WHAT IS EVANGELISM?

Matthew 9:37-38

Matthew 9:37-38 - - 37 Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; 38 therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

- Prayer
 Opportunities
- 3. Work
- 4. Teaching

Prayer

Jesus says "...38 therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest..." (Matthew 9:38)

Pray for Everyone Around You

Matthew 7:7-8 - - 7 "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened."

- Pray for Opportunities and Wisdom to Recognize Open Doors
- Colossians 4:2-4 2 Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. 3 At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— 4 that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.

Pray to Have Obstacles Removed

2 Thessalonians 3:1-2 - Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you. 2 And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not faith. (KJV)

Pray for Courage

Ephesians 6:18-20 - 18 praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, 19 and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

- Opportunities
- Jesus says "...to send out..." (Matthew 9:38)

Opportunities are not in the future, they are now!

John 4:35 - 35 Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest.

Good Works Spawn Opportunities for Evangelism

Galatians 6:9-10 - 9 And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. 10 So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Let Us Not Neglect the Opportunities That Come Our Way

- James 4:17 17 So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.
- Keep Our Eyes Open and Minds Alert!

- When Jesus Opens a Door For Us, No Man Can Close it, but We Can Fail to Walk Through It
- Revelation 3:8 8 "'I know your works. Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name."

- Works
- Jesus says "Laborers" (Matthew 9:38)

Works

1 Corinthians 3:6-9 - 6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. 7 So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. 8 He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. 9 For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building.

Works

- Good Works Glorify the Father
- Matthew 5:16 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Works

- Good Works Lead to Fruitfulness
- Titus 3:14 14 And let our people learn to devote themselves to good works, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not be unfruitful.

- Teaching
- Jesus says "into his harvest" (Matthew 9:38)

Teaching

Required to Make Disciples

Matthew 28:18-20 - 18 And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Teaching

John 7:17 - 17 If anyone's will is to do God's will, he will know whether the teaching is from God or whether I am speaking on my own authority.

John 8:31-32 - 31 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

- 1. Prayer
- 2. Opportunity
- 3. Work
- 4. Teaching