

GO Team Pillars

Praise God for your desire to be a part of the Gospel Outreach team! Here are a few points to guide us that we ask all witnessing participants to be familiar with. The goal is a unified team while still maintaining your own personal delivery and leading by the Holy Spirit.

Our ultimate mission and motivation: Bring Glory to God through the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This affects what we say and how we act and is more important than “numbers” or what might seem effective. (Is43:7, 1Pt4:11, 1Cor10:31)

Scripture is our authority: (2Tim3:16-17) Let us strive to be biblically faithful in our message (1Thes 2:4, 2Cor4:1-2) and method (1Cor1:17&23, Rom1:16,10:17).

Biblical evangelism: Law followed by grace. (Ps19:7, Rom2:15, 3:19, 5:20, Gal3:24, 1Tim1:8). Jesus and the apostles modeled a method of evangelism that was law to the proud and grace to the humble. They used Gods law first ie. the 10 commandments (Ex20) or the law written on the heart (Rom2:15) to bring the knowledge of sin (1Jn3:4, Ja4:17) target the heart and magnify the Gospel of grace (Mk10:17-22, Lk10:25-29, Jn4:15-26). See also Peter's sermon in Acts 2 & 3 and Paul with Felix in Acts 24:25. This means that when the conversation turns to spiritual matters, we talk about sin before grace as a general rule. For more on this teaching I recommend listening to <http://www.livingwaters.com/audio/way-of-the-master/hells-best-kept-secret>

The Gospel: The good news regarding the substitutionary death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins (1Pt 2:24, 1Cor 15:1-4, Rom 4:25). Salvation is by repentance and faith in Christ (Mk1:15, Acts 20:21, Eph 2:8-9, Rom3:28). God calls all men to turn and believe (Acts 17:30) because he is Lord (Acts 2:36) and is worthy of worship (Rev 5:11-14).

We should be careful to avoid man centered (life enhancement) motivations to believe, such as God has a wonderful plan for your life or Jesus will give you happiness, fulfillment or a better marriage. Although this *may* happen, it can often lead to misunderstandings and false conversions. Listen to <http://www.livingwaters.com/audio/way-of-the-master/true-and-false-conversion> for more on this.

About Man: Deep down everyone knows that God exists, for He has said they are without excuse (Rom1:18-20). Unbelief is never due to lack of evidence. Be discerning if continually asked for evidence God has already given, God is not on trial.

Man is dead in trespasses and sins (Eph 2:1, Col2:13) separated from God (Is 59:2) and a sinner by nature due to the fall (Rom5:12, 1 Cor 15:21-22). No man comes to Jesus unless the Father grants it and draws him (Jn 6:44 & 65) by the power of the Spirit (Jn3:8 & 16:8). Salvation is of the Lord (Jn1:13). The fact that God is in control frees us to sow the seed and leave the results up to him (1 Cor 3:6-7).

Our Conduct: Avoid going beyond a biblical defense (1Pt 3:15) and being drawn into sinful argumentation. By Gods grace let us imitate Christ in all our conduct (Eph 5:1) speaking the truth in love (Eph4:15) marked by prayer (Lk18:1) dependant on the Spirit (Jn14:17, Eph 5:18) with love for the lost (Mt9:36).

