

# FOUNDATIONS

## LESSON 67: EVANGELISM AND DISCIPLESHIP

**Main Idea:** *God calls His church, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to go into the world to preach the Gospel and make disciples, and to continue teaching and encouraging one another to better follow Christ.*

### I. Evangelism

A. Evangelism can be defined as the urgent and faithful proclamation of the Gospel to people who have not trusted in Christ for salvation, relying on the work of the Holy Spirit to produce fruit.

### B. Characteristics of Evangelism

1. Evangelism is Gospel-focused. John 14:6; Acts 4:12; Rom. 1:16; 2 Cor. 4:5; Col. 1:28
  - a. The Gospel is simple but powerful. 1 Cor. 15:1-4; 1 Cor. 1:18-24; Matt. 11:25-26
  - b. The Gospel is not the same as apologetics. 1 Cor. 2:1-2; 2 Cor. 4:4-6
  - c. The Gospel must be spoken. Rom. 10:14
2. Evangelism is commanded, not optional. Matt. 28:18-20; 1 Pet. 2:9
3. Evangelism is missional. Matt. 28:18-20
  - a. God has always desired for people to know and glorify Him, but has not always commanded His people to evangelize. Gen. 12:3; Ezek. 18:30-31; 1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Pet. 3:9; Jon. 4:2; Matt. 15:24
  - b. The Great Commission marks the beginning of the church's call to evangelize. Acts 1:8; Eph. 3:4-12; 2 Cor. 5:18-20
  - c. Evangelism is urgent. Acts 17:30-31; 2 Pet. 3:8-10
4. Evangelism is empowered by God. Mark 4:26-29; 1 Cor. 3:5-7; Psalm 127:1

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### C. Practical Aspects of Evangelism

1. Prepare.
  - a. Pray for opportunities, boldness, and laborers. Eph. 6:20; Matt. 5:11-16; Matt. 9:37-38
  - b. Study the Word. 2 Tim. 4:2; 1 Pet. 3:14-16
  - c. Plan how to communicate the Gospel.
2. Provoke. Col. 4:5-6; Matt. 5:15-16; 1 Pet. 2:12
3. Proclaim. 1 Pet. 3:15

## II. Discipleship

A. Discipleship can be defined as the process of helping someone to better follow Christ. Matt. 28:18-20

B. Some purposes of discipleship:

1. Helping a believer grow in knowledge and application of the Word. Heb. 6:1-2; 1 Cor. 3:10-15
2. Helping a believer grow in godliness and love for Christ. Prov. 27:17; Heb. 3:12-13; Gal. 6:1; 2 Tim. 4:1-2; James 5:16; 1 Thess. 5:11
3. Helping a believer bear burdens. Rom. 12:15; Gal. 6:2; Rom. 8:18
4. Helping a believer grow in love and good works. Heb. 10:23-25
5. Helping a believer recognize or exercise spiritual gifts. 2 Tim. 1:6-7

C. All believers are called to discipleship. Col. 3:16; Rom. 15:4; 1 Thess. 4:18

D. Discipleship is context-specific and varied in practice.