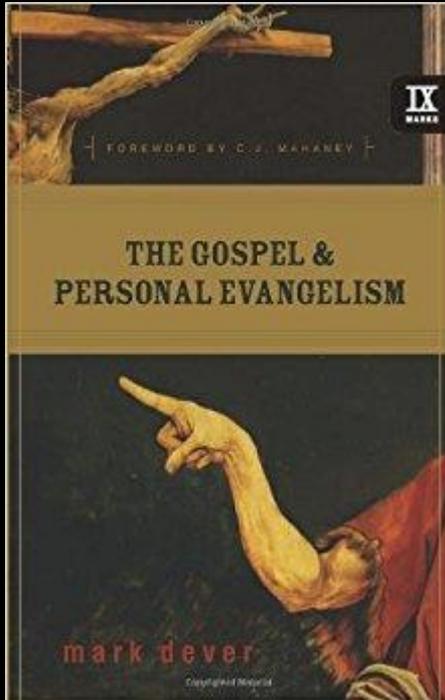


# The Gospel and Personal Evangelism

by Mark Dever



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What Does “Evangelism” Make You Think Of?

# Looking Ahead

- Week 1 – Intro/Why We Evangelize
- Week 2 – Explaining the Gospel Clearly
- Week 3 – Do's and Don'ts of Evangelism
- Week 4 – Let's Get Practical

# Goals for this Class

- Challenge all of us to be faithful to share the gospel
- Become more comfortable explaining the gospel to someone
- Learn from Mark Dever and others who have done more evangelism than we have
- Foster a culture at Arbor of encouraging one another and working together in evangelism
- Ultimate desire – that God would be glorified by saving new believers and adding them to Arbor!

# Why Don't We Evangelize?

- “I don't know their language”
- “Evangelism is illegal”
- “Evangelism could cause problems at work”
- “Other things seem more urgent – I'm too busy”
- “I don't know non-Christians”
- “I'm not good at talking to people”
- “I might cause more harm than good – I'll leave it to the experts”
- “People don't want to hear – it won't make any difference”
- “I don't want to be known as one of those crazy, whacko, Bible-thumping Christians”

# What's Our Motivation For Evangelism?

- Wrong Motivation – Selfishness/Pride
  - Reputation, self validation, wanting to win arguments, looking spiritual
- Right Motivation
  - A desire to be obedient
    - Matt 28:19, 1 Pet 3:15, Rom 10:14-17
  - A love for the lost
    - Matt 9:36, Rom 10:1
  - A love for God – bringing glory to God by making him known

# Plan to Stop Not Evangelizing

- PRAY that God would save sinners
- PLAN – schedule a time, put yourself in places to meet non-Christians
- ACCEPT our role as gospel-sharing ambassadors of Christ
- UNDERSTAND that even if evangelism is not our gift, it is our duty
- BE FAITHFUL – our duty is faithfulness, not results
- RISK – be willing to take it – eternity is at stake
- PREPARE – know the gospel, memorize/study the Bible

# Plan to Stop Not Evangelizing

- LOOK for opportunities to talk to people, even when inconvenient
- LOVE people by sharing the gospel with them
- FEAR God instead of people
- STOP excusing ourselves from evangelism on the basis of God's sovereignty
- CONSIDER all that God has done for us