



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC Effective Evangelism **SPEAKER** Pastor Ernest Chow
THEME Digging Deeper: The Practices of the Church **DATE** 3 & 4 June 2023

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Pastor Ernest shared about how BBTC has grown through the various ministries, events, evangelism and outreach programmes over the years. He then gave some statistics that show that Christians currently do not evangelise as much compared to a decade ago. There are several reasons as to why people are afraid of evangelising but Pastor Ernest reminds us that evangelism is not a gift; rather, it is by God's anointing and grace and a command for everyone.

EFFECTIVE EVANGELISM

Pastor Ernest encouraged us to focus on God and the lost instead of ourselves when we evangelise so that our fear will be banished. Even in the face of fear, a love for God and the lost will overcome and propel one to share the gospel with others. Pastor Ernest also shared several key takeaways about evangelising to others.

1) A Passion for God

When we obey God's commandments, God is pleased with us (John 14:21). One of God's commandments is for us to share the gospel. Why should we do so?

- Every soul is precious and priceless to God
- When a soul turns to God, that soul has the potential to develop a relationship with God forever. That soul was made in the image of God and can praise and worship God forever.
- Clark's commentary on 2 Corinthians 5:14-15 exhorts us to be so influenced by God's love that we cannot help but share the gospel.
- If the lost matter so much to God, they should matter to us too.
- Salvation starts with a passion stemming from a heart that is controlled, constrained and compelled. When we surrender our hearts to God, amazing miracles will take place.

2) A Compassion for the Lost

Compassion goes beyond and deeper than just mercy, sympathy or pity. It is a stirring inside of us as we look at the plight of the lost, sick or needy. Before Jesus performed a miracle, He was moved with compassion (Matthew 14:14, Mark 1:40-42, Matthew 15:30-32). Pastor Ernest used the story of Jonah to illustrate God's compassion. All the miracles that God did throughout Jonah's story affirm God's point about demonstrating compassion towards others. He demonstrated

compassion to Nineveh and Jonah (Jonah 4:11) and today, God demonstrates His compassion to all of us. Likewise, we should also have compassion for others. Sharing the gospel is not optional; all who have experienced God's grace should do so.

3) The Power of Prayer

- Praying with Scriptures – Faith conviction
God does not want any soul to perish (2 Peter 3:9). We should share the gospel with this conviction in our hearts and leave the outcome to God. With faith, we can also hold fast to God's promise that with God, all things are possible (Matthew 19:26).
- Praying strategic prayers
Strategic prayer is warfare prayer. The devil wants **all** to perish while God wants **none** to perish. Every time we share the gospel, it is warfare. We should pray strategic prayers as priests and kings over any ungodly beliefs that our pre-believing friends or family members may have.
- Praying with Compassion
Pastor Ernest shared about how he was very encouraged by stories and testimonies of people who prayed heartfelt prayers specifically and unceasingly.

CONCLUSION

Evangelism is God's command for all of us. It may seem daunting and scary. Yet when we attune our hearts to God's heart for His people and their salvation, we will be able to reach out to them with compassion. As we reach out to the lost souls, we should also cover ourselves and the people we are reaching out to in prayer.

QUESTIONS

1. Share about a time you spoke with a prebeliever about your faith.
 - a. What feelings did you have or what issues did you face?
 - b. What makes you hesitate to share the gospel with others?

2. How has God shown you compassion in your life? How can you show compassion to others in return when sharing the gospel?

3. Consider two people in your life who do not yet know Jesus. How can you pray for them specifically? Pray also for one another to have compassion and courage to share the gospel.