Whitefield warned: "The reason why congregations have been so dead, is because they have dead men preaching to them. How can dead men beget living children?"

“I offered them Christ.”



What then is the Evangelist offering when he sows the Word? This is explained by Jesus' parable in the book of Matthew:

***But others fell into good ground, and
brought forth fruit, some a hundredfold,
some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold.***

Matthew 13:8

The seed remains good, but is limited or multiplied by the ground upon which it falls. **This is an analogy of the Gospel.**

The Evangelist has empathy for the dear troubled soul

Theology for the Hurt

This might all seem like bad news for the believer.
After all, who wants to hurt?

Yet, studying the lives of eminent men, Spurgeon concluded that those who never have to push through the waves of difficulty never grow in strength and maturity like those who do.

Those who live in the lap of luxury and never experience the discipline of trouble tend always to be frailer and feebler in their faith.

On the whole, therefore, “it is good for a man to bear the yoke; good for a man to breast the billows; good for a man to pass through fire and through water, and so to learn sublime lessons,” Spurgeon says.

Trouble can strengthen, and trouble can reveal the work that needs to be done in us. Tears, Spurgeon discovered through experience, can clear the eye so that we see with an improved vision and perspective.

- **Losses reveal the insufficiency of all the things around us that we cherish, enabling us to appreciate the all-sufficiency of Christ more.**

The Evangelist understands this!



Many times, the Evangelist will be called to pastoral duties.

As an evangelist, he will be sensitively aware of how to give theology to people who are in the throes of pain. The ways a believer can profit from suffering cannot be trotted out coolly to those who are reeling and weeping. There is a time simply to sit and weep with them. And yet, he found, there is for all believers, regardless of their emotional state, a wonderful comfort to be found in knowing God's Fatherly providence.

His primary care should offer hope, "the peace that surpasses understanding" (Philippians 4:7), rooted in the knowledge that God is working all things together for our ultimate good.

#47 The Evangelist is always looking toward growth

*Now he who supplies seed to the Sower
and bread for food will also supply and
increase your store of seed and will enlarge
the harvest of your righteousness.*

2 Corinthians 9:10

The Evangelist knows that his efforts matter.

Partnering with God in His Kingdom means His Word is *always* important. He created us to bring **valuable human elements** to the table, particularly **brotherly empathy** when relating to the lost soul.

There's an implicit assumption in this page...

We don't *appoint* evangelists! We *find* the exemplars already in our midst, we *recognise* them, as they have already been called.

**“If God is your partner,
make your plans **BIG**.”**

D L Moody



So many Christians shrink away from their call to evangelise the lost. The chief excuses are usually:

- > **“I don’t know what to say.”**
- > **“I don’t have the gift of evangelism.”**
- > **“Isn’t that kind of work reserved for missionaries?”**
- > **“I’m more of a teacher than an evangelist.”**

The Christians who embrace these excuses and misconceptions have forgotten that God’s Word commands *all of us* to...

Do the work of an Evangelist.
2 Timothy 4:5

#4 **Now hear this!** **Listening is the Ultimate Core Competence**

Best Advice:

*Listen more than you talk.
Nobody learned anything by
hearing themselves speak*

Sir Richard Branson

The Evangelist is an effective listener.

He treats *listening excellence* as the centerpiece of his commitment to *respect* and *engagement* when presenting the Gospel. The Evangelist knows it's part of his calling to **listen** and not just to **hear**.

Listening. Skill. Discipline.

**The Evangelist knows:
To lead by listening is to be
a proper leader.
A leader has to be a**

great listener.



***Therefore, consider carefully how you listen.
Whoever has, will be given more; whoever
does not have, even what they think they
have will be taken from them.
Luke 8:18***

This is a lovely analogy!

Listening to a radio sermon can indeed feel distant, like a phone call, while attending church is more immersive, like spending an evening together with a friend.

***Both listening experiences have
their unique qualities.***

#49 The Evangelist remembers the history...

... of the **Black Death in Europe**. This was a bubonic plague pandemic occurring in Europe from 1346 to 1353. It was one of the deadliest pandemics in human history – as many as 50 million people perished, perhaps 50% of Europe's 14th century population.

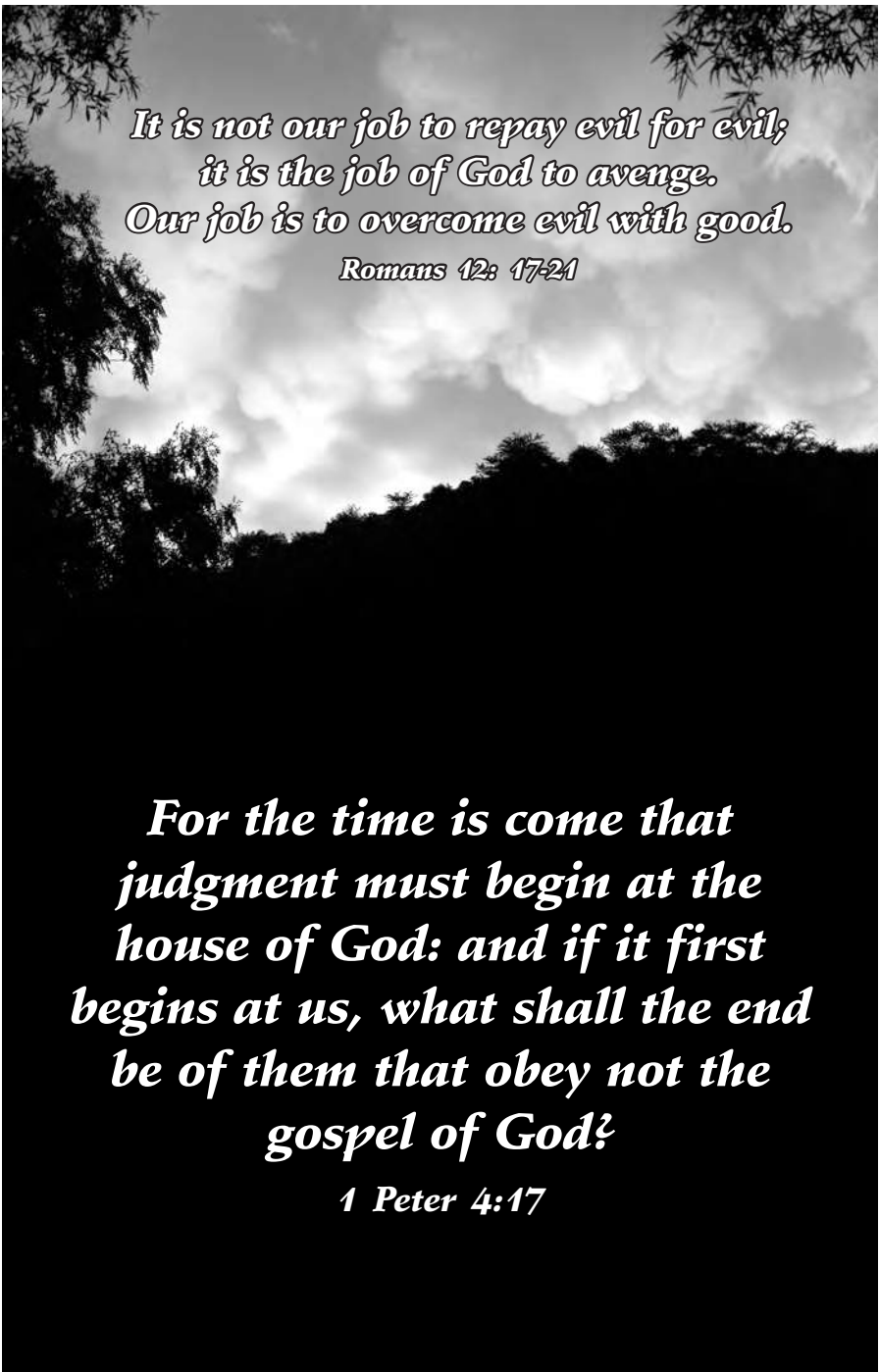
Bubonic plague is caused by the bacterium *Yersinia pestis* and is spread by fleas. It took only one flea-ridden bag of goods transported on the back of a camel from the Far East to bring the horror of the Black Death to the people of Europe.

Sin is like that bag of goods transported on the camel's back: If you permit one sin or false doctrine in a church knowingly or deliberately, none can tell the extent its evil will ultimately reach.

That corrupting thing which God abhors must be purged out!

It is the business of the Evangelist and all his fellows to keep the church free from it.





*It is not our job to repay evil for evil;
it is the job of God to avenge.
Our job is to overcome evil with good.*

Romans 12: 17-21

*For the time is come that
judgment must begin at the
house of God: and if it first
begins at us, what shall the end
be of them that obey not the
gospel of God?*

1 Peter 4:17

**The Evangelist understands that
#50 many nominal Christians do
not want a new faith**

***Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together,
as the manner of some is, but exhorting one another:
and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.***

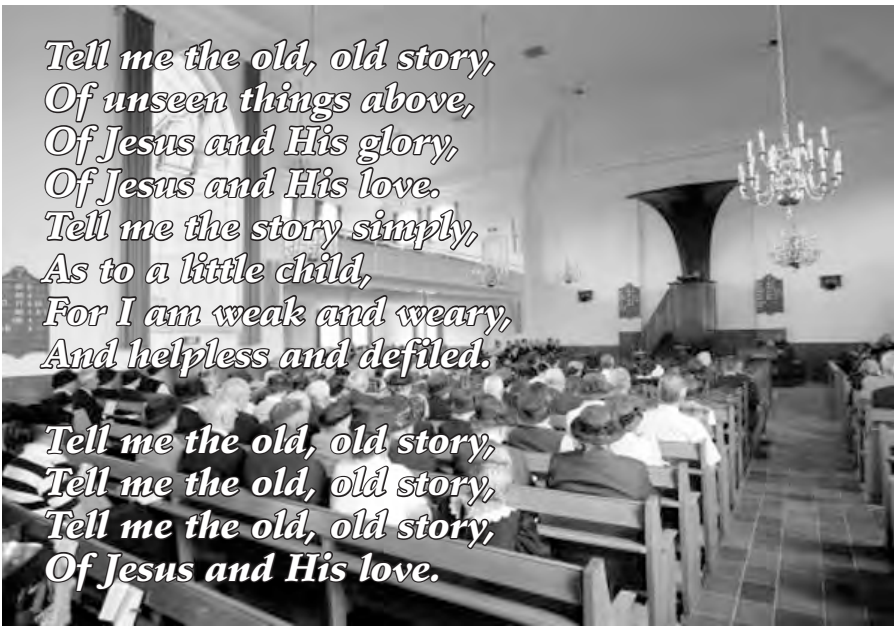
Hebrews 10:25

This verse *encourages* the Evangelist, as he sees the results of having **spread the Word**. It emphasises the importance of gathering together as believers to encourage one another, especially as we anticipate the return of Christ.

It's a reminder to stay connected and supportive within the community of faith.

Yet for existing church members, who have received the old faith, there may be the desire to be more rooted and grounded in it. They seek to have their emotions excited, yet also to have their intellect richly sorted with the **truth that never changes**.

If the church is to grow spiritually there must be more of this divine truth. Yes, it must appeal to passions, certainly, yet, by the same token it must always be tempered with the **solid breadcorn** of the kingdom.



*Tell me the old, old story,
Of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and His glory,
Of Jesus and His love.
Tell me the story simply,
As to a little child,
For I am weak and weary,
And helpless and defiled.*

*Tell me the old, old story,
Tell me the old, old story,
Tell me the old, old story,
Of Jesus and His love.*

The old, old story is ever new.

The Evangelist fully understands there is **no new faith**, and respects the fact that some dear believers may have a more *traditional view* of the Christian faith than other brothers and sisters in Christ.

**Yet the most dangerous place you
can be is the wrong church!
It's not on a fault line where an
earthquake may occur...**

IT IS THE WRONG CHURCH!

The Evangelist believes that God heals the broken-hearted

This is the core of his mission as an Evangelist.

He sees the lost soul, the broken-hearted; he knows how much pain the unbeliever and the lost soul must be going through, trying to compensate for their problems with the things of this world.

This is his mission, this is his passion, to come close and add comfort through God's Word.

The Evangelist believes that God comes especially close to the broken-hearted. He understands that God sees you and that God sees me. And he knows Jesus said: **I will not leave you comfortless, I will come to you, and I will send you a comforter, the comfort will come.**

Although the Evangelist preaches this truth to his listeners, he, too, faces adversity in his personal life. He must find ways to persevere through those oppressing moments, the everyday, home-grown variety of frustration and disappointment from lukewarm members.

He is familiar with the adversity of family pain. He has experienced in his personal life the extraordinary calamities that befall us maybe once in a lifetime.

Yet he understands this is not an *argument for debate* – it is a *means of survival*.

The Lord is close to the broken-hearted.

Psalm 34:18



He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptised, will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned."

Mark 16:15-16

#52 The Evangelist works (very hard) on first impressions

He knows that I/you/we all have...

7 SECONDS

... to make a good first impression, so the Evangelist pays special attention to the following:

- ✪ He *understands* that some people radiate energy, some don't.
- ✪ He *gives his greetings a mission* (As Tom Peters so eloquently put it). Surely, he wants to see something positive from the interaction!
- ✪ He recognizes that *attitude* on a first meeting will set the table for future relations.

And yes, the bottom line here is more important than those three points. **So, what is the bottom line?**

He pays **mindful attention** to how he engages anyone – an **outsider**, the **visitor** or the established **church member**.

He knows what is more important than mere words!

**You never get a
second chance
to make a great
first impression!**

Yet it is no choice of our own that makes us an evangelist: It is Christ by His call, as He did while Matthew was "sitting at the receipt of custom" (Matthew 9:9). The Romans generously allowed the tax collector to add and collect his own commission to their taxes. This was obviously a **very profitable position** for Matthew to discard!

Yet the Word in Luke 14:26 is not for everyman. **It is only for those who have heard the call of Jesus.** It is Christ's will that the Evangelist should be isolated and that he should fix his eyes solely on Him. At the very moment he is called, the Evangelist finds that he has broken with all the natural ties of life. **This is not his own doing, but because he has been called by Christ.**

- **Yet it is to corrupt the doctrine of Christ by preaching 'the Word' as a means of monetary gain.** Paul reduces it to simple basics in Luke 10:7: "For the labourer is worthy of his hire."

The church is my passion!

*The church is in my blood (and in my soul).
I grew up in the church, and in those days most
folk went to church. It's the pinnacle of
human life, it's like music and art, it involves
nothing less than total commitment.*

*It's the task at hand, and what it means to be
fully engaged with the work of The Lord.*

*The Evangelists understands there
is a spiritual vacuum in every
man until it is filled by Christ*

The very sins that men are guilty of, and terrible as they are to think of, make a potent argument for preaching the Gospel.

Men are going down to the grave, dying an *everlasting death* for lack of knowledge. The grave engulfs them, and in the dark they die without a glimmer of hope. No light of the Lord's Word ever shone on their faces.

The Evangelist understands that more preachers of the Gospel are wanted, wanted lest these dear souls be ruined everlastingly; wanted that they may be lifted up from the cesspit of their corruption, and made to sit among those redeemed by Christ Jesus.

**The Evangelist is burdened with the message:
Who will answer His call?**

*Evangelists are visionaries and talent-developers!
And we respect those who develop talent for future
leaders, but there are indeed times when the Evangelist,
the proclaimer of this Blessed Hope, is essential.*

The first task of the Evangelist is to keep hope alive!

A Faith that can be destroyed by suffering is not Faith.

Richard Wurmbrand

"It was strictly forbidden to preach to other prisoners. It was understood that whoever was caught doing this received a severe beating. A number of us decided to pay the price for the privilege of preaching, so we accepted their [the communists'] terms. It was a deal; we preached and they beat us. We were happy preaching. They were happy beating us, so everyone was happy."



Richard Wurmbrand
Tortured for Christ

Even though he was starved, tortured, beaten and abused, Richard Wurmbrand held to his faith through fourteen years in prison. Despite those horrible circumstances, God used him to help many hurting people.

Finally, in 1955, he was released and reunited with his family. Knowing he could be imprisoned again, Richard still looked forward to preaching the Word of God in Romania once more. **But God had other plans.**

The World must know!

The last time I met Pastor Wurmbrand was in the early 1980s, on his last visit to South Africa. It was a short and private one-on-one chat. Once I had aired my knowledge and told him that I had read all his books, he looked at me and asked: **What did you do about it?**

Then he turned around and walked off. I had been so ashamed that it took me a full thirty years before I could tell anyone about this. So now I ask you: **What did you do about it?**

●Yes, you! What did **you** do about the Gospel and God's Will for your life?

#54 The Evangelist receives visitors that ask of his wisdom...

... yet he always answers by inspiration from God's word: **"For the LORD gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding."**

(Proverbs 2:6)

Thus he can answer with the confidence of the Holy Spirit! It is this gift that sparks his spiritual passion to use God-given gifts and talents.

A Tongue of Fire or a flame is a symbol of the Holy Spirit, taken from Luke's Pentecost account, when a tongue of fire came to rest over the head of each of the disciples, and they were filled with the Holy Spirit.

On other occasions the Evangelist is called to minister life to souls that fear the grave, taking encouragement from the words:

***O death, where is thy sting?
O grave, where is thy victory?
The sting of death is sin; and the
strength of sin is the law. But thanks be
to God, which giveth us the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ.***

1 Corinthians 15:55-58

*The heart's desire of
the Evangelist is:*



*Make Me a Flame of Fire:
the Fire of the Holy Spirit.*

*Now about the angels he says:
"He makes His angels winds, His servants
flames of fire."*

Hebrews 1:7

Yet the Evangelist is **realistic**, because the gardener doesn't expect **every flower** to bear fruit. By the same token, he cannot expect **every hearer** who is impressed by his ministry to become a living child of God.

To be a soul winner is the happiest thing in the world. And with every soul you bring to Jesus Christ, you seem to get a new heaven here upon earth.

Charles Spurgeon

#15 Others come to the Evangelist seeking Golden Promises...

... and a faith to achieve riches and power, even glory.

Yet they have failed to understand that God has been more generous than this. He has given the Evangelist a deeper thirsting for the Heavenly Kingdom.

Surely, he understands in his quiet time there is no greater gift than to wet the parched lips of the lost soul with the fountain of life.

Yet so often this dear soul is offered cheap grace.

This is the very enemy of the church.

Cheap grace, taught by many churches, means the forgiveness of sins without repentance, baptism without church discipline, the taking of communion without confession, forgiveness without personal confession, and ignoring God's commandments.

**Cheap grace is grace
without discipleship,
grace without the Cross.**



If Grace is God's answer, the gift of Christian life, we cannot for a moment dispense with keeping His Commandments.

The result of this is summed up by Jesus's words in Matthew 7:26-27:

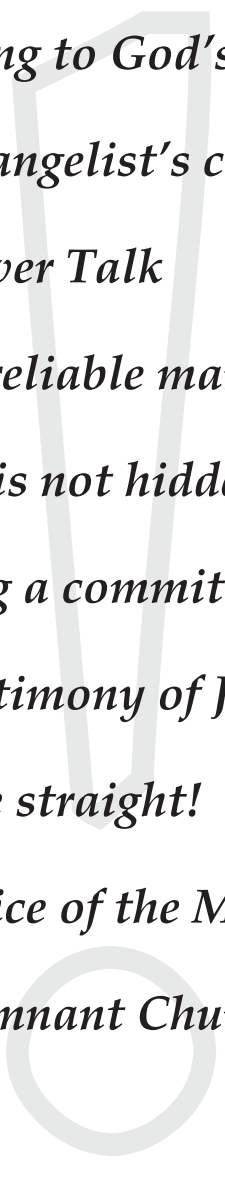
But anyone who hears My teaching and doesn't obey, is like a person who builds a house on sand; when the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, it will collapse with a mighty crash.



6

Dedication

is needed

- 
- #56 *A pre-flight checklist*
 - #57 *Listening to God's messages*
 - #58 *The Evangelist's calling is useful*
 - #59 *Mr Clever Talk*
 - #60 *The unreliable man*
 - #61 *Talent is not hidden*
 - #62 *Keeping a commitment*
 - #63 *The testimony of John Bunyan*
 - #64 *Let's be straight!*
 - #65 *The Voice of the Master*
 - #66 *The Remnant Church*

#500 A Pre-flight Checklist for the Evangelist

- ☐ What do I love more - the world or God?
- ☐ Does sin reign in my life?
- ☐ Do I love my neighbour?
- ☐ Am I grieved by sin?
- ☐ Where is my treasure?
- ☐ Am I bearing good fruit?
- ☐ Do I deny Christ, or proclaim Him?
- ☐ Am I spending regular time in Bible study and prayer?
- ☐ Do I long to worship and fellowship with others?
- ☐ Do I have peace?

Why is this so important?

Because a lot of people **claim** to be Christians, yet their **example** often suggests they don't know Christ! This means they negate the message. **So obviously your example must be *Right with the Lord*** as a message of the truth you proclaim.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

2 Corinthians 5:17

**Looking for a Biblical checklist?
Read Galatians 5:19-25**



My own checklist

- ✓ Who am I (these days)?
- ✓ Why am I here?
- ✓ How am I unique?
- ✓ Can I be sure that the truth that I have to offer will make a dramatic difference to the lost soul?

And most important:

- ✓ What do I want to convey to people?

**To put it bluntly:
If I want to be an Evangelist,
what did I do about my
Preflight / Biblical / Own
Checklists?**

#1 The Evangelist has a daily habit of listening to God's messages

This is intentional and he expectantly listens to whatever God may want to tell him.

He knows full well that it's more important to become a person who listens regularly to God than it is to constantly ask God to give him guidance.

- **He sets aside time every day to listen to God's voice and hear his promises and plans for his calling.**

Therefore, everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

Matthew 7:24

Truth #1

The important work of evangelism must begin with prayer. Prayer changes our hearts and makes us more sensitive to what God is already doing around us.



E J Pace

The Evangelist makes careful notes of important inspirational thoughts.

He doesn't waste precious time and energy on dotting every *i* with his current work, but rather is always busy with a few other matters. This gives him a **broader perspective** on what the **bigger picture** will 'feel like'.

- This means the inspirational thoughts take precedent, and God's messages will be carefully noted. The inspired words to his hearers will then be precisely what God willed.

*The Evangelist is fully aware
that his calling is to be
useful to his fellow man*

And in doing so, he points the direction to **heavenly life** and to deny himself.

He also points the unbeliever to passages of Scripture that will help him, **by reading God's Word daily.**

This reminds the convert to stay on the narrow road, be **heavenly-minded** and shun the world.

On the narrow path he is not alone, for God leads the way. **His Word shows the direction.**

***Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet,
and a light unto my path.***

Psalm 119:105

Evangelists are the instigators-in-chief of spreading the Gospel in the hope of creating **new people**, whom it will be a pleasure to be with.

- **This is because they admire most the One we admire most.**



One could easily write this entire book off as a semantic twist on 'evangelism', and replace it with '**spiritual experience**'.

OK, maybe that's a nuance I wouldn't deny for a second. Yet the difference is critical, as the outcome of true evangelism is **empirical and verifiable by lives changed for the better**.

However, it is more than that, as it is also **holistic, total, encompassing, emotional and transforming**. A spiritual experience, in contrast, is an **event**, soul-jogging, a happening, with a beginning, a middle and an end.

Guess that's why I wrote this book!

Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

Matthew 7:14

#50 The Evangelist will on occasion meet “Mr Clever Talk”

Although Mr Clever Talk innately knows that what you have to say is vital to eternal life, when faced with the words “flee from the wrath to come” he will always have answers that **avoid the truth**.

However, the Evangelist reveals Mr Clever Talk’s true nature with his gospel preaching. Mr Clever Talk loves worldly doctrines, because these allow him to **avoid the Cross**.

In Matthew 3:7 John the Baptist, talking to Nicodemus, the Pharisee, warns about “the wrath to come”.

The one point he had to deal with was the one which he also would have revealed to publicans and harlots, and he spoke of it in just the same way to these nominally religious people.

They must “flee from the wrath to come”, or else, as surely as they were living men, that wrath would come upon them, and they would perish under it.



So John simply kept to that single topic; he laid the axe to the root of the trees as he warned these hypocritical professors to escape, to run for their lives, else they would **perish in the common destruction which will overwhelm all ungodly men.**

This is not the style of preaching that the Evangelist's hearers liked, but John did not think of that. He did not come to say what men wished him to say, but to discharge the burden of the Lord, and to speak out plainly about what was in man's eternal and immortal interests.

- **He spoke, therefore, firstly, concerning the wrath of God; and, secondly, concerning the way of escape from that wrath.**

***The Evangelist has holy wisdom
when dealing with people
that are unreliable***

So, there is Mr Bendy.

Mr Bendy will agree with *any* philosophy or teaching, depending on whose company he is in at the time.

Depending on an unreliable person in a crisis is like trying to chew with a loose tooth or walk with a crippled foot.

Proverbs 25:19

Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph but forgot him.

Genesis 40:23

As an Evangelist and the example that people look up to, is the character of dependability working in your life?

Here is how you can find out.

Take a careful look at this character and the fruit of dependability from God's most precious Word by examining the four questions on the next page.



Although the Evangelist may be tempted to complain about others, he has to **constantly enquire of himself**:

- 1 How do I exhibit **dependability** in my daily life?
- 2 What can I do to develop a better attitude of being **dependable**?
- 3 What blocks me from being **dependable**?
- 4 How can I make my **dependability** function better, stronger, and faster even in times of uncertainty and stress?

#5 The Evangelist does not hide his God-given talent

Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.

Matthew 5:15

When Jesus spoke again to the people, He said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.'

John 8:12



Beneath the surface of these pages is a PARTICULARLY BIG IDEA.

Think Evangelism.

Keep the cycle going: More Converts = More Evangelists!

Most Christians fear evangelising and witnessing because of the possibility of rejection or of how friends and peers might perceive them.

The role of Evangelism, of saving people, is God's – and His alone. He chooses to use us for His glory, but it is His Spirit that convicts and converts.

We are the tools, the rods and reels He uses. The importance of whom and what we are and do in Him far outweighs any concern about how others see us.

Our responsibility is to obey and let Him use us. We are not responsible for whether or not people accept the message; we are only responsible to proclaim it as effectively and as passionately as we can. This takes the **personal responsibility** and **fear of rejection** load off us. We need not fear rejection, because we are not being rejected; God is the One who is rejected.

He is the One to whom people do not want to conform; we are merely His servants.

#62 The Evangelist keeps his word when he takes on a commitment

Firstly:

Proverbs 14:23 states, *"In all toil, there is profit, but mere talk tends only to poverty."* This verse emphasises the importance of putting in the effort and hard work to achieve success.

Secondly:

Colossians 3:23-24 encourages believers to work with all their hearts: *"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."*

Thirdly:

Proverbs 6:6-8 points out the wisdom of working hard and being diligent: *"Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways, and be wise. Without having any chief officer or ruler it prepares its bread in summer and gathers its food in harvest."*

**EVANGELISM: CAN YOU DO IT?
OF COURSE!**



*He was ever precise in
promise-keeping.*

William Shakespeare

Fourthly:

Proverbs 16:3 recommends that we dedicate our work to the Lord: *"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and He will establish your plans."* This verse reminds us of the importance of committing our work and our lives to God. When we dedicate our efforts to Him, we can trust that He will surely bless us, and our plans will be established beyond our wildest imagination.

Evangelism is perennially a "hot" issue in church circles. Much has been written about it. Yet Evangelism at both the individual and church level is fundamentally not an evangelising issue. **It's an attitude issue, pure and simple.** Only with a strong spiritual foundation can the Evangelist promote the gospel of salvation for the lost soul.

The Evangelist is encouraged by the testimony of John Bunyan

Although I have been through all that I have,
I do not regret the many hardships I met,
because it was they who brought me to the
place I wished to reach.

John Bunyan

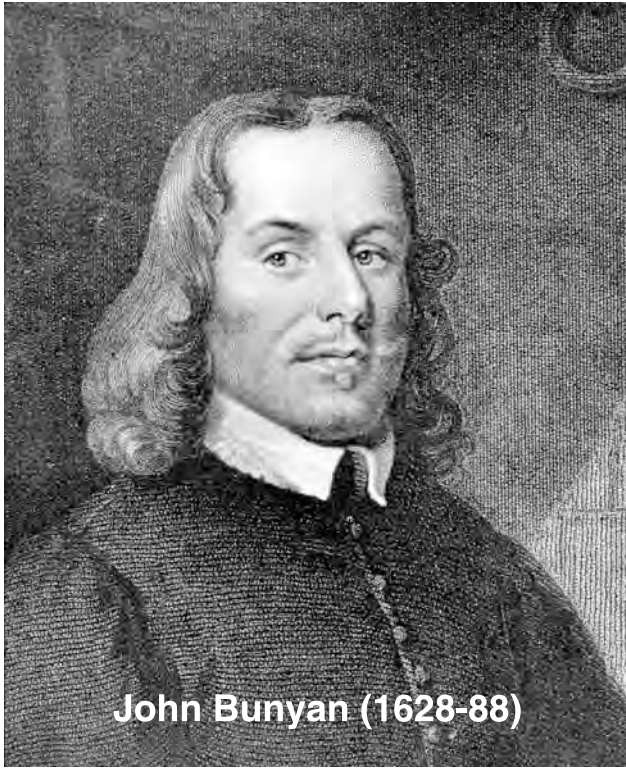
The Evangelist has a fervent and urgent desire to do the Will of God. It is part of his daily prayers and forms the salient feature of his lifestyle and behaviour.

He rests on the psalmist's words found in Psalm 40:6:

***I delight to do Thy Will, O my God:
Yea, Thy law is within my heart.***

Psalm 40:8 KJV

Evangelism highlights the value that you add to God's Kingdom... and why... He has placed you here on earth.



John Bunyan (1628-88)

John Bunyan was an English writer and Puritan preacher.

He is best remembered as the author of the Christian allegory *The Pilgrim's Progress*, which also became an influential literary model.

In addition to *The Pilgrim's Progress*, Bunyan wrote nearly sixty titles, many of them expanded sermons.

#64 *OK, Pastor, let's be straight about this matter!*

So far so good! After 158 pages I'm getting the picture. But let's be realistic, surely one must be careful in this matter. I mean, doesn't it turn out to be just a job in the end?



Well, friend, thank you for asking such an honest question! My answer to you is yes, that is a major consideration, and frankly (and sadly) you have a point. So, I listed on the right a few guidelines to keep you on the straight and narrow!

Listen to the words Paul wrote to Timothy when he was in a Roman prison waiting to be executed: *"But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry."* (2 Timothy 4:5)

Forgive others: Forgiving is not easy, no one is saying it is. It's hard sometimes to be forgiving to people who have done certain things to you. Jesus said in Ephesians 4:30: *"And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption."*

Finally, most important when doing the work of an Evangelist: **Trust and faith are fundamental!**

"Trust the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding, in all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths."

Proverbs 3:5-6



***The Evangelist does not stop –
he has heard the voice of
the Master***

He is encouraged by the words of the Apostle Paul in Romans 8:37-39:

***No, in all these things we are more
than conquerors through Him who
loved us. For I am convinced that
neither death nor life, neither
angels nor demons, neither the
present nor the future, nor any
powers, neither height nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from
the love of God that is in
Christ Jesus our Lord.***

So, friend.

what have you learnt now that you have
read these 65 items? Maybe not much.
Perhaps a competent understanding! Yet, no
one is beating down your door to get this:

Truth that never changes!



Well, I don't think that's good enough!

For you. For the people you meet. I beg you – yes, beg – to review this Divine Aspiration of the Evangelist!

I believe if you get moving ASAP, one year from now you will be able to look back and say: I have...

***A Divine Aspiration to
spread the Gospel!***

The Evangelist fully understands that the purpose of the remnant church...

... transcends *self-improvement*, which aims at boosting *self-esteem* or teaching members how to *amass earthly wealth*.

Rather, its **core mission** is to deepen the individual's relationship with Jesus Christ. It is a place of proclaiming the **transformative gospel of salvation** that Jesus offers.

The Evangelist rejects **prosperity gospel**, which is identified by the following six points:

- 1 The absence of a serious doctrine of the Biblical necessity and normalcy of **suffering** – the absence of a doctrine of suffering.
- 2 The absence of a clear and prominent doctrine of **self-denial** is a tip-off that something is amiss.
- 3 The absence of serious **exposition** of Scripture.
- 4 The absence of dealing with **tensions** in Scripture.
- 5 Church leaders who lead **exorbitant** lifestyles.
- 6 A prominence of **self** and a marginalisation of the **greatness of God**.

●The Evangelist understands that the Gospels are historically reliable. And the evidence for this is vast!



There is a **pressing concern** that the church in general is under siege by malevolent forces; the adversary seeks to infiltrate and compromise the integrity of the church. As we approach the time that herald the **coming of Christ**, we are already witnessing the end-times impact of these battles on different segments of the church.

When you hear the term *remnant* as it is used in the Bible, it refers to a group of people who remain loyal to God after a time of hardship.

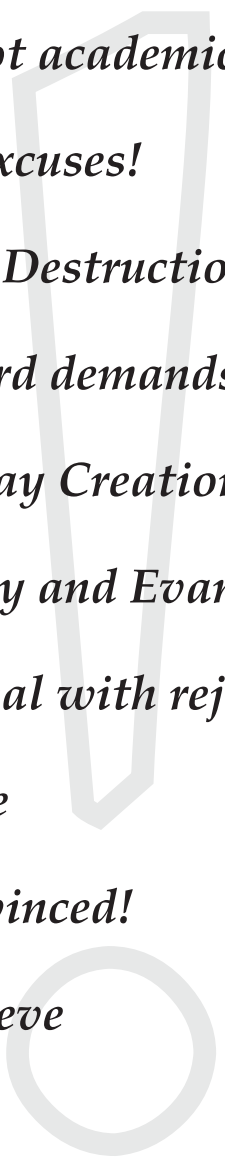
There is a **special meaning** to the remnant of believers that will exist in the last days, when earth is at its worst, right before Christ's Second Coming.

- **Scripture tells us who will make up this end-time remnant: those “who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus” (Revelation 12:17, ESV).**



7

Pursuing
Evangelism
in a
Disruptive Age

- 
- #67 *Teaching perseverance*
- #68 *But I'm not academically qualified!*
- #69 *Excuses, excuses!*
- #70 *The Pit of Destruction*
- #71 *God's Word demands your attention*
- #72 *The Six-Day Creation*
- #73 *Technology and Evangelism*
- #74 *How to deal with rejection*
- #75 *Resistance*
- #76 *Fully convinced!*
- #77 *This I believe*
- I profess...*

The Evangelist depends on the teaching of perseverance found in James 1:12

***Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial
because, having stood the test, that person
will receive the crown of life that the Lord
has promised to those who love Him.***

James 1:12

This is probably the best known Bible text
about **perseverance**, imploring us not to
give up even when facing trials.



Why do you smile, Wurmbrand? Are you mad?

Why do you smile? is a phrase that will always be associated with **Pastor Richard Wurmbrand**, who endured immense suffering for his Christian faith. Wurmbrand spent fourteen years in prison, including three years in solitary confinement, while his wife, Sabina, was also imprisoned.

Despite their hardship, they never wavered in their faith. Perhaps Wurmbrand smiled because he found hope and strength in his unwavering commitment to Christ.

This reminds me of Jesus's words in Matthew 13:10, where He explained that the knowledge of the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven is given to those who truly seek it.

Sometimes, even in the darkest moments, a smile can reflect inner resilience and trust in something greater.

EVANGELIST



WHO ARE YOU?

Why are you here? What do you want? What do you want to communicate to the world?

**You can't just go on forever
floating with the tide!**

You need to search your heart and find out what your mission has to offer that will, in God's way, enrich the lives of your hearers. And you must believe in that.

- **Believe so strongly that you become unique with the mission that God has assigned only to you!**

**#68 But I'm not
academically
qualified!**

*My immediate answer to that one is:
Neither was D L Moody, the great Bible Evangelist
of the 19th century!*

D L Moody, who couldn't pronounce Daniel properly (he would say *Danel*), was a great preacher and Evangelist, yet he was neither cultured nor refined. He was uneducated and untrained for the ministry. **He certainly didn't fall into the categories of philosopher, thinker or theologian.**

Yet, despite many social and educational shortcomings, and the lack of any formal training, D L Moody's was a preaching ministry that few, if any would rival.

The story goes: "The first meeting I ever saw him at was in a little old shanty that had been abandoned by a saloon-keeper. Mr Moody had got the place to hold the meetings at night. I went there a little late, and the first thing I saw was a man standing up with a few tallow candles around him, holding a Negro boy, and trying to read to him the story of the Prodigal Son, and a great many words he could not read out and had to skip.

"I thought, *If the Lord can ever use this man for His honour and glory, He can use anyone!*"

Does that answer your concern?



In June 1872 Moody made his first trip to the United Kingdom. While he was there a few close contacts urged him to come back in a year. In June 1873, Moody and his family, in company with his good friend, the musician Ira Sankey with his wife, travelled from New York to Liverpool, England.

Moody and Sankey travelled throughout the UK and Ireland holding meetings, helping fuel the revival that was slowly sweeping the region. Moody's visit made a lasting impression and inspired lay people across the region to begin children's ministries and ministry training schools for women

Moody was revolutionary in his evangelistic approach. Despite conflicting counsel from friends and trusted contacts, he and Sankey travelled to Ireland during a time when Catholics and Protestants were constantly at odds with each other. Moody was different: he did not care what denomination a person claimed, but only wanted the message of Christ to be heard.

As a result, the revival swept into Ireland, and he won praise from both Catholics and Protestants.

Academic training has *nothing* to do with being an Evangelist!

*The Evangelist knows
people will make any excuse
for not accepting Christ*

A story from Luke (Luke 14:15-20)

Hearing this, a man sitting at the table with Jesus exclaimed, "What a blessing it will be to attend a banquet in the Kingdom of God!"

Jesus replied with this story: "A man prepared a great feast and sent out many invitations. When the banquet was ready, he sent his servant to tell the guests, 'Come, the banquet is ready.' But they all began making excuses.

One said, 'I have just bought a field and must inspect it. Please excuse me.' Another said, 'I have just bought five pairs of oxen, and I want to try them out. Please excuse me.' Another said, 'I now have a wife, so I can't come.'

**He that is good for making excuses,
is seldom good for anything else.**

Benjamin Franklin

***For God says, "At just the right time, I heard you. On the day of salvation, I helped you."
Indeed, the right time is now.
Today is the day of salvation.***

2 Corinthians 6:2

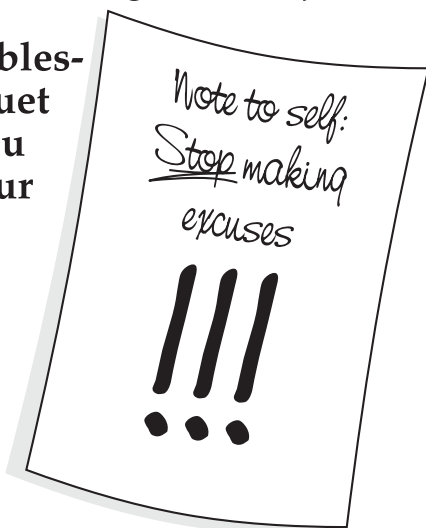


I think Jesus in the text (Luke 14:15-20) read the man immediately; that is why He told the parable. Yes, the man wanted the blessing, but wasn't prepared to make the move of accepting Christ as the Saviour.

Then, on many occasions over the years, I have met the same situation when shown the **Truth** of God's Word. The common reaction of the hearer is to agree immediately, and then change the subject.

- The fact is if you want the blessing of attending the banquet in the Kingdom of God, you need to accept Christ as your Saviour. And yes, there are terms and conditions, and that is what many will not accept.

**Hence the
excuses!**



The Evangelist understands the danger as described in **Psalm 40:2**

*He drew me up from the pit of destruction,
out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a
rock, making my steps secure.*

Psalm 40:2

The **Slough of Despond** is a fictional bog described in John Bunyan's allegory, *The Pilgrim's Progress*. This deep, miry place that cannot be mended. This is the descent where the scum and filth run continually; that's why it's called the Slough of Despond.

When the sinner is awakened by the Gospel to his lost condition, there arises in his soul many fears and doubts.

Yet the Evangelist remembers the basics when counselling the recently converted soul:

CONVICTION

CONVERSION

CONSECRATION

The Slough of Despond

is the metaphorical pit into which the sinner sinks under the weight of his sins and his sense of guilt for them.



I waited patiently for the Lord; and He inclined unto me and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And He hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord.

Psalms 40:1-3

He lifted me up
from the deep miry clay
He planted my feet
on the King's Highway
and this is the reason why
I sing, and I shout
my Jesus came down, down, down
and lifted me u-u-up

Chorus lines from an evangelistic revival song written by Lawrence E Brooks, who passed on 5 January 2022, at age 112.

I ask, just ask, where are those old-fashioned revival meetings today?

*The Evangelist knows full well that
other matters aside from God's Word
demand people's attention*

**People will come to love their oppression,
to adore the technologies that undo their
capacities to think...**

Aldous Huxley

How to counter the danger of these new technologies:

Have a Plan:

Set aside intentional time for your quiet moments with God. Plan it into your daily routine, just as you would any other important activity.

Consider using a devotional or Bible reading plan to guide your study.

Create the Atmosphere:

Find a quiet place where you can be alone with God. It could be a cosy corner, a quiet coffee shop, or a room with minimal distractions.

Light a candle, play soft music, or simply allow the silence to set the mood.

Ask God to speak to you - don't do all the talking. Be quiet so that you can hear His voice!

Distinct *or* Extinct!



● Yet unwittingly he is a slave to soapies!



During the Second World War, Britons were treated to the fake upper-class English accent of Lord Haw-Haw (William Joyce) broadcasting Nazi propaganda. Joyce was executed for treason.

>>>>>>>>X<<<<<<<<
Don't lend your ears to conspiracy theories and lies.

Stick to the Truth from God's Word!

#7 *The Evangelist knows that folk out there...*

... refuse to believe in the six-day creation as recounted in the Bible book of Genesis, yet are happy to believe in the evolution of man, for **which there is just no evidence.**

"The deepest sin against the human mind is to believe things without evidence." (Wayne Dyer)

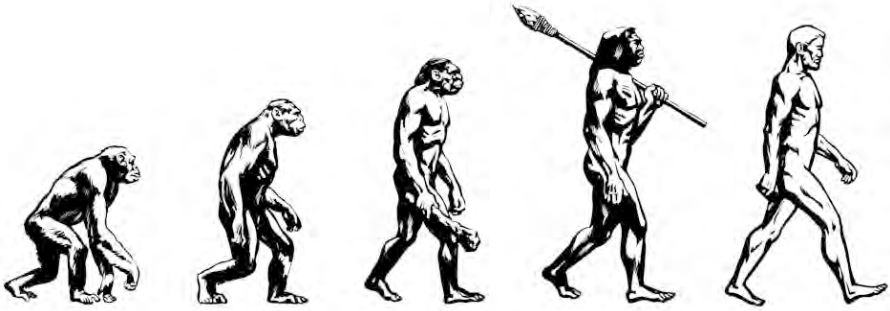
The Evangelist understands from the book of Genesis that God created man and woman from the beginning.

The Bible is very clear that creation was completed in six days.

He knows there is no evidence to prove that evolution happened.

The Evangelist cannot pick and choose what suits his opinion when reading the Bible.

**He understands and believes
the Bible is inspired by God,
and hence accurate.**



The Evangelist understands that it is clear – **crystal clear** – that people are attracted to, and retained by, evangelists and churches that **make them feel needed and good about themselves**, as God's creation, **knowing** that God created them **for a purpose**.



The Evangelist uses technology when personal contact is not practical

Spurgeon said: "If I were in company, I must turn the subject of conversation to Christ, that I may serve my Master."

He urged his hearers always to carry gospel tracts on them:

"When preaching and private talk are not available, you need to have a tract ready. A touching gospel tract may be the seed of eternal life."

OK, I understand these days the printed tracts are not so popular. But there are times when a quick Whats-App Bible verse is appropriate. Or maybe just a voice message from my cell phone, or even a prayer.

Evangelists are driven by intention, and if need be, the cell phone will do the job. Emergency measures are called for when hearing God's Will.

They won't permit anything to interfere with achieving their higher calling – one can call it a pit bull kind of determination!

Evangelism is the WOW project!



*Youth will be the
next generation of
church members.*

*Youth will
dominate future
church
membership.*

The other day I read a magazine report about all these latest handheld devices. Speaking to a friend, I said: "You know, the truth is I don't really need any of this." I realise I'm getting older, yet I was right. A R20 notebook does a much better job – for me – of keeping notes than the latest smart phone.

No, I don't need any of this. But the young folk do! They not only want it, they need it.

A dozen examples like this are available. And they all add up to one thing: **Infotech changes everything.**

There is no higher priority than the total transformation of all evangelical projects to digital. IT is in its infancy, yet it has already changed the rules. With social media, Bible tracts are distributed worldwide at virtually no cost – and in full colour! I even do my sermons and Bible studies in PowerPoint.

- **All of this was unheard-of just a few years ago. IT has changed Evangelism so fundamentally that years and years will pass before we can begin talking about constructing a new rule book.**

 *The Evangelist realises
through his experience and
that of the reformers...*

... that to be of use in his calling he will have
to suffer on occasion being labelled a fool,
or worse even – a devil!

The very nature of his calling requires him on
occasion to experience rejection.

Sometimes he must just quietly stand there, consoling
himself with the knowledge that the verbal abuse and
sharp disagreements are one means by which the
world proves its recognition of a God-sent man.

Yet: Dare he play the coward in the presence of God?

**Never! The conviction that he has a com-
mission from God, and that the Spirit of the
Lord is upon him, makes him bold.**

In the history of the church it is faith in God that
causes us to honour our calling. We dare not disgrace
it with cowardly action when facing trials.

- **He proudly remembers the martyrs and saints
who suffered for their beliefs in the Reformation
period.**



Plaque in Maidstone, Kent, commemorating Christians who were burnt at the stake for their faith. Perhaps 500 believers suffered this horrible fate.

During the reigns of Henry VIII (1509-47) and his daughter, Mary I (1553-58), both Catholic monarchs, Protestants were executed by burning at the stake under the Heresy laws.

And you will be hated by all for My Name's sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved.

Matthew 10:22

Maybe...

Maybe the church needs some persecution to find her way back to her calling. Given the current political climate, it may be closer than we think.

- **Paul repeatedly proclaimed that suffering was part and parcel of accepting and living the Gospel of Christ (2 Thessalonians 1:5; 2**

#75 The Evangelist recognises there is resistance to the Gospel

He fully understands that the Word in its weakness runs the risk of meeting the scorn of men and being rejected. He knows that there are hearts which are hardened and doors which are closed to the Word.

He knows that the Word recognises opposition when it meets it and is prepared to suffer it. This is a hard lesson for the Evangelist, yet a true one:

The Gospel, unlike an ideology, reckons with impossibilities.

The Word is weaker than any ideology, and this means that the Evangelist with only the Gospel in his hand is in conversation weaker than the promoters of an opinion.

Yet, although the Evangelist is weak in this sense, he is ready to suffer with the Word and is free from the morbid restlessness which characterises fanaticism.

*Here is a man who
has lost direction,
yet the GPS
points to guide
him to his
journey's end.*



"Nope," he says, "I don't want anything to do with your maps. Nothing!"

He drifts about and never reaches his destination.

Some of you may say: "Well, I'm not going to read your Bible; I'm not going to listen to your talk about Jesus Christ. I don't believe in such things."

Then I say: "You will be damned!"

Maybe you say: "That's hard."

No, it isn't. It's the same as ignoring the GPS and not arriving at your destination.



**The Evangelist is fully convinced
that for many reading this page
it will be the last call**

The Evangelist pictures that day, the day of the last call. *Who will be ready?* He is troubled that members of the Remnant have fallen away, and their names have been erased from *The Lambs Book of Life*.

But they, being spiritually deaf, do not even know they are lost.

Yet he asks: If such one-time members of the Remnant are cast away, what will become of them if they have not been reconciled to God?

The Evangelist takes to heart the words from 2 Corinthians 5:20:

***We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though
God were making His appeal through us. We
implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.***

The Evangelist is burdened and asks: What shall be your judgement on the Day of Account when the Master comes to execute judgement on those who have been weighed and found wanting?

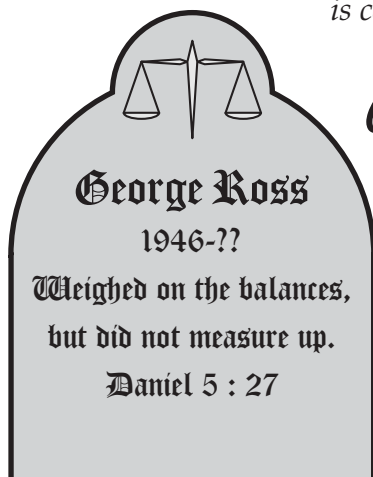
Yet he understands it's *your choice* to be reconciled to God! And his sermon is always: "Will you be ready?"



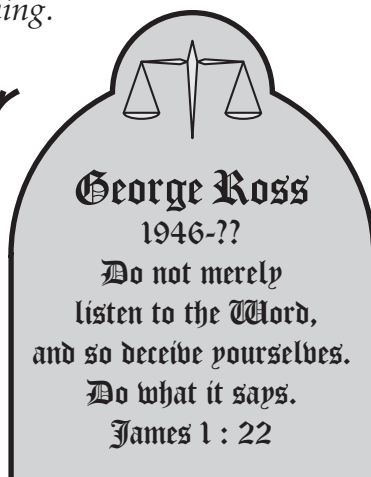


This sketch reminds us of the parable of the ten virgins in Matthew 25. They were watching for the bridegroom to arrive, but five had too little oil and had gone to buy some more. While they were away, the groom arrived.

The moral? *Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.*



or



#77 *This I believe*

If you have chosen to read this book, chances are you're the busy type of person, but you like to read ideas.

Perhaps what you've read in these 191 pages appealed to you? And presumably you have got the drift?

Some of it is of course simply my opinion. And also, these texts obviously are not written in stone.

But... the direction certainly is!

There are other discussions of what matters to the Evangelist, but this one, I am sure, is a good beginning!

What do you believe?



Ideas such as the ones between these covers are at the heart of what it means to be a member of the end times church - **the faithful remnant.**

From the pulpit, or the battlefield when war against Satan is absolutely necessary, there is **no greater calling** than that of the Evangelist.

And lastly – these hard words from Revelation 3:15-16:

I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm – neither hot nor cold – I am about to spit you out of my mouth.

Please. please. please!

Don't dismiss these texts as motivational nonsense. ACT! ACT NOW! Because your life depends on it.

George Ross

I profess...

This book has focused on the basics, namely that the Evangelist is the proclaimer of the Good News that Jesus came, that He died and rose again, that He is our Saviour, that He paved the way by paying the price for our salvation, saving us from our sins and eternal death, and that He can begin to transform our lives. That in essence is the Good News which the Evangelist has been called to share with others.

Yet, if you have indeed responded to the call of Jesus, the question arises: Are you a *born-again believer*, or a *disciple*? So, as I summarise, and before we move on to the next phase in our ministry, we need to ask: **What is the difference between evangelism and discipleship?**

Both evangelism and discipleship are vital if we are going to live up to our calling. Do we then ask whether Jesus offered two different standards for the *born-again you*: a less difficult one for the ordinary Christian and a more challenging version for those who have been called to be members of the Last Remnant?

When we unpack discipleship and the Remnant church, many of us have been absorbed by the idea of a denomination, congregation, pastor, church group or membership, and we see this whole matter through that lens.

Discipleship is the process of becoming more like Jesus, yet it's also a process where neither one is more important than the other. Yet for practical reasons we see the Evangelist's calling as first in the process, where the dear soul receives the call of Jesus, and then continues in a relationship and study where he grows.

Evangelism always points the way to discipleship.

● ***You are the salt of the earth* (Matthew 5:13). It is not for the Disciple or Evangelist to decide whether he or she will be the salt of the earth. Whether they like it or not; they are exactly that by their response to the call of Jesus.**

George Ross

There is power in the gospel, *wonderworking* power.

Turn the *born-again* you
into a dynamic life based on the book
of Romans with the three kinds of power
in the Gospel: the power to *enlighten*,
the power to *save*
and the power to *establish*...
and rediscover its power daily,
again and again!

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