

## Study 14

# THE

# EVANGELISM

# COMMANDED IN

# THE NEW TESTAMENT

*And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead.*

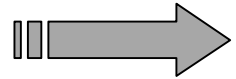
Acts 10:42

The Greek word for “Good News” is *evangel*. When we share the Good News, we are *evangelising*. Theologians debate what “successful” evangelism looks like. Is it when the Gospel has been adequately presented or is it when the Gospel has been received? If someone rejects the Gospel, have they been evangelised?

1. Note Ephesians 4:11. Why has God given “evangelists” to the Church? (Note Eph. 4:12)

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When we think of modern evangelists, we might think of stadiums, crusades, rallies, soap-boxes, or white suits.



The first church was clearly very evangelistic. They were able to preach the Gospel throughout their whole world (Colossians 1:5-6) to every creature under heaven (Colossians 1:23). The early church achieved this without the aid of Television, Radio, Internet, or evangelistic stadium crusades.

2. Considering the huge evangelistic success of the first church, how many evangelists are named in the New Testament?

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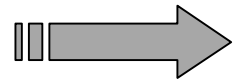
3. How would you classify someone as “evangelised”?

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4. Is it important for believers to evangelise? Why?/  
Why not?

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5. What was Paul's prayer in Philemon 6 and what did he say would result?

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Some theologians suggest that evangelism is only done when *the evangelised are now evangelising*. In this view, it means that evangelism involves *teaching*. The Gospel must be *understood* before it can be received (Matthew 13:19).

6. What did Jesus have to do to His disciples in order for them to understand? (Luke 24:35)

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7. Why is this work of Christ in a person necessary according to 2Corinthians 4:4 and Colossians 1:21? (Note also Romans 8:7; 1Cor. 2:12, 14)

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8. Knowing the natural condition of people's hearts and minds, what role might prayer play in our evangelism? (1Tim 2:1-2)

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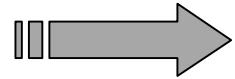
9. How else can we increase our effectiveness in evangelism?

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10. Read the Parable of the Sower in Mark 4:3-9. What do we learn about evangelism from this parable?

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## RESOURCES FOR EVANGELISM

Apart from the planting of new churches, one of the most effective methods of evangelism is Scripture distribution. This is why the Gideons are one of the most effective missionary agencies on the planet. Giving away Bibles or Bible portions is one of the chief resources of those doing evangelism. Unlike a few decades ago where Christian workers only had paper tracts to distribute, today we have CDs, DVDs, MP3s, the internet, bluetooth transfers, YouTube, FaceBook and many other forms of technology with which to communicate the Gospel. Even with all of these methods available to us, I still like to use serviettes to do some doodling.

11. How does 1Corinthians 3:6 encourage our evangelistic efforts?
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May God help us to be an evangelistic church community.

*Amen.*