

## Coffee And Stories

### Where Evangelism Takes Place

*“And He said to them, “Go into all the world (not churches) and preach the gospel to every creature” “... And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them...”*  
(Mark 16:15, 20).

1. Almost all evangelism happens outside the church service.
2. Church is *mainly* for maturing saints into disciples.
3. You *can* get people saved in church and you *can* see people disciplined outside of church.
4. In the New Testament, people were won in the marketplace, jails, homes, and highways.
5. Sinners are more comfortable in the world’s places to open up to the message of the gospel.

### Learn To Listen

*“Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures. So then (Jesus our example), my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath...”* (James 1:18-19).

1. A man at a coffee shop put a sign on his table, “Free coffee if you will listen to my story.” No one took his offer.
2. He later changed the sign, “Free coffee if you will tell me your story.” People lined up to tell their story.
3. Don’t be a talker first, but a listener. Don’t bring them into your world first, go into theirs.
  - a. Witnessing is supernatural, not planned or rehearsed (Act 1:8).
  - b. Listening to others first gives us a chance to hear from the Holy Spirit and even receive a word of knowledge.
  - c. Jesus listened to the woman at the well and received a word of knowledge about her situation.
  - d. Jesus listened to the story from the woman healed of the issue of blood.
4. In witnessing, do not be so quick to tell your story of conversion, but listen to their story.
  - a. The lame man at Gate Beautiful told his story first.
  - b. The Ethiopian eunuch was asked what he was studying.
5. Many of Jesus’ teachings were responses to statements and answers to questions from the people.
  - a. “What must I do to inherit eternal life?”

- b. "How often do I forgive my brother, until 7 times?"
  - c. "He casts out devils by the prince of devils.
6. The teachings of the pastor or minister do not always have to come directly from the Holy Spirit but can come from statements and questions of the people.
- a. "How long will you be here, pastor? I have been here through two pastors before you."
  - b. Jesus told the paralyzed man on the cot he was forgiven from the time he asked.
  - c. Jesus took two chapters in Matthew 24 and 25 in response to three questions from His disciples about His coming.

### **Before You Do Speak, Keep It Simple**

*"Meanwhile praying also for us... that I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak. Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time. Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one."* (Colossians 4:3-6)

1. Before Jesus left, He gave the Great Commission and the Holy Spirit Who gives us power to be witness.
2. Disciples would begin in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and then to the uttermost parts of the earth (Acts 1:8).

### **But What Is Your Jerusalem?**

1. Your Jerusalem is not just the city you live in.
2. Your Jerusalem is your family.
3. Do you want to see your family members saved?
4. God wants their salvation more than you do.
5. Phrases used by those in the gospels of Jesus when telling others.
  - a. We have seen Him.
  - b. We have heard Him.
  - c. We have touched and handled Him.
  - d. We have heard Him speak.
  - e. I once was blind and now I see.
  - f. Come see a man who told me all I have done.
6. The gospel is measured from Jerusalem, your house, not India or Africa.