

Types of Evangelism

FBCD BFL

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Introduction

What are different types of evangelism and what difference does it make at all to have different types?

Types:

1. The Confrontational Evangelist

Do you tend to confront people's fears or objections directly when you evangelize? Do many people tend to tell you that you are blunt when you discuss your faith? If so, then you are more like Peter in that your style is confrontational. Even Jesus was confrontational at times, asking direct questions and expecting direct responses:

Matthew 16:15 - "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" [\(NIV\)](#)

2. The Intellectual Evangelist

Many people have an intellectual viewpoint, often because they are in school and have that "learning" focus. Paul was an apostle that also had that type of view on the world and he used it in his approach to evangelism. He had a way of using logic to evangelize. A good example is in Acts 17:16-31 where he offers logical reasons to believe in the "invisible" God.

Acts 17:31 - "For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead." [\(NIV\)](#)

3. The Testimonial Evangelist

Do you have a great testimony about how you became a Christian or how God helped you through some tough times? If so, then you are

more like the blind man in John 9 that told the Pharisees he believed because Jesus healed him. His testimony helped others see that Jesus was the Way.

John 9:30-33 - "The man answered, 'Now that is remarkable! You don't know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly man who does his will. Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.'" [\(NIV\)](#)

4. The Interpersonal Evangelist

Some Christians prefer to witness individually. They like to get to know the people they speak with about their faith, and they tailor their approach to the individual person's needs. Jesus was often interpersonal in both small groups and individually. For instance, in Matthew 15 Jesus speaks to the Canaanite woman then goes and feeds the four thousand.

Matthew 15:28 - "Then Jesus answered, 'Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.' And her daughter was healed from that very hour." [\(NIV\)](#)

5. The Invitational Evangelist

Both the Samaritan woman and Levi were examples of those that invited people to meet Christ. Some Christians take this approach by inviting friends and others to church services or youth group activities hoping that they will be able to see faith in action.

Luke 5:29 - "Then Levi held a great banquet for Jesus at his house, and a large crowd of tax collectors and others were eating with them." [\(NIV\)](#)

6. The Service Evangelist

While some Christian teens take a more direct evangelistic approach, others prefer to be examples of Christ through service. Dorcas was a good example of someone who did a lot of good things for the poor

and leading by example. Many missionaries often evangelize through service rather than through words alone.

Acts 9:36 - "In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which, when translated, is Dorcas), who was always doing good and helping the poor." [\(NIV\)](#)

7. Family and Close Friend Evangelism

This is a very effective manner in both restrictive areas and in places which are not restricted as there is more trust as a rule within families.

Acts 10:24-" The following day he arrived in Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends."

8. Crisis Evangelism

Moments of Crisis are when people are often open to the gospel. Rather than shrinking and thinking this is mere emotion we should think this may be a legitimate movement of God.

Acts 16:29-32- 29 "The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. 30 He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

31 They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." 32 Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house."

9. Mass Evangelism

The mass sowing of the gospel is one of the most effective means of spreading the gospel to the masses throughout Christian history.

Acts 19:9-10- 9 "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. 10 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."

10. Miracles, Signs and Wonders

Some think this is normative but in the Bible and history it is not. However, it is a means by which people can see the power of God, which transcends the world we live in and thus believe in the one true God.

John 20:30-31 30 "Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. 31 But these are written that you may[a] believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name."

What difference does these different styles and approaches make?

The major difference is that there are different types of people and also different settings and different times for people. The bottom line is that people cannot believe in Jesus Christ if they cannot hear. Romans 10.17 supports this concept. There are other styles and types of evangelism but these serve to emphasize some key types and differences. Notice in all of these they often overlap to a different type and style. Key though is that the gospel is shared, people hear and come to faith in Christ.