

SOME KEYS TO PREACHING AND SHARING THE GOSPEL EFFECTIVELY

1) It begins with prayer. It is so important that we both pray and go

- i. Praying for the lost prepares our heart to preach the gospel with passion
- ii. We need to pray for God to remove the veil of people's minds and to open up their spiritual eyes
- iii. We need to pray for divine appointments and for God to prepare the hearts of people to receive the tracts and the gospel message
- iv. We need to pray for God's love and compassion for the people that we will be ministering to

2) It is our genuine love for Christ that helps us to be effective in preaching the gospel and sharing our faith with others

Our relationship with Jesus Christ must always be our greatest priority and not just doing ministry. It is so important that we have an intimate knowledge of the Christ that we are preaching about in our outreaches. That truly Jesus is our best friend

Jesus Himself said,

“‘And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ This is the first commandment.”
(Mark 12:30)

3) All that we do and say must always be undergirded by a genuine love for those that we are preaching to and sharing our faith with

Jesus came to seek and to save that which is lost. Truly God's desire is that none would perish

Regularly spending quality time with the Lord and before outreaches and in God's word helps us to have God's heart and compassion for the lost

We must never preach the gospel in a harsh and condemning way. It is the goodness of God that leads people to repentance

In the gospel of Matthew we read,

“Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.”

“But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.” (Matthew 9:35-36)

4) That we always maintain a pure motivation for why we are doing ministry

It is so important that we always give all the glory to God in all that we do for Him.

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.” **(1 Corinthians 10:31)**

Unfortunately, some people have started out well in ministry but not finished well. The simple fact is that pride always precedes a fall. It is so important that our motivation for ministry is always about helping to populate heaven and to plunder hell and to encourage Christians to remain strong in their walk with the Lord. It is so important particularly when God begins to use us in a wonderful way, that we always remain humble and that our identity always comes from who we are in Christ and not from what we do. Jesus truly is our example for humility and servanthood.

Maintaining a right heart is a great key to consistently ministering in the power of the Holy Spirit and to God giving us greater levels of responsibility.

Jesus Himself said,

“You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave - just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.” **(Matthew 20:25-28)**

5) The importance of inviting the Holy Spirit to take over our mouths and to preach and minister through us before commencing our outreaches and when starting each new day

When we invite the Holy Spirit to take over our mouths and speak through us, He will do so and direct our messages. Thought by thought He will direct our messages as we preach when we invite the Holy Spirit to minister through us. The real power in our preaching is when we let go and allow the Holy Spirit to speak through us when we are preaching

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.” **(1 Corinthians 2:3-5)**

Jesus Himself said,

“It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.” **(John 6:63)**

IT IS SO IMPORTANT THAT WE ALWAYS PREACH THE GOSPEL IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

It is the Holy Spirit ministering through us that will cause people to be convicted of their sin and their need to open up their hearts to Jesus

Jesus said,

“Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.” **(John 16:7-8)**

Jesus also said,

“Therefore settle it in your hearts not to meditate beforehand on what you will answer; for I will give you a mouth and wisdom which all your adversaries will not be able to contradict or resist.” **(Luke 21:14-15)**

We must simply learn to let the Holy Spirit preach and minister through us

6) The importance of preaching the pure gospel message

The Apostle Paul wrote, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.” **(Romans 1:16-17)**

It is in preaching the gospel that people are convicted of their need to come to Christ to be saved

The Apostle Paul also wrote,

“Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you – unless you believed in vain.

For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,” **(1 Corinthians 15:1-4)**

In 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 we see the basic facts of the gospel. These are:

- 1) *Christ was delivered by God the Father to the punishment of death on account of our sins*
- 2) *Christ was buried*
- 3) *God raised Him from the dead on the third day, and*
- 4) Righteousness is received from God through **believing** these facts

It is in preaching the gospel message that God's saving grace comes upon people's hearts and lives so that they can receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour

7) Not moralising when preaching the gospel to the lost but always pointing people to Christ who gives people the power and desire to change.

People generally know that they are sinners but they need to know that Christ came into the world to seek and to save lost sinners

As Jentzen Franklin said, we do not get good to get God, but we get God to get good. So, our purpose in preaching the gospel in the streets is to help unbelievers to be saved by encouraging them to commit their lives to Jesus Christ

The simple fact is that the moment a person is truly born again they become a new creation in Christ with a new nature. The Holy Spirit now dwells in their spirit.

The Apostle Paul wrote, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, **all things** have become new." (2 Corinthians 5:17)

The Apostle John wrote, "Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God." (1 John 3:9)

Once a person is truly born again it is now no longer natural for them to want to sin though they will still from time to time occasionally sin

We must simply preach the pure gospel and point people to a relationship with Jesus

Prior to coming to Christ there is no power to change. This is especially the case now in a world that is becoming more and more ungodly and lawless

Only Christ can change our heart of stone to a heart of flesh and break the power of sin operating in a person's life. He who the Son sets free is free indeed.

In the gospel of Mark, we read the words of Jesus,

"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." (Mark 1:15)

It is only through the power of the Holy Spirit that anyone can live the Christian life.

So, our purpose in preaching the gospel is to always make people aware of their need for a Saviour and what Jesus Christ has done on the cross to make a way for lost sinners to be reconciled to God through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ.

**8) The power of worship to create an open heaven to preach the gospel.
God inhabits the praises of His people**

Praise and worship music helps to create an open heaven so that we are more freely able to preach the gospel with power

Especially when pioneering new outreaches in areas that have heavy atmospheres spiritually, commencing with a time of anointed praise and worship helps to usher God's presence into the atmosphere so that we have an open heaven

Worship music also helps to minister into the lives of people and is able to touch the hearts of people. Music has the ability to bypass the mind and to touch hearts

Once there is an open heaven it is far easier to preach and minister in the power of the Holy Spirit

The Psalmist wrote,

“But You are holy, Enthroned in the praises of Israel.” **(Psalm 22:3)**

9) In our street outreaches we need to keep our messages shorter and always based around the gospel message as we help point people to Jesus Christ.

Typically, in an open-air outreach people will listen for up to ten minutes before moving on. People waiting at train stations may be there for 10-15 minutes.

For this reason, we need to keep our messages short and to the point and always incorporating the gospel message so that we can help lead people to Jesus Christ.

The more we allow the Holy Spirit to speak through us, the more our messages will be the right message and the right length

The Apostle Paul wrote, “but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness.” **(1 Corinthians 1:23)**

“And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.” **(1 Corinthians 2:1-2)**

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.” **(Romans 1:16)**

10) **Helping people to make a commitment to Christ by sharing:**

- i. **The reality of hell**
- ii. **God's desire that none would perish**
- iii. **What Christ has done on the cross to make a way for us to have eternal life (The goodness of God leads people to repentance), and**
- iv. **The need for true repentance in making Jesus Christ both our Lord and Saviour**

It is in incorporating these four things in our gospel messages that people are made aware of their need to commit their lives to Christ if they are to have a hope beyond the grave. There is no middle ground. People are either saved or lost

11) **The importance of becoming excellent in communicating the gospel.**

He who wins souls is wise.

The more Scriptures we have memorised, the more we have meditated on the gospel message and the more knowledge we have of God's promises in His word, the more powerful our messages will be that we preach.

Having a clear understanding of humanity also helps us to know who we are preaching to, which is also a great key to being an effective preacher.

Given the value of every single soul to God, what a privilege it is to become the best at sharing our faith with others and preaching the gospel message to others

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.” **(2 Timothy 3:16-17)**

12) **The importance of sharing the whole counsel of God when preaching in the streets.**

When preaching to the lost it is important to share about;

- i. That we have all sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23)
- ii. The wonderful hope and privileges that we have in Christ,
- iii. The message of the cross; that Jesus Christ died for our sins, was buried and arose from the grave triumphantly on the third day
- iv. The reality of hell for those who simply reject Christ's offer of eternal life,
- v. The trials and tests that we will still go through in life as believers
- vi. The need for true repentance to begin a relationship with Jesus Christ, and
- vii. How all that we truly need in life can only be found in Christ. (True joy and peace even in the trials of life, true purpose and eternal life)

13) Seeking the Lord as to how to commence a message when preaching in the streets and then allowing the Holy Spirit to direct the message.

It is easy preaching a message that God has put on our heart to share

For example, the Holy Spirit may impress upon our heart to share about the importance of letting the past go as we begin to commence a message and get us to commence our message by sharing “Our past does not define our future. We have a God who is able to restore broken lives and broken dreams”

After commencing with this initial theme and thought, we need to then allow the Holy Spirit to direct the message as He impresses upon our minds one thought after another as we preach the message. As we share these thoughts, He will help us to articulate these thoughts and anoint our words as we preach the message.

When preaching in the streets it is good to begin by worshipping the Lord so that we can connect with God’s heart. As we worship the Lord, it is good to wait for God to impress upon our hearts and minds what thought or Scripture we are to commence our messages with

As we worship the Lord it is important to focus on hearing the voice of God so that we know what messages that He would have us preach during our outreaches. God knows the needs and hearts of all the people that we are ministering to. One word from the Lord can be life changing to those that we are preaching to.

After commencing a message, it is important to allow the Holy Spirit to continually direct our messages as we preach the thoughts that He impresses upon my mind to share

The real power in our preaching is when we let go totally and allow the Holy Spirit to take over our mouth and to direct our messages that we are preaching

14) The importance of continually drawing people back to what Christ has done for them on the cross and for their need to repent of their sins and to receive Christ into their hearts and lives as their Lord and Saviour

15) Don’t keep focusing too much when preaching in the streets on the negative things in our world, or the mistakes that we made before coming to Christ, but rather more on the hope that we have in Christ

The Apostle Paul wrote, “And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!” **(Romans 10:15) And**

16) We need to make it clear when preaching that we have all sinned, that we all need a Saviour and that Christ will reject no one that comes to Him with a sincere and repentant heart

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,” **(Romans 3:23)**

Jesus Himself said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me” **(John 14:6)**

In the book of Acts we read,

“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” **(Acts 4:12)**

Jesus Himself also said,

“All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.” **(John 6:37)**

In the book of Acts we read the words of Peter,

“Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.” **(Acts 3:19)**

I will now finish with just three short examples of how we can communicate the gospel to others

EXAMPLE ONE (Short presentation):

God’s heart is to have a loving relationship with every person in the world. God’s desire is that every person would live a life that is full of great purpose and meaning and have eternal life. However, it is our sin that separates us from a Holy God. But because of His great love for us God sent His Son Jesus Christ into the world to reconcile us back to Himself.

Jesus Christ Himself said, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” **(John 3:16)**

Because of His great love for you and me, Jesus was willing to die on the cross at Calvary to pay the penalty for all of our sins. But death could not hold Him; Three days later He arose triumphantly from the grave and is alive forever more. Today Jesus is reaching out to you and knocking on the door of your heart. Today you can repent of your sins and open the door of your heart to Him and receive the gift of eternal life.

EXAMPLE TWO (Goodness of God focus using some key scriptures):

God's desire is that you would not only have a fulfilled life here on earth, but that you would also have an eternal home with Him. **Jesus Himself said**, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." **(John 3:16)**

God loves ALL people and desires to have a relationship with each and every one of us, no matter how many mistakes that we may have made in the past.

Because of God's great love for us and Jesus Christ's willingness to die on the cross for our sins, we can receive God's forgiveness by coming to Christ with a repentant heart and accepting His offer of eternal life.

The Apostle Paul wrote, "For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die, yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." **(Romans 5:6-8)**

Jesus Christ loves you with a passion. This is why He bled and died on the cross at Calvary to pay the penalty for all of our sins. But death could not hold Him down; Three days later Jesus Christ arose triumphantly from the dead and is alive forevermore.

Today Jesus Christ is knocking on the door of your heart. Today you can repent of your sins and open your heart to Him and receive the free gift of eternal life

EXAMPLE THREE (Incorporating the reality of both heaven and hell):

Where we spend eternity is the most important thing. Jesus made it clear that there is only one way to get to heaven.

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life, No one comes to the Father except through Me." **(John 14:6)** He also said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die..." **(John 11:25-26)**

Only Jesus Christ can forgive us of our sins. The simple fact is that we have all made mistakes in life. None of us are perfect. The bible makes this very clear.

The Apostle Paul wrote, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." **(Romans 3:23)** As it is written: "There is none righteous, no not one;" **(Romans 3:10)**

FOR THIS REASON, WE MUST ALL PERSONALLY RECEIVE THE GIFT OF ETERNAL LIFE BY OPENING UP OUR HEART TO JESUS CHRIST AND MAKING HIM OUR OWN PERSONAL LORD AND SAVIOUR DURING OUR TIME HERE ON EARTH

The Apostle Paul also wrote, “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23) JESUS CHRIST CHOSE TO LEAVE HEAVEN FOR 33 YEARS TO RECONCILE US BACK TO GOD. HE DIED ON THE CROSS AT CALVARY TO PAY THE PENALTY FOR OUR SINS, but three days later He arose triumphantly from the dead. Jesus is alive and back in Heaven and is coming back soon.

ONLY JESUS CHRIST CAN SAVE US FROM OUR SINS No one except Jesus Christ has ever led a sinless life. The simple fact is that we have all lied at some time in our life, lusted after other people, or gossiped about others. None of us have or can keep God’s standard of sinless perfection ALL the time.

That is why we must all personally turn from our sin and come to Jesus Christ with a humble heart to receive His forgiveness and His righteousness.

Jesus Himself said, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, (A Believer) he cannot see the Kingdom of God.” **(John 3:3)** All who reject Jesus will be accountable for their own sins when they are resurrected in the body to face Him (God) at the final judgement. The final destiny for all unbelievers is the Lake of fire into which the Devil, the False Prophet the Anti-Christ and other fallen angels are also cast. (Revelation. 20:10-15) THIS IS NOT GOD’S DESIRE.

Jesus loves you with a passion. Today He stands knocking at the door of your heart. Today the sinless blood that He shed on the cross at Calvary for all people can wash all of your sins away. Today you can turn from your sins and open your heart to Jesus Christ and accept His gift of eternal life?

Finally, just invite people to pray the sinner’s prayer with you. Let them know that you would love to see them experience true peace and joy in their heart and the purpose that comes from being in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

AT THIS TIME, YOU CAN THEN LEAD THEM THROUGH THE SINNERS PRAYER Following is one suggested example of a sinner’s prayer; Dear Father God today I turn from my sins to live for You. I believe that Jesus Christ died for all my sins and arose from the dead three days later. Today I turn from my sins to live for You. Today I invite Jesus Christ to come into my heart and life to be my Lord and Saviour and best friend from this day on. Fill me with the Holy Spirit I pray in Jesus Name, Amen.