



# The Good News

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## ***Having a Desire to Help Lost Souls***

By Michael McCleary

The definition of evangelism is “*the zealous preaching and advocacy of the gospel.*” It is important for us to remind ourselves that we need to have a zealous desire to be a soul-winner for Jesus. What can we do to help us maintain the good work of personal evangelism in our everyday lives?

**Invite a person to church** – We all see people every day. Despite our personal predictions regarding a person’s reaction to being invited to church, it is our job to simply ask. Do you know someone at work that has mentioned that they are looking for a new church to attend? Do you have a friend at school who has asked spiritual questions before? There doesn’t even have to be a pre-existing interest, you can simply ask someone you know if they would like to go to church with you sometime. It takes about five seconds to ask, and the worst that can happen is they will say “no”. Try to make a goal every day to ask at least one person to church, even if it’s the same person on some days. This will help each of us to maintain a mind centered on helping souls.

**Pass out some material** – There is plenty of material available for you to take with you to work, school, or to pass out to your neighbors, that can be a part of your efforts to evangelize. We have business cards on the back table that have the address and times of our services included on them to help. Passing out material is especially helpful if you do not feel particularly comfortable trying to recall everything from memory. Years ago, I heard a story that a preacher once told of an 85-year old woman who helped convert a rowdy rock-n-roller into a Gospel preacher by simply passing out a flyer – that could be us if we pass out material to a person who is seeking. It is very easy to leave a business card along with the tip when we are out to eat, or to give it to people with whom we do business. There are flyers and tracts available that

describe the church of Christ and what we believe; they are very easy to understand if you have someone asking what the church of Christ is all about. Even our bulletin includes helpful information about how we define ourselves according to Biblical teaching. When knocking on neighbor’s doors, take one of our bulletins or class notes and just ask your neighbor to read it and to let you know what they think. You never know what kind of interest you might generate just by doing something as small as passing out material. If you have something very specific in mind that you would like to give to specific people, such as material on Mormonism to a group of Mormons, let me know and I will see to it you get some material to pass out to them. It is not difficult and does not have to take a long time to just pass out, or even email, a little material to some lost souls.

**Keep your ears open** – The best businessmen and businesswomen will tell you that some of the best opportunities come by word of mouth. Sometimes business opportunities come by being in the right place at the right time in hearing conversations that may not even involve you (not that you’re eavesdropping). As we try to evangelize, keep your ears open to possible opportunities to throw some Scripture into a conversation. If you happen to overhear a “religious” discussion taking place at another table at lunch, you could simply drop a business card or bulletin on their table and invite them to church without intruding on their discussion.

There are tons of different ways that we can sow the seed of the Gospel without needing the ability to conduct a Bible study on the spot. These are just three possible ways for us to maintain a desire of soul-winning. Paul says in **I Cor. 9:22**, “*I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.*” Let’s be soul-winners for Jesus!