

# The Example for Evangelism

14 May 2017 PM - Luke 19:10 - Evang17 - Scott Childs

- 3) Your children need to see you witnessing for Christ.
- 4) They need you to teach them how to witness for Christ.

## b. He promised His disciples would do greater works

- 1) (John 14:12) "*Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.*"
- 2) Those greater works are not necessarily greater in power but greater in extent. Christ's work is multiplied and spread all over the world as believers share the gospel with others. He has given every Christian the privilege and duty of sharing God's plan of salvation with others.
- 3) In the Great Commission Christ commanded us to teach others that they too might become witnesses for Him. (Matthew 28:18-20) "*And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.*"

**Conclusion:** This evening as we considered Christ's Example for Evangelism, we have looked at His **Passion** for Evangelism, His **Power** in Evangelism, His **Persecution** for Evangelism, and His **Passing On** Evangelism. Ephesians 5:1 says, "*Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children;*" Jesus Christ is our example. We are to follow His steps.

Does the world need Jesus? John W. Peterson's hymn answers that question. "*Above all else the world needs Jesus; above all else the world needs Him.*" Will you follow Christ's example for evangelism? Will you ask God for a passion for souls? Will you seek the Holy Spirit's power to witness? Will you press on though persecuted? Will you pass on how to witness to your children and others?

**Song:** Give Me a Passion for Souls - 306

**Introduction:** Last week we examined the **Call for Evangelism** – **The Call from Above, The Call from Below, The Call from Within and the Call from Without.** We learned in the Call from Above that each member of the Trinity is burdened for the lost souls of mankind. Their burden went beyond a desire. God ordained a plan to send Jesus to this earth to die in man's place so that He might be able to save the lost from eternal damnation in hell. While Jesus walked on this earth as the God/Man, He left us an example for evangelism as He proclaimed the gospel. Not only are we to follow His example, but we are to continue that evangelistic work in His place.

**Transition:** When Jesus came into this world, *He came to seek and to save that which was lost.* This evening I want to show you four examples that Christ left for us to follow.

## 1. Christ's Example of Passion for Evangelism

### a. Evangelism was Christ's passion

- 1) Christ sacrificed much for evangelism. (Philippians 2:7-8) "*But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.*"
- 2) Evangelism was His heartbeat while on earth.
  - a) (Matthew 18:11) "*For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.*"
  - b) (Luke 5:32) "*I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.*"
  - c) (1 Timothy 1:15) "*This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.*"
  - d) (Matthew 18:12) "*How think ye? if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray?*"
- 3) He had a sincere compassion for the lost. (Matthew 9:36-

38) *"But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest."*

- 4) He systematically shared the gospel. (Luke 4:43) *"And he said unto them, I must preach the kingdom of God to other cities also: for therefore am I sent."*
- 5) He evangelized until His death. (John 17:4) *"I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do."*

## 2. Christ's Example of Power in Evangelism

### a. He was Spirit-filled for evangelism

- 1) (Luke 4:1) *"And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,"*
- 2) Though He was the God/Man, He depended on the power of the Spirit in His witnessing. (Luke 4:14-15) *"And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about. And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified of all."*
- 3) (Luke 4:32) *"And they were astonished at his doctrine: for his word was with power."*

### b. He prayed for power for evangelism

- 1) (Luke 5:16-17) *"And he withdrew himself into the wilderness, and prayed. And it came to pass on a certain day, as he was teaching, that there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by, which were come out of every town of Galilee, and Judaea, and Jerusalem: and the power of the Lord was present to heal them."*
- 2) Why was the power of the Lord present? Jesus has spent time in earnest private prayer. If Jesus needed to pray for God's power, how much more do we!

## 3. Christ's Example in Persecution for Evangelism

### a. He was loved by some but hated by others

- 1) Thousands who ate of His bread and fish loved Him, but His hometown people hated Him and tried to kill Him.

(Luke 4:28-29) *"And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong."*

- 2) The jealous Jewish leaders hated His preaching
  - a) (John 8:59) *"Then took they up stones to cast at him: but Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by."*
  - b) (John 10:31) *"Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him."*
- 3) Jesus anticipated and accepted persecution, even to the death. (Philippians 2:8) *"And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."*

### b. He predicted persecution when we evangelize

- 1) Just before He went to the cross, Jesus told His disciples (John 15:18-19) *"If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you."*
- 2) God used persecution to spread the good news. (Acts 8:3-4) *"As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison. **Therefore** they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word."*
- 3) The early Christians were not surprised by persecution. In fact, they expected it. Here is what Paul wrote to the Thessalonian believers, (1 Thessalonians 3:4) *"For verily, when we were with you, we told you before that we should suffer tribulation; even as it came to pass, and ye know."*

## 4. Christ's Example of Passing on Evangelism

### a. He trained His disciples for evangelism

- 1) (Mark 1:17) *"And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men."*
- 2) (Mark 6:7) *"And he called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two; and gave them power over unclean spirits;"*