

EVANGELISM - Friendship

(paper & pens)

Slide 1

INTRO

Following on... **FAITH, prayer, gifts in evangelism:** Using your ideas & gifts
NOT a BIG MISSION, or massive EVENTS but a different style...

PROBLEMS (with our thinking)

Q) If the church fell down... (Slide 2)

- Would you still be a Christian?
- Would we still be a "church"?
- Would Ade & David still be pastors?
- Would God be homeless and His presence disappear?

There is no NT justification for a building holding God's presence
The OT has the temple & tabernacle but they are gone!

"WE" are the temple of God:

"Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you?" **1 Corinthians 3:16**

(Read "The Great Divide" p.6)

The Sacred/Secular Divide (SSD) separates faith from everyday life
Society is fully infected and cannot be helped...

- *"Life is a peach not an orange" – don't compartmentalise*

Who's to blame?

- *"You can't blame the meat for going rotten. That's what meat does. You blame the salt for not being there to preserve it" - John Stott*

See slide 3

- **What are we doing with the 110hrs of our time each week?**
- **Who are we talking to?**
- **What people do we meet?**
- **What places do we find ourselves?**

Why do we make 5 - 10hrs of our week the "Holy Time"?

WE DON'T THINK THE 110HRS ARE IMPORTANT TO GOD!

“SSD leads us to believe that really holy people become missionaries, moderately holy people become pastors, and people who are not much use to God get a job!”

The Great Divide – Mark Greene (LICC)

Is that true? Do you think like that? I did for years!!!

Let’s watch this clip:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GoEHT4tTOI8&feature=player_embedded

4:10 – 5:59

Look at our potential for changing the world

SOLUTIONS

My most effective & enjoyable times as a Christian have been when I just share what Jesus has done in my life.

Good Evangelism is rarely Nicky Cruz in New York with a Hip Hop group preaching to thousands.

It costs money & takes a lot of time to organise.

Who here can rap or has a testimony like Nicky Cruz?

Jesus said “*be my witness in Jerusalem*”:

WHY? It was a place of familiarity – where people knew them

Acts 20:20 says: *“You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and **from house to house.**”*

The house was everything then:

- Family
- Extended family
- Work place
- Hospitality
- Customers
- Friends

Houses were also very close together in cities.

Everyone was outside in the gardens or street outside as it was hot.

People naturally spoke of what they had seen or were experiencing.

The gospel spread via families, friends, colleagues, clients, neighbours etc.

Colossians 4:2-6:

“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. ³ And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. ⁴ Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. ⁵ Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. ⁶ Let

your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone"

If we: were wise to outsiders, made the most of opportunities, were full of grace – IMAGINE!

Church Statistics:

- 1 % come to church because they were visited by a Christian
- 2% come because of the church programme i.e toddler time
- 3% come because of bereavement
- 3% come because of Sunday School
- 6% walk through the door because they see some publicity
- 8% come because of some personal contact with the minister
- 77% come because friends or relatives invited them

Breaking News – J John

Who would you trust? Me on the streets or your friend?

John 1:41-42 – Andrew brought Peter

John 43-45 – Philip told Nathanael

John 4:28-30 – The Samaritan woman told her village

Luke 5:27-32 – Levi invited his colleagues, friends and neighbours

Acts 16:25-34 – The jailer shared with his family

God wants us to be 24/7 Christians

We are more effective than as few paid ministers

One snow flake melts away but a billion cripple a city

GROUP WORK

It's time to be INTENTIONAL

- Events you organise – **you are the speaker!!!**
- Specific family/friend nights
- Prayer nights specific for these evenings

Write your name and your own ideas of events, things to do & places to go.

Any evangelism training you would like?*

Let's PRAY for our contacts Now.

CONCLUSION

Don't be scared of making NEW FRIENDS even NON CHRISTIANS

Sometimes we are scared of Non-Christians like we don't relate

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/newsnight/9053238.stm> 13:37 – 16:42

Jesus related to the Samaritan women

TODAY is Pentecost – be filled and go!

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Acts 1:8

Let's show God's love to all and make friends.

PRAY