

## SUCCESSFUL EVANGELISM

### Acts 1:8

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. The book of Acts is the greatest success story of individuals converted to Christ. (Acts 2.47; 4,4; 5.14; 6.7; 9.31; 16.5; Col. 1.6)
2. We can have success in making disciples by following the pattern of evangelism which we find in Acts.

#### I. HOW TO EVANGELIZE SUCCESSFULLY

- A. You have potential. **Acts 1.8:** *"You shall be"*
  1. Jesus was addressing His apostles. (Acts 1.2)
  2. The apostles had work to do. (Mark 3.14,15)
  3. It does not matter how much we have done, we need to see the potential of what we can still do. (Matt. 28.18-20)
- B. You have a purpose. **Acts 1.8:** *"witnesses"*
  1. Witness (martus): Give evidence by personal experience.
  2. Our purpose is to make disciples. (cf. 1 Cor. 1.17)
- C. You have proclamation. **Acts 1.8:** *"witnesses of Me"*
  1. The message was Jesus. (Acts 1.1; 2.22,36; 6.14; 8.35)
  2. We need to tell others about Jesus. (1 Cor. 2.2)
- D. You have prospects. **Acts 1.8:** *"in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*
  1. The disciples started locally and spread the gospel throughout the known world. (Acts 5.42; 17.6)
  2. Are there people in your life that needs to hear the gospel? (Acts 10.24)

#### II. THE POWER IS IN THE GOSPEL

- A. **Acts 1.8:** *"But you shall receive power..."*
  1. Where did they get this power? (Acts 1.8; 2.4)
  2. With this Holy Spirit they preached. (Acts 2.22)
- B. Our success is not tied to our wisdom and abilities, but to the power of the gospel. (Rom. 1.16)

**CONCLUSION:** Evangelism is one soul concerned about another.

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*"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature"*  
-Mark 16.15

**September 20, 2026**

#### MEETING TIMES:

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM**  
**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM**  
**SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM**  
**WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:00 PM**

### God Gives the Increase

Sermons have been preached, books have been published, and articles have been written to teach members of the body of Christ how to cause growth in the church. Congregations which seem to be stagnant, or worse, declining, and panicking wondering what they can do. However, we cannot forget that church growth is largely due to the fact that God gives the increase.

There is no doubt that Christians have a grave responsibility to the growth of the church. Paul writes that growth is achieved when every member is working (Eph. 4.16). Since the church is made up of individuals, it only makes sense that church growth cannot happen unless there is individual growth. Therefore we must be diligent to add to our faith (2 Pet. 1.5-8).

Indeed, Paul planted and Apollos watered (1 Cor. 3.6). Yet the progress that was made could not be credited to these alone as the Corinthian brethren tried to do (1 Cor. 1.11-13). The work was performed by Paul and Apollos, but it was God who caused the results (1 Cor. 3.7). If we do what God has always expected us to do, (ie. Encourage brethren, reach out to the lost, be faithful in service), and leave the results to God, then growth of the body occurs. Growth is the natural result of working and letting God do the rest.

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## IN GOD WE TRUST

### ISAIAH 8:13

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. Names often have significance that capture the characteristics of the child or the circumstances of his birth. (Gen. 3:20).
2. In Isaiah 8, Isaiah will have a son given a significant name.
3. In the current culture and political climate, we need to remember that God is in control.

#### I. THE BACKGROUND

- A. The spiritual background.
  1. **Isaiah 1.1:** Isaiah prophesied during four kings.
  2. **Isaiah 1.2-4:** God accuses His people of sin.
  3. **Isaiah 1.5,6:** God illustrates their spiritual condition.
- B. The political background.
  1. Assyria wanted to expand the border of their empire.
  2. Syria and Israel went to war with Judah.
  3. Israel tells Judah to trust in God.

#### II. THE BREAKDOWN

- A. God warns Isaiah.
  1. **Isaiah 8.1:** *“Take a large scroll, and write on it with a man’s pen concerning Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz.”*
  2. **Isaiah 8.2:** Isaiah was to have the scroll notarized.
- B. God predicts the coming of the Assyrians.
  1. **Isaiah 8.3:** Isaiah and his wife have a child.
  2. **Isaiah 8.4:** Before the child speaks, Assyrian will come.
- C. God will be with His people.
  1. **Isaiah 8.5-8:** Assyria will overwhelm the nations.
  2. **Isaiah 8.9,10:** God gives Isaiah a message of hope.
- D. God instructs Isaiah.
  1. **Isaiah 8.11,12:** Don’t listen to the people.
  2. **Isaiah 8.13,14:** Honor God and He will bless you.

#### III. GOD IS IN CONTROL

- A. Four verses.
  1. **Daniel 2.21:** *“He removes kings and raises up kings”*
  2. **Daniel 5.21:** *“God rules in the kingdoms of men”*
  3. **Psalms 22.28:** *“He rules over the nations”*
  4. **Acts 17.26:** God *“determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings”*
- B. On application: Trust in God. (Mark 11:22; Prov. 3:5)

**CONCLUSION:** Only by trusting in God, can you have peace.

## Are You Carnally Minded?

When we hear the word “carnal,” our minds usually jump gross immorality, drunkenness, or blatant wickedness. But did you know that a carnal mind can appear subtly? The Holy Spirit warns, *“For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace”* (Rom. 8:6). The word translated as “carnal” refers to the flesh. Being carnally minded is not merely committing outward acts of transgression, it is a mindset that evaluates life, priorities, and decisions through an earthly lens rather than the word of God. If we are not careful, carnality can creep into the heart.

We are carnally minded when we are consumed by earthly priorities. One of the most common ways to be carnally minded is simply to be preoccupied with the temporal over the eternal. We can become so consumed with our jobs, retirement accounts, hobbies, and physical comforts that God gets only our leftover time and energy. In Luke 12, Jesus described a farmer whose ground produced plentifully. The man was not a thief or an extortioner, but his focus was entirely earthly: *“I will pull down my barns and build greater”* (Luke 12:18). God called him a fool because he laid up treasure for himself and was not rich toward God (v. 21). When the physical consistently crowds out the spiritual, we are thinking carnally (Col. 3:2).

We are carnally minded when we are fueled by strife and division. When Paul wrote to the church in Corinth, he said: *“I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ”* (1 Cor. 3:1). He goes on to explain why. *“For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?”* (1 Cor. 3:3). When pride drives our interactions, when we harbor grudges, or when we are determined to get our own way at the expense of peace among brethren, our thinking is governed by the flesh rather than the Spirit.

We are carnally minded when we rely on human wisdom. A carnal mind resists submitting to divine authority. Paul wrote that *“the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be”* (Rom. 8:7). We display this carnal attitude whenever we substitute human feelings, cultural trends, or personal convenience for *“Thus says the Lord.”*

Carnality does not always announce itself with loud, shameful rebellion. More often, it arrives quietly when we let our focus rest on the things of this world. We need to examine our hearts daily, crucify the flesh with its passions, and set our minds on the things of above (Col. 3:2).

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