

We believe discipleship is a direction
not a destination.

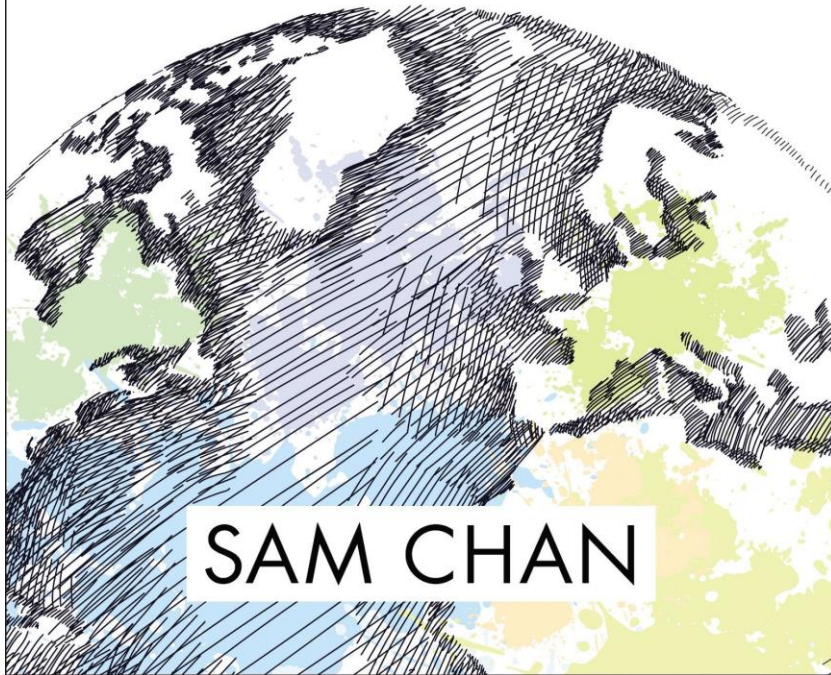


Evangelism in a Skeptical World

Week 1

EVANGELISM in a SKEPTICAL WORLD

How to Make the Unbelievable News
About Jesus More Believable



SAM CHAN



Course Outline (12 Weeks)

- **Week 1** Introduction
 - What is Evangelism? The Gospel?
- **Week 2** *Ch1* Theology of Evangelism
 - Models of Evangelism
- **Week 3** *Ch2* Everyday Evangelism
 - Evangelism Strategies 1-6



Course Outline (12 Weeks)

- **Week 4** *Ch3* How to Craft a Gospel Presentation
 - How to present the Gospel, then and now
- **Week 5** *Ch4* Evangelism to Postmoderns
 - Modernism and Postmodernism
- **Week 6** *Ch5* Contextualization for Evangelism
 - The Gospel and Culture



Course Outline (12 Weeks)

- **Week 7 Ch5** Contextualization for Evangelism
 - How to Interpret Culture, Thoughts, Themes, Story
- **Week 8 Ch6** Gospel-Cultural Hermeneutics
 - Enter, Challenge, Fulfill
- **Week 9 Ch7** Storytelling the Gospel
 - Styles of Learning, Story-telling



Course Outline (12 Weeks)

- **Week 10** Ch8 How to Give Evangelistic Topical Talks
 - What is a Topical Talk and how to give one
- **Week 11** Ch9 How to Give Evangelistic Expository Talks
 - What is an Expository Talks and how to give one
- **Week 12** Ch10 Religious Epistemology, Apologetics
 - Moving People from Hostile to Loyal



Introduction

Chapter 1a



Why Are You Here

- I want to learn how to tell my friends and family about Jesus
- So, you want to be an Evangelist! Great!
 - If no, why not?
 - I don't know the Bible very well
 - I don't speak so good
 - I don't know how to lead anyone to Christ
 - It's scary



Christians Are All Evangelists

- If you are a Christian, you are commanded to evangelize



¹⁸ Jesus came near and said to them, “All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Matthew 28:18–20



¹⁵ Then he said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. ¹⁶ Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

Mark 16:15–16



We Are Called To Evangelism

- What is **evangelism** then? Let's define it
- The Bible doesn't actually say evangelism directly
 - euangelion—"gospel"
 - euangelistes—"evangelist"—the person who is telling the gospel
 - euangelizo—"to proclaim the gospel"—the activity of telling the gospel
 - **Evangelism** someone who tells the gospel



What Does Evangelism Look Like?

- Billy Graham Crusades
- Mission trips
- Street preaching
- Door to door
- Mothers Day Out
- Lunch



Evangelism's Message

- The essence of evangelism is not
 - The method (preaching, singing, acting)
 - The medium (a person, a book, a song)
 - The occasion (church service, commencement speech, school camp)
 - The audience (believers and nonbelievers)
- Evangelism is defined by its message



Evangelism in the Bible

- What are some of the methods the gospel was communicated in the Bible?
- Parables by Jesus
- Songs
- Creeds
- Letters to churches
- One-on-one conversations
- Sermons
- Discussion meetings
- Public speeches
- Apocalyptic literature
- Miracles



The Problem

- We get stuck on one specific method
 - And never use any other methods
- One of the goals of this study is to
 - Become aware of other methods of evangelism
 - And learn to utilize those methods



Introduction The Gospel

Chapter 1a



The Gospel

- We have defined evangelism as the event where the gospel is communicated
- But what is the gospel?
 - Is it the Bible?
 - Is it the story of Jesus Christ?
 - Is it the story of God and us?



The Gospel

- There are three perspective to consider
 - The Gospel according to the New Testament Writers
 - The Gospel according to Theologians
 - The Gospel according to Storytellers



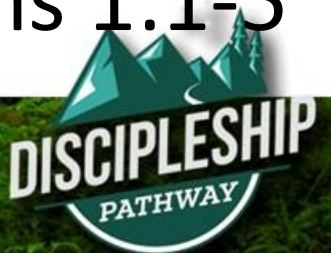
New Testament Writers

- The Gospel according to the New Testament Writers



¹Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, and set apart for the gospel of God—² which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures—³ concerning his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who was a descendant of David, according to the flesh ⁴ and was appointed to be the powerful Son of God according to the Spirit of holiness by the resurrection of the dead. ⁵ Through him we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the Gentiles

Romans 1:1-5



¹Now I want to make clear for you, brothers and sisters, the gospel I preached to you, which you received, on which you have taken your stand ² and by which you are being saved, if you hold to the message I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. ³ For I passed on to you as most important what I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

1 Corinthians 15:1–4



New Testament Writers

- The Gospel according to the New Testament Writers
 1. The story about Jesus Christ: who he is and what he has done
 2. Our access to the gospel is through the Scriptures
 3. The gospel, which demands a response of faith and obedience, brings salvation
 4. The gospel is communicated to both believers and nonbelievers



Who's Gospel

- Is it God's Gospel or My Gospel?
 - Romans 1:1 "the gospel of God"
 - The story is God's
 - We can not change, modify or embellish it
 - Romans 16:25 ""my gospel, the message I proclaim about Jesus Christ" (Paul speaking)
 - This is the gospel that belongs to God but told by us
 - In our personality, language, idioms, ...



The Rub

- We have a timeless story that is
 - True, for all people, all cultures, and in all places
- But it must be told by a
 - Specific person to a specific culture in a specific place
- How does a person, their culture and their place affect
 - The presentation and reception of the Gospel?

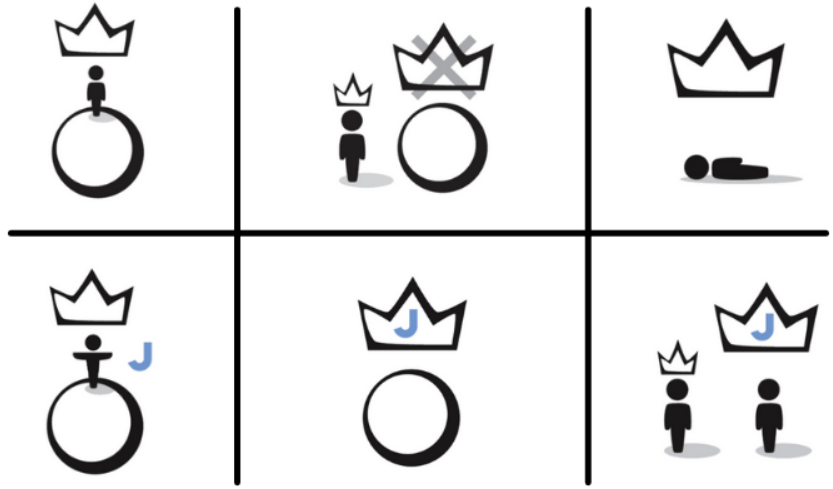


Theologians

- The Gospel according to Theologians
 - Theologians will break the gospel into points for better communication
 1. God created us
 2. We have sinned against God
 3. Jesus saves us from our punishment
 4. We now have a decision to make



Two Ways to Live



Four Spiritual Laws

1. LAW ONE

God loves you and has a wonderful plan for your life.

2. LAW TWO

Man is sinful and separated from God. Therefore, he cannot know and experience God's love and plan for his life.

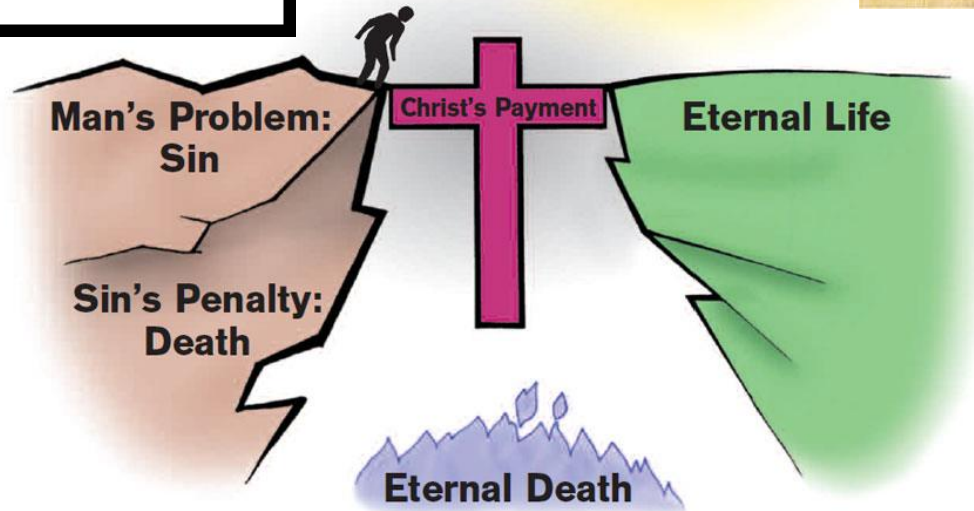
3. LAW THREE

Jesus Christ is God's ONLY provision for man's sin. Through Him you can know and experience God's love and plan for your life.

4. LAW FOUR

We must individually receive Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Then we can know and experience God's love and plan for our lives.

God's Purpose



Storytellers

- The Gospel according to Storytellers
 1. Manger
 - Came as a real man, lived and suffered as a real man
 2. Cross
 - Jesus died for us on the cross for our sins
 3. King
 - Jesus will come to rule as King and renew this world



Introduction

Roles in Evangelism

Chapter 1a



Roles in Evangelism

- Are there different roles in evangelism?
 - Let's look at 1 Thessalonians 1:4-10



⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, in the Holy Spirit, and with full assurance. You know how we lived among you for your benefit, ⁶ and you yourselves became imitators of us and of the Lord when, in spite of severe persecution, you welcomed the message with joy from the Holy Spirit. ⁷ As a result, you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.

Thessalonians 1:4–7



⁸ For the word of the Lord rang out from you, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place that your faith, in God has gone out. Therefore, we don't need to say anything,
⁹ for they themselves report what kind of reception we had from you: how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

Thessalonians 1:8–10



Roles in Evangelism

- We can see six roles here
 1. God's role is to choose people for salvation (v. 4)
 2. Jesus' role is to save people from wrath (v. 10)
 3. Paul's role is to communicate the gospel (v. 5)
 4. The Holy Spirit's role is to empower the person who is communicating the gospel (v. 5)
 5. The Thessalonians hear the gospel and welcome it with joy (v. 6b)
 6. The gospel is a message about Jesus (v. 8)



What is Your Role?

- So, what is your role to play?
 - We are the evangelist!
- We are NOT
 - The ones to choose who is saved
 - Not the one to do the saving
 - Not the one to do the convicting
- We are to evangelize!



Can God Evangelize Without Me?

- Can God evangelize without me
 - Yes
 - But that is not the way He intended it
- God will spread His word whether I help or not
 - If we believe this, we become lazy fatalists
 - Our effort doesn't matter
 - So why bother?



Can God Evangelize Without Me?

- If we say God can't evangelize without me
 - Then we become prideful
 - Look at all the people I brought to God!
 - Or we feel guilty that we are not doing a good job
 - So, we coerce people into “believing”
- How do you feel about evangelism? Prideful? Guilty?



Can God Evangelize Without Me?

- There is a balance we need to seek
 - We need to praise God when people are saved
 - We need to pray that God opens the hearts of those we evangelize
- We also need to be encouraged to do the work
 - No matter how unrewarding it is
 - Use whatever gifts you have, to evangelize
- This class will give you the confidence and tools to do this



A Definition of Evangelism

- The essence of evangelism
 - Is the message that Jesus Christ is Lord
- Evangelism is our human effort of proclaiming this message, this involves using our human
 - Language, idioms, metaphors, stories, experiences, personality, emotions, context, culture, ...
 - Trusting and praying that God, will use our human and natural means to affect his divine purposes



Introduction, What We Will Cover



Week 1

- **Week 1** Introduction
 - What is Evangelism? The Gospel?



Week 2

- **Week 2 Ch1** Theology of Evangelism
 - Models of Evangelism
 - Story of the prodigal son
 - Conversion of Saul
 - Conversion of Timothy
 - Is there a single model for evangelism



Week 3

- **Week 3 Ch2** Everyday Evangelism
 - Evangelism Strategies 1-6
 1. Get our friends to become their friends
 2. Go to them before they come to you
 3. coffee, dinner, gospel
 4. Listen to their story
 5. Tell our story as a story
 6. Tell a story about Jesus



Week 4

- **Week 4 Ch3** How to Craft a Gospel Presentation
 - How to present the Gospel, then and now
 - We will look at how the Gospels expressed the message based on a person's worldview
 - How can we do this now



Week 5

- **Week 5 Ch4** Evangelism to Postmoderns
 - Modernism and Postmodernism
 - Our country and world has shifted in its thinking
 - How do we speak Gods message to them and be heard?



Week 6

- **Week 6 Ch5** Contextualization for Evangelism
 - The Gospel and Culture
 - The task of contextualization involves:
 1. Interpreting the gospel
 2. Communicating the gospel
 3. Applying the gospel to a particular culture



Week 7

- **Week 7 Ch5** Contextualization for Evangelism
 - How to Interpret Culture, Thoughts, Themes, Story
 - How can we help a person connect their culture with
 - What God has for them
 - What is the culture crying out for
 - How does God answer that cry

Week 8

- **Week 8 Ch6 Gospel-Cultural Hermeneutics**
 - Enter, Challenge, Fulfill
 - This is a continuation of ch5
 - How to find a cultures storyline
 - How to evangelize people in different cultures



Week 9

- **Week 9 Ch7** Storytelling the Gospel
 - Styles of Learning, Story-telling
 - Most people/cultures respond to stories better than
 - “Cold hard facts”
 - How do we tell the story of the Bible so that it is
 - Memorable, accurate, and simple



Week 10

- **Week 10 Ch8 How to Give Evangelistic Topical Talks**
 - What is a Topical Talk and how to give one
 - Issues with topical talks
 - Methods to make a topical talk



Week 11

- **Week 11 Ch9 How to Give Evangelistic Expository Talks**
 - What is an Expository Talks and how to give one
 - What's the “Big Idea” and use this to determine
 - The existential question
 - Sinful problem
 - Gospel solution for a Bible talk



Week 12

- **Week 12** Ch10 Religious Epistemology, Apologetics
 - Moving People from Hostile to Loyal
 - When you come to Jesus your world view will change
 - This is very hard
 - How can you help



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