

## Week 9 Evangelism: Sharing the Gospel over time with a friend.

**Last Week:** *We briefly covered the philosophy of how we might go about sharing the gospel in 10-15 minute settings & 2-4 hours settings...by backing out further and further and expounding on the truths we had covered in our 7 week class. A list of 55 of the Gospel Truths we had covered was provided as an outline or blueprint.*

### Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out.

God has \_\_\_\_\_ placed each one of us in very significant **spheres of influence**.

In these spheres we have already earned the **right of** \_\_\_\_\_ and the **right to** \_\_\_\_\_ into a life.

In these spheres we have already invested much time & care. And we have great **relational** \_\_\_\_\_.

God does want us to take advantage of every situation we are in...But his **primary model** for evangelism and the **transference of truth** appears to be the more \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ relationship that we already are thriving in.

*...our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. **1 Thessalonians 1:5***

*But the Jews who refused to believe stirred up the other Gentiles...against the brothers. But the apostles stayed there a long time, preaching boldly about the grace of the Lord. And the Lord proved their message was true by giving them power to do miraculous signs and wonders. **Acts 14:2-3***

*So Paul stayed in Corinth for a year and a half, teaching them the word of God. **Acts 18:11***

*But some of them became obstinate; they refused to believe and publicly maligned the Way. So Paul left them. He took the disciples with him and had discussions daily in the lecture hall of Tyrannus. This went on for two years, so that all the Jews and Greeks who lived in the province of Asia heard the word of the Lord. **Acts 19:9***

*You know how I lived the whole time I was with you, from the first day I came into the province of Asia... 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. I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus. **Acts 20:18, 20-21***

God may be asking us to **'adopt' 1-2 of our closest unbelieving friends...**  
for 3 months to 1 year (or more)...to **intentionally invest in them relationally and emotionally...**in order to share the gospel with them **spiritually**.

God may be asking us to also do this as a joint effort in pairs or teams...that is to team up with another believer and 'adopt' an unbelieving friend together...

**What should our purpose, goals & strategy be with the person we are adopting?**

To **intentionally invest** in them **relationally** & **emotionally**...in order to **gradually** & **ultimately share** with them **spiritually**.

### **Intentionally invest in:**

This adoption must be an effort that is intentional and planned out. It can't be haphazard or based on a whim. This is a \_\_\_\_\_ effort to focus in on 1-2 people with a specific purpose for a \_\_\_\_\_ period of time!

### **Relationally:**

This effort must begin with investing in the \_\_\_\_\_ aspect of the friendship. By relational we mean; building a genuine friendship based on \_\_\_\_\_ interests and \_\_\_\_\_ experiences. We mean the intentional effort to make the friendship \_\_\_\_\_ and lasting. We mean taking time to do fun things together; to eat, work, play & laugh together.

### **Emotionally:**

This effort must gradually move into the more emotional or \_\_\_\_\_ aspects of the friendship. By emotional we mean; \_\_\_\_\_ yourself to be able to offer advice, counsel and help regarding the more personal parts of someone's life. We mean the intentional effort to make the friendship go deeper. That is to begin to talk about the more important aspects of life, death, family etc.

### **Gradually & ultimately share:**

This effort is twofold. We must gradually introduce more & more truths about God, Sin & Salvation. We attempt to do so chronologically but remain flexible enough to address the needs at hand. The second effort is to have the goal of ultimately sharing a concise summary gospel message either when many of the preliminary pieces have been shared or the door is wide open.

### **Spiritually:**

This effort must gradually move the conversation into the more spiritual or \_\_\_\_\_ aspects of the friendship. By spiritual we mean; striving to be able to offer biblical direction specifically by sharing the core \_\_\_\_\_ of the gospel message.

We mean the planned out process of little by little sharing portions of the gospel (that will be heard)...and staying on point until they are understood.

We mean the ability to \_\_\_\_\_. When the door is spiritually wide open we share as strongly and clearly as we can. When the door is closed, we patiently wait...and \_\_\_\_\_ back to investing in the friendship emotionally and relationally.