

# *Developing a Biblical Understanding*



# Evangelism

## Session 4

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# Evangelism



- **What we have covered:**
  - The “big picture” of what God is doing in salvation.
  - Definition of evangelism.
  - Our evangelistic responsibility (OT & New).
  - Is the “great commission” for the church?
  - The emphasis of evangelism for the church:
    - Purity of message
    - Preparedness
    - Prayer
  - Why do we evangelize if God has already determined who will be saved?

# Evangelism



- **What we have covered continued:**
  - **What must be essentially understood in salvation.**
  - **We looked at common practices of evangelism taken from the internet and matched those with the essentials of salvation:**
    - **Charles Finney**
    - **Mormon evangelism**
    - **Catholic evangelism**
    - **Four-step method from the Jesus 2020 website**
    - **Inviting Jesus into your heart- from Faith Explorer website**
    - **Reformed evangelism from Ernest Reisinger**

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# Evangelism

This session we will narrow our focus to understanding what occurs at true conversion.



- **What takes place at true conversion?**
  - **The initial call of God is essential and therefore must be considered as such by the person planning an evangelistic approach.**
    - Col 1:13-14
    - 1 Pet 2:9
    - The evangelist is not the one initiating true conversion.
    - How does God initiate true conversion?
    - Rom 10:9-10
    - It is never gimmicks, human logic, or strategically applied emotions and pressure.

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- **What takes place at true conversion?**
  - o Man's corresponding reaction to God's call.
    - Is the testimony or reaction real? (1 John 5:19; 1 Pet 1:7; Phil 1:6)
    - Acts 3:19: 14:15 – idea of repent.
    - Acts 26:18: Eph 2:2; 1 Thess 1:9 – sphere change.
  - o Is Conversion instantaneous or a process?
    - John 3:3; Acts 13:48; 16:14; Eph 2:5-9
    - Terms indicating conversion is instantaneous.

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- **What takes place at true conversion?**
  - Man's corresponding reaction to God's call.
    - There are passages that indicate a process.
      - Prov 9:10; 22:6; Ps 1; Mat 7:13; John 8:31-32; 1 Cor 3:6-7; 10; 2 Pet 1:19.
      - Paul's conversion (1 Tim 12-16) & (Acts 9:20-22).
    - True salvation is always a real work (Acts 8:13; 19-21).
      - Differing levels of belief.
      - The appearance can be manufactured.
      - God is not obligated based on someone's profession.
      - True conversion is a major change in the heart (Acts 8:23).

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- **What takes place at true conversion?**
  - o Man's corresponding reaction to God's call.
    - Radical change & maturity must not be confused.
  - o Processes contributing to salvation.
    - The admonishment from the Scriptures.
    - Recognize the extent of Spiritual deadness.
    - What opens the eyes of the Spiritually blind?
    - The place of alter calls, prayers, phrases, card signings, or hand raisings.

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- **What should be presented to the person being evangelized?**
  - o The Bible and its unique nature of repeating central themes God uses in evangelism.
    - Sin as a separator from God the creator, sustainer, & judge.
      - Personal sins (Eccl 7:20; Rom 3:9-12; 23)
      - The curse (Gen 6:5; Rom 5:12-19)
      - The consequences of sin (Rom 6:23; Ex 34:7).



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- **What should be presented to the person being evangelized cont...**
  - Condemnation of all men (John 3:36).
  - The sovereign conviction of God ((John 16:8; Heb 4:12).
  - Essential for repentance, confession, or forgiveness.
  - o The Son the only hope (Rom 6:23).
    - His death for sin (Is 53:5-6; Rom 5:8; 6:10; 1 Pet 2:24).
    - His resurrection (Rom 4:25; 1 Cor 15:20).
    - God's forgiveness (Is 53:5-6; 2 Cor 5:21; Col 2:13; 1 Pet 2:24).
    - A free gift by grace through faith (Eph 2:1-9).

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- **What should be presented to the person being evangelized cont...**

- o A serious commitment.
  - The clear command (Luke 24:27).
  - The requirement (Mat 10:38-39; 2 Cor 5:15).
  - The serious nature of (Heb 3:7; 2 Cor 6:2).
  - The aspects of the commitment:
    - Repentance (Is 55:6-7; Mark 1:15; Luke 24:47).
    - Faith in Christ (John 5:24; Acts 16:30-31; Heb 11:6).
    - Christ as Lord (Rom 12:1; Eph 2:10; James 2:17).

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- Points of discussion:
  - It must be done God's way.
  - The Bible utilized to the fullest expression.
  - The person's decision is not sovereign.
  - Conversion is a point in time, but....
  - The themes centered around Christ – sin, redemption, commitment by faith.



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## Questions / Comments