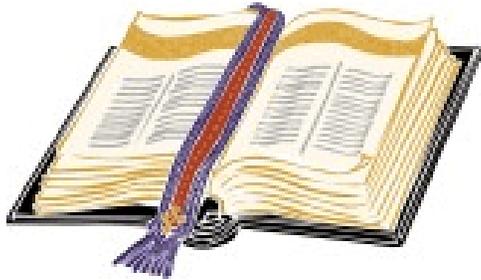


# **BIBLE CLASS STUDY GUIDE**

## **WORKBOOK 2**

### **Personal Evangelism**



by  
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# Lesson One

## EVANGELISM

### Introduction

1. There are many different programs of evangelism.
2. The Bible has a great deal to say about evangelism.
3. I am not opposed to organized programs of evangelism.
4. Sometimes we seem to be converted to a particular program rather than the concept.
5. Personal evangelism is the responsibility of every Christian (Matt. 28:19-20)
6. One cannot follow Christ and not be concerned about the lost and be actively involved in trying to reach the lost with the Gospel (Matt. 18:19-20).
  1. I Peter 2:21 — Christ our example
    - a. In what areas? Moral attitude, service, concern for the lost
    - b. Which area can we exclude and still be like Christ?
7. Concern for the lost or personal evangelism has been discussed as if it were optional.
8. I contend that the Bible teaches that one cannot be a faithful Christian and not be involved in personal evangelism (Matt. 4:19).
9. If this is true, I hope all who are not involved will repent this day and get involved. I have an obligation (Acts 20:26-27).
10. If this premise is false, you have the obligation to show me where it is false.

### I. JESUS THE GREAT PERSONAL WORKER

1. Luke 19:10 — Jesus came to seek and save the lost.
2. I Timothy 2:4: “Who will have all men to be saved, and come unto the knowledge of the truth.”
  - a. Romans 1:16 — the Gospel is God’s power to save.
  - b. Who is responsible for taking the Gospel unto the world? Elders, preachers, or the church?
3. Go back and read the life of Jesus. He was concerned with the lost.
4. Matthew 4:19 — Jesus told His disciples, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”
  - a. Today, if we truly follow Christ we will be involved in soul-winning.
  - b. All who are not involved in soul-winning are not following Christ.
5. Matthew 9:37-38 — Jesus said, “The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few.”

6. Matthew 6:33 — Jesus taught that we are to seek first the kingdom of God.
7. Matthew 16:26 — A soul is worth more than the whole world. Those who do not understand the value of a soul will not be involved in personal work.

### II. PERSONAL EVANGELISM IS NEW TESTAMENT CHRISTIANITY IN ACTION

1. We tell our denominational friends, “I am a member of the New Testament church, the one you read about in the book of Acts.”
2. This is true, but consider the church in Acts:
  - a. Acts 8:4 — “They that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word.”
  - b. Who was scattered — the church, all but the apostles
3. Consider personal evangelism of the early church
  - a. Who did it — all Christians
  - b. Why did they do it — love for souls and to follow teachings of Christ and the apostles
  - c. When did they do it — daily
  - d. What program did they use — love for souls of men and the truth
  - e. What were the results — Acts 5:14, multitudes were added to the Lord

### III. WHY SHOULD WE DO PERSONAL EVANGELISM TODAY?

1. Love for souls — Matthew 16:26
2. Because we are spiritual — Galatians 6:1-2
3. Knowing the terror of the Lord we persuade men — II Cor. 5:11; II Peter 3:9
  - a. What will happen to those who are not New Testament Christians? — II Thessalonians 1:7-9
  - b. Some do not act as if they believe non-Christians will be lost
  - c. James 5:20, “Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.”
4. Because of the value of one soul — Matthew 16:26
5. To bear fruit — John 15:1-2
6. To be considered wise in the eyes of God — Proverbs 11:30, “He that winneth souls is wise.”
  - a. What is the opposite of wise? Foolish
7. Because the time is coming that we cannot do evangelism — John 9:4

- a. Luke 16 — in hell the rich man was concerned with his brothers (too late)
- b. Matthew 25:41-46 — to whom do these verses apply?
8. In order to follow the teachings of Christ and the apostles — Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24

#### IV. CONCLUSION

1. In many places we have developed a “pastor system” in the Lord’s church
2. It is the responsibility of every Christian to do personal evangelism
3. There are different types of visits that need to be made.
  - a. Non-Christian visits
  - b. Erring member visits
  - c. Sick visits
  - d. Bereaved visits
  - e. Visit those who are discouraged
  - f. Visits for fellowship and edification
  - g. Newcomers to the community visits
4. Every Christian can and should be involved — Hebrews 5:12
5. Personal evangelism is not optional — there are some things one must do in order to be a faithful Christian
6. Which of the following are optional?
  - a. Worship
  - b. Bible study
  - c. Prayer
  - d. Christian living
  - e. Concern for the lost
  - f. Actively doing something about the lost
7. I suggest that no program will cause those to get involved who do not love the Lord, His church, and the souls of men.
8. What is involved in being a faithful Christian?
  - a. If you have gone three months or six months or one year without being concerned and involved in trying to reach the lost, then you have been unfaithful as a Christian and you need to repent.
  - b. Are you presently a faithful Christian following the teachings and example of Christ and the apostles?

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Define personal evangelism.
2. Is personal evangelism optional?
3. What was Jesus’ main mission on earth?

4. In Matthew 9:37-38, Jesus said the laborers are few; give some reasons why there are so few laborers.
5. In the early church, who all was involved in personal evangelism?
6. What should be our motive in doing personal evangelism?
7. How does a Christian bear fruit?

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### Lesson Two

## CHURCH GROWTH THROUGH ACTION

#### Introduction

1. Spiritual growth — church will grow when I grow — Heb. 5:12-14
2. God wants the church to grow.
3. He has given us a plan of growth in the book of Acts.
4. There are many misconceptions concerning church growth.
5. Many feel everything has to be perfect before growth can occur; note the early church:
  - a. Judas fell and was replaced
  - b. They were poor
  - c. They met in houses, not large buildings
  - d. They had much opposition. Some today say we want no controversy
  - e. Many were very prejudiced. Some try to make the church like denominations
6. The church today will grow when:

#### I. WHEN IT ABOUNDS IN LIBERALITY

1. Acts 2:44-45
2. Acts 20:35 — Laboring, support the weak
3. II Corinthians 8:5: “but first gave their own selves to the Lord”
4. Acts 4:34-37, Barnabas sold land

#### II. WHEN UNITY IS A FACT AND IS PROTECTED

1. Acts 2:44
2. I Corinthians 1:10-13; 4:17; 7:17; 16:1-2
3. Ephesians 4:1-4
4. I Corinthians 3:3-5 — to be divided is to be carnal
5. Unity does not just happen
6. Not all unity is good — We are not to have fellowship with false teachers
  - a. Ephesians 5:11

- b. Romans 16:17-18
- c. II John 9-11

**III. WHEN THE SIN PROBLEM IS FACED**

- 1. Acts 2:23, 36, 38, 40
- 2. Acts 3:19 — Repent and be converted
- 3. Acts 5 — Ananias and Sapphira were dealt with by God
- 4. What were the results?
  - a. Acts 5:14, “And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both men and women.”

**IV. WHEN THE CHURCH HAS RESPECT FOR THE WORD OF GOD**

- 1. Acts 2-4 — believe the Word
- 2. Acts 6:7 — they did God’s will; growth was the result
- 3. Acts 19:20, “So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed”
- 4. Acts 20:32 — Read what respecting and doing God’s Word will do.
- 5. What about those who use instrumental music — do they respect the Word of God?
- 6. What about the divided assembly?

**V. WHEN THE CHURCH COMES TO THE POINT THAT IT CAN HANDLE ITS OWN PROBLEMS**

- 1. Acts 6:3, “Look out among you...”
  - a. Acts 6:5, “the saying pleased the whole multitude”
  - b. Acts 6:7 — after the problem was solved the church grew
- 2. Other problems were met and solved and the church grew
- 3. Acts 15:1-2, 5

**VI. WHEN THE PROPER SPIRIT IS MANIFEST BY THOSE TEACHING THE TRUTH.**

- 1. Acts 7:51-60 — Stephen preached a hard sermon; even in death, he showed the right spirit —v.60
- 2. Acts 16 — Paul and Silas sang and prayed while in prison
- 3. Ephesians 4:15, “But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ.”
- 4. II Timothy 4:1-5

**VII. WHEN BRETHREN LEARN TO DISAGREE WITHOUT BEING DISAGREEABLE**

- 1. Acts 15:31-37 — Paul and Barnabas had a disagreement over John Mark
- 2. In matters of judgment, do you think there was always agreement among the brethren?

- a. There is a difference in matters of opinion and doctrine
- b. Must grow to the point to be able to know the difference

**VIII. WHEN AN ATMOSPHERE EXISTS WHERE THE BEST OF MEN AND WOMEN FIND ROOM FOR GROWTH**

- 1. Put Timothy in a congregation today. Would it grow? Would he? Yes.
- 2. What about Stephen, Philip, Barnabas, or Paul?
- 3. There must be personal growth in order for the church to grow.

**IX. CONCLUSION**

- 1. The key to church growth is action.
- 2. All were involved, their faith and love moved them forward (Acts 8:1, 4)
- 3. They had goals and plans to reach their goals.
- 4. It is time for all to get involved and move the church forward

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- 1. Why should we want the church to grow?
- 2. List some false conceptions about church growth
- 3. How is my growth connected with church growth?
- 4. List some wrong reasons for seeking church growth
- 5. How important is doctrine?
- 6. What is the key to church growth?
- 7. List some things that I can do that will help the church grow?

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**Lesson Three**

**SEEKING THE LOST**

**Introduction**

- 1. Lost child in Smoky Mountains — how concerned would people be?
- 2. To be lost is to be separated from blessings
- 3. Ephesians 1:3 — All spiritual blessing are in Christ
  - a. Lost are separated from spiritual blessings
- 4. Who has the responsibility to seek the lost?
  - a. Great Commission — “Go ye”
- 5. The Bible is very plain — The lost should be sought

- a. God — Christ — Holy Spirit are interested in the lost
  - b. All Christians should be interested in the lost
6. We shall consider where, how, when, and why seek the lost

#### I. WHERE SHOULD WE SEEK THE LOST

- 1. In the parable of the lost sheep, Luke 15, the man left the 99 and went after the lost
- 2. Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16; Luke 24:46-47 — key words “Go” = implication — you go where they are. “Go into all the world.” — where are the lost? In all the world! “Preach repentance and remission of sins among all nations.”
  - a. Who will go? Romans 10:14-15
- 3. We are stewards — time, talents — God expects us to use these wisely.

#### II. HOW SHOULD WE SEEK THE LOST

- 1. Luke 15 — Lost sheep, coin — go after, seek diligently
- 2. Search expecting to find
- 3. If looking for lost sheep or coin there would be a system, order, plan
- 4. Seek the lost with the Gospel — Romans 1:16
- 5. Power to change lives — Saul to Paul
  - a. I Cor. 6:9-11, “And such were some of you”
- 6. Find the honest heart — challenge with the truth, John 8:32
- 7. Lost should be told they are lost and what to do
- 8. It is our most important task

#### III. WHEN SHOULD WE SEEK THE LOST?

- 1. The lost are lost NOW
- 2. II Corinthians 6:2, “behold now is the day of salvation”
- 3. John 4:35 — Jesus saw fields white ready to harvest
- 4. There is an urgency — people are dying every day

#### IV. WHY SHOULD WE SEEK THE LOST?

- 1. The value of one soul — Matthew 16:26
- 2. Jesus as our example
  - a. Luke 19:10 — He came to seek and save the lost
  - b. Matt. 4:19, “Follow me and I will make you fishers of men”
  - c. Matthew 23:37, “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest...” — One cannot be Christ-like and not be concerned for the lost. John 4 — woman at the well
- 3. Because of what will happen to the lost — some do not believe the lost are lost!
  - a. II Cor. 5:10-11
  - b. II Thess. 1:7-9

- c. Matt. 25:46 — everlasting punishment
  - d. Matt 13:41-42 — furnace of fire — wailing and gnashing of teeth
- 4. Because the lost who remain lost have no hope — Eph. 2:11-12
  - 5. Some try to offer hope to the non-Christian; the Bible offers none

#### V. CONCLUSION

- 1. We will not seek the lost unless we have eyes of compassion for the lost. Luke 15:2 — Pharisees had no compassion for the lost
- 2. We will not seek the lost unless we see the value of one soul
  - a. Luke 15 — Pharisees did not see the value of souls of publicans and sinners
  - b. This is why Jesus gave the parables of the lost sheep, coin, boy
  - c. Matt. 13:45 — Pearl of great price — man sold all and bought it — why? To him it was worth more than all else
- 3. We will not seek the lost unless we set our priorities in order — Matthew 6:33 — We need buildings, parking lots, air conditioners, carpet, etc., but these are not the most important thing churches can do with their money.
- 4. The greatest need the lost have is not food, clothing, counseling, but the Gospel.
- 5. I John 5:19, “the whole world lieth in wickedness” (about 6 billion souls)
- 6. Let’s not just talk about the lost, sing about the lost, but let’s do something, let’s “seek the lost.”
- 7. We need to train preachers, preach, radio, TV, printed page, campaigns, local personal work, mission work
- 8. Do your part to seek and save the lost.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What does it mean to be lost?
- 2. To whom does the great commission apply?
- 3. Why were the parables of Luke 15 given?
- 4. Should the lost be told they are lost?
- 5. How important is one soul?
- 6. Is it wrong to offer people hope when the Bible offers them no hope?
- 7. How important is one’s attitude when it comes to the topic of personal evangelism?
- 8. What responsibility do I have in personal evangelism today in my community?



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