



2.10 - Explaining Evangelism.

(Reference - Explaining Evangelism – Steve Bowen)

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(Scriptures from KJV)

1. Introduction

There can be **no reaping until sowing** takes place, to reap the salvation of souls we must sow first the seed of God's Word concerning salvation – if you want apples sow apple seeds.

1 Peter 1:23

²³ *Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. (KJV)*

- Until you realize this truth, you **can become frustrated** at your attempts, feeling disappointed because you are not a great “soul” winner.
- **Each person is part of process** from the church – the church wins souls as each person does his job in proclaiming the gospel.
- We are **all** called to proclaim the gospel to everybody, but the fact that we are all **part of a process**, and that process is called “**soul winning**” or “**Evangelism**”.
- There are some people who are **Evangelists**, who have both the giftings and the callings to bring many to Jesus, and there are others who are to ‘**do the work of an Evangelist**’.

2 Tim.4:5

⁵ *But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry. (KJV)*

- I will be addressing the **bible principle of sowing and reaping** in evangelism and when this principle is applied, it can set you free internally, to be able to sow outwardly with much freedom and joy.
- It is God's desire that **we all** become people who **scatter seeds into the hearts of men**.

2. What is the Kingdom of God like?

Jesus speaking to many disciples concerning the parable of the sower,

Mark 4: 3-9

³ *Hearken; Behold, there went out a sower to sow: ⁴ And it came to pass, as he sowed, some fell by the way side, and the fowls of the air came and devoured it up. ⁵ And some fell on stony ground, where it had not much earth; and immediately it sprang up, because it had no depth of earth: ⁶ But when the sun was up, it was scorched; and because it had no root, it withered away. ⁷ And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up, and choked it, and it yielded no fruit. ⁸ And other fell on good ground, and did yield fruit that sprang up and increased; and brought forth, some thirty, and some sixty, and some an hundred. ⁹ And he said unto them, He that hath ears to hear, let him hear. (KJV)*

Jesus went on to explain what the Kingdom of God is like and just how the seed grows,

Mark 4: 26-29

²⁶ *And he said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; ²⁷ And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knows not how. ²⁸ For the earth brings forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear. ²⁹ But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he puts in the sickle, because the harvest is come. (KJV)*

- Jesus is driving home to his disciples the importance of this Kingdom principle of sowing and reaping.
- We also need to get **this understanding into our hearts and minds**.
- **What is sown will grow and bear fruit**- we do not how!
- It is the **unseen seed buried** in the hearts and minds of men and women.
- Our job is **simply sow the seeds in FAITH**.



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This is how the process works.

Someone speaks the Word of God (incorruptible seed).

- It goes **into the hearts** of men and women, and in time, **FAITH is produced** in the person to believe and accept Jesus into their lives as Lord.
- Someone has to sow before somebody can reap that which is sown – *spiritual reality*.
- **The great evangelist, D.L. Moody**, never led anybody to Jesus who had not heard the gospel before.

Consider when you were born again.

Many seeds had to be sown **into your life** before you gave your life to the Lord, now consider the parable of the sower sows the seed in Mark chapter 4,

- The farmer **went out** to sow his seed (note that he did not stay at home).
- The farmer **scattered seed** (suggesting hand full of seeds or much seed).

The call of the sower is important **because usually many seeds have to be sown** or to put it more simply, people have to hear the message of Jesus many times, and for the harvest to be great, many seeds have to be sown.

- The soil produced the harvest as the sowers were faithful in their sowing.

3. You Reap (Harvest) what you Sow

Many fail to realize that sowing and reaping applies to all of life.

Do you want to have finances?

Luke 6:38

³⁸ Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again. (KJV)

Do you want to have friends?

Prov.18:24

²⁴ A man that hath friends must show himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticks closer than a brother. (KJV)

Do you want to be loved?

Luke 6:31

³¹ And as you would that men should do to you, do you also to them likewise. (KJV)

What you sow, is what you reap (Harvest).

Paul writing to the saints in the book of Galatians:

Gal. 6:7-10

⁷ Be not deceived; God is not mocked: **for whatsoever a man sows, that shall he also reap.** ⁸ **For he that sows to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that sows to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.** ⁹ And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. ¹⁰ As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith. (KJV)

- We have the choice what we sow into our lives.
- We can sow to please our **natural affections**, or we can sow to please **the Spirit of God** who dwells within us.
- We can sow either to good things or bad things into our lives.
- *If we are wanting to grow as believers we need to make **sure consistent spiritual seeds are being sown into our hearts.***
- We need to be **reading** and **meditating** upon Gods Word, **praying daily** and **worshipping** with others.
- If we **stop sowing** into our spirits, we will **stop reaping** and even what we think we have, will be lost – in order to reap spiritually we have to sow to our spirits and **sow consistently.**
- You are what you are now because of **what you have or have not sown.**
- The **harvest is not always instant** for time is needed for the desired result.



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James 5:7-8

⁷ **Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman (farmer) waits for the precious fruit of the earth, and has long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.** ⁸ **Be you also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draws nigh. (KJV)**

4. Sowing in Evangelism

When a new believer meets somebody for the first time and he shares the gospel and the sinner becomes saved, the new believer might think that he is an evangelist, but what he does not know that behind the scene many people have been faithfully declaring God's Word to them.

- The reality of that situation is that seeds were sown, the seeds grew in the heart and God brought the increase.
- All people who are saved have come to Jesus through this sowing and reaping process, unless God sovereignly saves them.
- Some are saved as soon as the Word is sown, and others are saved later.

Paul put it this way,

Rom.10:14-17

¹⁴ **How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?** ¹⁵ **And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!** ¹⁶ **But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias says, Lord, who hath believed our report?** ¹⁷ **So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. (KJV)**

Paul followed the principle of sowing and reaping in Corinth,

1 Cor. 3: 5-6

⁵ **Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?** ⁶ **I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. (KJV)**

- Paul was a planter of the seeds.
- Apollos watered the seeds that Paul had sown.
- God brought the increase or harvest through the Holy Spirit.

Paul continues to say,

1 Cor. 3: 7-8

⁷ **So then neither is he that plants anything, neither he that waters; but God that gives the increase.** ⁸ **Now he that plants and he that waters are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour. (KJV)**

- It is up to God to cause the seeds to grow. It is HIS job not mine.
- My job is simply to **sow** seeds in FAITH, **water** them by prayer and leave the **results** to HIM - The PRESSURE is off!

Paul later says,

1 Cor.3:9

⁹ **For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building. (KJV)**

- When we sow the seed, we become co-workers with God. The Holy Spirit works upon the seed that was sown.

Jesus explaining the principle even further,

John 4: 35-38

³⁵ **Say not you, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.** ³⁶ **And he that reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit unto life eternal: that both he that sows and he that reaps may rejoice together.** ³⁷ **And herein is that saying true, One sows, and another reaps.** ³⁸ **I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and you are entered into their labours. (KJV)**

- Our job is to sow the seed in FAITH, looking to reap a harvest, but if it does not come immediately we can be joyful that we have done our part in the planting and watering – for God will bring the increase.



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5. The Scale of Evangelism

100 -50 -20 -10 -5 0 +5 +10 +20 +50 +100

The above scale gives a **visual understanding** of how seed sowing, watering by prayer, and the increase comes by God.

- 100 represents an **atheist**, a person not believing in God.
- 0 represents a person at the **decision point** of salvation.
- +1 represents a person who has just **made a decision** of salvation.
- +100 represents a person **fully committed** to God in Christ Jesus.

The scale shows how different people are at different positions compared to salvation. And our objective is to move people from the minus (-) side to the plus (+) side.

- Example of an **atheist** or a person in a **false religion**, how it would take time to bring them to a decision (-100).
- Example of a **person** being brought up in the “**Main Denominational Church**” all their life, without a clear decision made for Christ Jesus (-5), seed already planted over the years.
- Example of a **normal person** who is not going to church, has heard about God but never made a clear decision for Christ (-20).

Once we **understand** the scale we can **not be so discouraged** as we can realize that we are part of a process called “**salvation of the lost**” or “**winning souls.**”

An important point to understand, the Apostle Paul said,

1 Cor. 3:10

¹⁰ *According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise master builder, I have laid the foundation, and another builds thereon. But let every man **take heed how he builds there upon.** (KJV)*

- If we are not careful it is possible to send people back down the scale into the negative by the way we evangelize them. If we are unloving, uncaring, ungracious and insensitive.
- Our words and our lives should be a witness to the person also for the need of salvation through Christ Jesus.

Prov.11:30

³⁰ *The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; **and he that wins souls is wise** (KJV)*

- It is having wisdom and the sensitivity of the Holy Spirit that helps us to do evangelism and sow seeds, and to win souls for the Kingdom of God.

6. Things That Stop You Going To Evangelize

The Great Commission is for everybody.

Mark 16.15-18

⁵ *And he said unto them, **Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.** ¹⁶ *He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.* ¹⁷ *And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;* ¹⁸ *They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.* (KJV)*

Have you noticed how easy it is for a new believer to tell people about Jesus, why?

- They have a **first love** in them towards Jesus.
- They have an **unashamed joy** within them.
- They have a **sense of purpose** of living, a **sense of a plan** of God in their life.
- They are **not afraid** to share what God has done for them.
- They **pray** a lot for people, friends and family.



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The Things that stop us going:

6.1 - Have we lost the first love?

Luke 7: 47

⁷ Wherefore I say unto you, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little. (KJV)

- many believers that have been saved for a long time have just simply lost their first love for Jesus where as the new believer has a fresh revelation still within them of God's grace and love and forgiveness.

6.2 - Are you ashamed of the Gospel message?

Rom.1:16

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. (KJV)

2 Tim.1:7

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. (KJV)

This is a plan from Satan to stop us preaching the Gospel to the world, to **bind** us up in **shame** and **fear**.

The world will try and make you feel to be ashamed of being a Christian, **do not be**.

- The world should be ashamed – not us.
- How can you be ashamed of the one you love?

Mark 8:38

³⁸ Whosoever therefore shall be **ashamed of me** and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him **also shall the Son of man be ashamed**, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels. (KJV)

6.3 - An attitude of "I do not care".

This is an attitude of the heart and mind and this will **put us to sleep spiritually** speaking, and sometimes what we need is a **good slap in our spiritual faces** to wake us up, **why?** – **people are dying** and going to hell and **we have the answer** for internal life!

6.4 - You might say that we are not prepared enough yet to go.

If you are waiting to become totally prepared by God, before you go into the world, you will be waiting a long time.

- You will not find the perfect church who has it all together before they go and preach.
- God has just simply called us to go, He will prepare us as we are going.

6.5 - Maybe you think that are not called.

Everybody is called to go into the world to preach the gospel, in the work place, home, streets, etc.,

Jesus trained up his disciples and then sent them, our call is also that clear;

John 20:21; Matt.28:18-19; Mark16:15; Luke 24:47

²¹ So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, **I also send you.**" (NKJV)

¹⁸ And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ **Go therefore** and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, (NKJV)

¹⁵ And He said to them, "**Go into all the world and preach the gospel** to every creature. (NKJV)

⁴⁷ and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. (NKJV)

Do not wait for yourself to become an Evangelist first, before you go, it does not happen that way. **Start with the small** things and the large things will come in time. (NKJV)

7. Sowing Seeds Together as a Church.

There are seeds that the whole church can sow into the community so the community will know that you your church exists – **Street Evangelism**.



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- There are seeds that can be sown into promoting church unity, for example joining with the other churches for certain Celebrations – **Joint Prayer Nights**.
- The key to this type of **evangelism is Consistency** – going week in and week out, in season and out of season. Note that this does not replace our own personal sowing, but we can use this corporate sowing as a church, to build our experience upon.

8. Sowing of Seeds Personally

God has called all of us to sow seeds into peoples lives in area of our living, friends, family, work friends and even strangers. What are the personal seeds that we can sow into other peoples lives.

8.1 - The Word of Our Testimony.

When we give our own personal testimony to people, it is one area that other people cannot refute or say that it is not true, because we have personally lived through it.

- Through out the book of Acts we see where simple testimonies were given simply declaring what had happened to them.
- The 4 Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, were really the testimonies of these men.
- The disciples declared to the opposing religious leaders of the day'...We cannot help speaking about what we have **seen** and **heard**' (Acts 4:20).

Rev.12:11

¹¹ *And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, **and by the word of their testimony**; and they loved not their lives unto the death. (KJV)*

- Your testimony is powerful, so give to people to sow seeds into other peoples' lives, so they can say that if it happened to you, it might happen to them.

8.2 - The Seeds of Signs and Wonders.

³⁰ *And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: ³¹ But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name. (KJV)*

- All the miracles that were done by Jesus were actually steps of FAITH for other people to believe in Him or to believe the gospel message.

John 5:36

³⁶ *But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, **the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me. (KJV)***

Jesus said;

John 14:12

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. (KJV)***

It also may amaze you that not all people that are healed come to receive Jesus as Lord in their lives, why?

Luke 10:9

⁹ *And heal the sick there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' (NKJV)*

- Jesus did not say that the Kingdom of God came automatically on those who were healed, but what does happen is that deep seeds are planted when people are confronted by the power of God.

8.3 - The Seed of The Gospel (The Good News)

Rom. 10: 14-15

¹⁴ *How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? **And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?**¹⁵ *And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!" (NKJV)**



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- **The most powerful seed of all is the preaching of the “CROSS”.** This is the original way that God designed that people should come to the saving Faith.
- The gospel has the power within itself, and when it is proclaimed and understood, salvation is made available to the hearer.

The great evangelists of the past had success because they presented the cross clearly and simply and powerfully.

Rom.10:9-10

⁹ *That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.* ¹⁰ *For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. (KJV)*

And faith is required for salvation through the Word,

Rom.10:17

¹⁷ *So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. (KJV)*

9. Today in our Society

Some people have the idea the because **“God is so Sovereign”** that He can save me anytime that He wants to. This comes from the teaching that God is sovereign and he can do whatever he wants. This has been **taken to the extreme and is out of balance**, God is sovereign but he also needs the co-operation of mans’ will.

Today is the day for salvation, **every day** is the day of salvation of those who choose to be saved,

2 Cor.6:2

² *(For he says, I have heard you in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured (helped) you: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.) (KJV)*

- We need to be ready to say to people ‘today is the day for you’.

Preach the word for faith to come to them,

Rom.10:17

¹⁷ *So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. (KJV)*

- When people believe in their heart and confess with their mouth, salvation comes.

Rom.10:8-13

⁸ *But what says it? The word is nigh you, even in your mouth, and in your heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;*

⁹ *That if you shalt confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and shall believe in your heart that God hath raised him from the dead, you shalt be saved.* ¹⁰ *For with the heart man believes unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.* ¹¹ *For the scripture says, Whosoever believes on him shall not be ashamed.* ¹² *For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.* ¹³ *For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. (KJV)*

10. What do We Do Now?

James 1:22

²² *But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. (KJV)*

- We all need have training and teaching on evangelism, but that does not replace the practice of going and doing, just like the disciples did.
- We will make **mistakes**, have **failures** but as long as we **learn** from them.
- With each new experience, you will grow which will equip you for the next opportunity.

When do you start? Now! Ask the Holy Spirit to give you opportunities to share your faith with somebody, listen to the leading of the Holy Spirit throughout your conversation.



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Some helpful guidelines.

10.1 - Smile at People

People in the world have nothing to smile about – you do! You have the Good news so smile and they will see it in you and will want to know what you have to smile about.

10.2. - Listen to People.

Learn the **art of listening** in a conversation when you are talking to somebody, this shows them that you are **interested in them** and it will **allow you to speak back** into their lives.

10.3 - Admit when you do not know something.

When you do not know the answer to a question, admit it for this shows the other person that you are honest and this will impress them. You can always find the answer later and share it with them.

10.4 - Keep your conversation on Jesus.

Always come back to Jesus, do not become side tracked or diverted,

Acts 4:12

¹² Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” (NKJV)

10.5 - Be Determined!

Be determined to go and let nothing stop you. When you make a decision to go it will surprise you how things will come up at the last moment to stop you.

10.6 - Pray!

As we learn to pray and spend time in prayer we will **become sensitive** to Gods’ heart and the calling to win the lost. Ask the Holy Spirit to bring you to people who need to hear the good news

10.7 - Develop Sensitivity in your Spirit.

As you are witnessing to somebody, listen for the leading of the Holy Spirit. Ask Him silent questions about the person, to help you to reach their heart.

10.8 - Be Doers

James 1:22

²² But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. (KJV)

- And what are we to do? – to preach the gospel to a dying world!

Mark 16:15-18

¹⁵ And he said unto them, Go you into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. ¹⁶ He that believes and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believes not shall be damned. ¹⁷ And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; ¹⁸ They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. (KJV)

Jesus is Lord!