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EVANTELL'S

JULY 2016

IS EVANGELISM TRAINING ALL THAT IMPORTANT?

By Larry Moyer
Founder and CEO

Does *God* see evangelism training as all that important? After all, if something matters to God, it should matter to us.

The answer is yes. Throughout the Scriptures, God shows how essential evangelism training is. Three notable truths shout its importance.

1. Christ's first training to His disciples was in evangelism. He didn't start with how to raise a family or how to spend money. Nothing is more important than a person's eternal destiny, so Christ started his training there: "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men" (Matt. 4:19). The message of God's saving grace is the message people most need to hear.

2. Christ taught the how-to of evangelism. Reexamine the Scripture again: "Follow Me, and I will *make* you fishers of men" (*emphasis mine*). He did not say, "Follow Me, because you *are* fishers of men." They knew a lifetime's worth of fishing for fish, but little about fishing for men. As *He* did the teaching, *they* did the learning. Many believers today know that evangelism is important; they just don't know how to go about it.

3. Throughout the New Testament, God continued to place emphasis on evangelism training. Paul explicitly spoke to his young disciple Timothy about furthering his ministry, "And the things that you have heard from me among witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also" (2 Tim. 2:2). In other words, multiply your ministry through teaching others what someone taught you. The best place to begin in training others is where Christ began: evangelism—both the importance and the know-how.

Imagine the outcome of our Scriptural obedience and our passion to train others. Suppose you personally take ten disciples and train them in evangelism. Suppose each of those ten train another. Now 20 are trained! But suppose those ten *each* train ten others the way you did. Now there are 110 trained witnesses to get the Word out. Now suppose each of those 110 train ten more!

Training in evangelism is Biblically essential and extremely productive. Consider taking EvanTell's free online training: evantell.org/online-training. If you've already received training, then train others.

BRINGING THE *Light of the Gospel* TO DARK PLACES

By David Souther
President

This past March, David Souther (President of EvanTell) and Paul Pham (Vice President of Finance & Administration) traveled to Southeast Asia to encourage and equip pastors in three different countries closed to Western missionaries, including Burma, Vietnam, and China. EvanTell uses a “Train the Trainer” model for international evangelism with a goal for the pastors to take the training and resources back to their countries in order to train thousands of believers.

David and Paul taught the pastors personal evangelism and evangelistic speaking, as well as child evangelism. The week included various times of worship, fellowship, and exchanging stories of God’s work in China and the U.S.

A conference translator reported, *“It is only the second session, but several of the leaders have had several ask me already about using these resources and training throughout their regions.”*

One of the conference organizers and a longtime leader in China commented on the importance of the training, *“I have been a part of many evangelism services and the pastors and evangelists try to cover too many topics, sometimes over 40 ideas in one sermon. EvanTell’s materials help them focus on the main thing, faith in Jesus Christ alone is the only way to eternal life because of His cross and resurrection. We are thankful for these presentations and materials.”*

Paul’s personal testimony, a highlight of the week, showcased God’s faithfulness in his life and call to ministry. Paul lost both parents in the Vietnam War, yet survived to carry on a family legacy of serving the Lord.

Additionally, many of the pastors attending gave encouraging testimonies of serving the Lord in the midst of persecution. The leaders are not only interested in reaching their own regions, but also have a desire to take the gospel to other nations.

The training launched a partnership between EvanTell and some of the largest networks of house churches in China. These networks represent more than 50 million believers. EvanTell plans to return twice a year to train and equip over 100 leaders from various denominations each trip.

For more information about this project, check out “Train Leaders in Underground Churches”: evantell.org/projects



“Ribbon Cutting” Asia style; David and Paul pop balloons to open the conference.



David introducing CrossTalk to the Leaders for Child Evangelism.



Along with training, worship and fellowship were vital components of the conference.



David and Paul with Robert, Jonathon, and Joshua, three of our key leaders in Burma.

EVANGELISM TRAINING TIPS

By Sarah Bowler
Communications Manager

- 1 Teach the clarity of the gospel message. In ten words, the gospel is: Christ died for our sins and rose from the dead (1 Cor. 15:3–5).
- 2 Although the message never changes, the methods do. Teach students various methods God is using to reach each generation.
- 3 Motivate by grace, not guilt. Come across as on their team, not on their back!
- 4 Don’t just talk about evangelism; lead by example. Share some of your own illustrations and stories, or better yet, take people with you so they can see you in action and put it into practice themselves.
- 5 Be transparent! Share what has worked and what hasn’t, your mistakes as well as your victories. Both are equally important.
- 6 Base it on Scripture and keep the focus on Christ.
- 7 Don’t promote competition or comparison of results.
- 8 Emphasize that your students are responsible for contact, not conversion.
- 9 Give your students one or more clear and simple ways they can tell someone how to have a relationship with God through Christ.
- 10 Remember the various learning styles in your audience. These include learning by listening, seeing, and doing.