

LESSON 12

EVANGELISM: A SPECIAL MISSION FOR ME

BEFORE YOU TEACH

When someone is dying or leaving us, his last words are very important. The last words Jesus spoke to His disciples were a command to take the gospel to Judea, Samaria, and to the end of the earth. They were to make disciples of all nations, to baptize them and to teach them to obey him (Mt 28:19-20; Acts 1:8). Thus, we are to go – whether it is next door or to another country – to make disciples. The Lord gave all the believers not an option, but a command. We may not all be gifted evangelists but we can fulfill this command through the power of the Holy Spirit. This is a debt of love that we, the young and the old, need to repay. Paul said, “For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for necessity is laid upon me; yes, woe is me if I do not preach the gospel!” (1 Cor 9:16). Therefore, instilling the concept of evangelism in our students from a young age is of vital importance. It will enable them to realize their purpose and responsibility as a disciple of Christ and to live a life worthy of our calling.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR STUDENTS

Most people, including children, are afraid to evangelize. They are worried that people will mock or ignore them, or they believe they lack the eloquence or wisdom to preach. Children may not fully understand evangelism, but they understand sharing and having compassion for others. You need to remind your students how blessed they are to have a God who can help them. There are many other children who do not know God, and do not have God on whom they can rely in times of trouble. In addition, because they do not know God, they do not have the hope of eternal life in heaven, like your students do. With this understanding, the students will recognize the importance of evangelism and helping others.

BIBLE TEXT

Mark 16:15-20; Acts 1:8

BIBLE TRUTHS

1. Jesus gave us a special commission to preach the gospel.
2. Preaching is the best way to love God and others.
3. The Holy Spirit empowers us to preach.

LESSON OBJECTIVES

1. To learn the importance of sharing our faith.
2. To learn that the Holy Spirit is the key to evangelism.
3. To learn that preaching is the greatest love we can show to others.

MEMORY VERSE

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you.”

(Acts 1:8a)

PRAYER

In the name of the Lord Jesus, we pray. Thank You, Lord, for giving us another opportunity to learn Your word. Your word is so precious because it allows us to draw close to You. There are many people in the world who do not know You nor Your word. Help us to understand today's lesson so that we may know the importance of spreading Your word to our family and friends. Please grant us the Holy Spirit so that we may have the courage and power to witness for You. May all praises be unto our Lord Jesus! Amen.

VOCABULARY

evangelism: to preach the gospel and tells others why you believe in Jesus

mission: an important job that is given to us

witness: someone who tells others what they have seen, heard, or experienced

gospel: the message concerning the Lord Jesus, His kingdom, and salvation

BIBLE STORY

The Great Commission

Before Jesus ascended to heaven, He gave His disciples a very special task called the Great Commission. Let's read Mark 16:15-16 to find out what the Great Commission was.

He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned."

- What was the Great Commission that Jesus gave His disciples?
- To whom were they to preach?
- What will happen to the people who believe and those who do not?

The Great Commission Jesus gave to His disciples was to take the gospel everywhere and to everyone. Those who believed in the gospel would be saved, but those who did not accept would be condemned. This is an incredibly important task that the Lord Jesus has given each one of us. We learned in Lesson Five how the disciples fled from Jerusalem because of persecution and were scattered to different areas, taking the gospel with them. Can anyone remember the name of the evangelist who also fled from Jerusalem and preached in many places? That's right. Philip brought the word of God to Samaria. He performed many signs and miracles, such as casting out evil spirits and healing the lame and the sick. The whole city was filled with great joy because they had received Jesus! After this, God gave Philip another important mission. Who did God want Philip to preach to next? That's right, Philip was to preach to the Ethiopian eunuch, who was traveling home from worshipping God in Jerusalem. Philip saw that the Ethiopian eunuch was reading from the Book of Isaiah, but he did not understand what he was reading. Philip explained the scriptures and introduced the Lord Jesus to the eunuch. Having believed, the Ethiopian eunuch was immediately baptized.

The Lord Commands that We Preach the Gospel

From this, we learn that Philip obeyed what God commanded him to do, which was to preach the good news to everyone, everywhere.

Today, this same Great Commission has been given to

every one of us, too. Raise your hands if you have ever shared about the Lord Jesus to someone before. [Allow students to respond and share.] God has given us the special mission of preaching to others.

Let's turn to Isaiah 52:7. This verse speaks about the people who preach and all the wonderful things that they bring to others. What things do we bring to people if we preach?

- a. We bring good news.
- b. We bring peace.
- c. We bring glad tidings of good things.
- d. We bring the news of salvation.
- e. We bring the message that God reigns.

What is the good news? The Bible tells us that every person in this world has sin from the time they were born. Because of sin, no one can see God or be with God and eventually they would have to be punished in hell. But God loves man so much that He showed them a way to remove sin and be saved. This way is called the good news or the gospel, and it is found in the Bible. Today, our church has the true gospel that can save people's souls. Not only does the gospel bring salvation, but it can also bring peace and good things. People of the world are suffering. They have family problems, sickness, or bad habits that they can't change. They have no one who can help them. They have no joy or peace in their hearts. But when we bring the good news about the Lord Jesus to them, it is like a light shining in their cold and dark world. The message of the Lord Jesus warms up their heart. They learn that God is living, that He is almighty, and that He will bring them joy, hope, peace, and blessings.

That's why it is so important to go out and share the gospel with others. Paul understood this clearly. In 1 Corinthians 9:16-17, Paul teaches us that we have been given this special mission and that if we carry it out willingly, God will reward us for our work. But if we do not preach the gospel, woe and trouble will be upon us.

Preach through the Power of the Holy Spirit

Perhaps we think we are too young or we are too scared to preach. Maybe we do not know what to say, or we don't know who to preach to.

Let's read another important verse. Turn to Acts 1:8. "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has

come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

The Lord Jesus gives us the Holy Spirit for a very special purpose. The Holy Spirit gives us the courage, the power and the strength to go and be witnesses for Jesus. What does it mean to be a witness? To be a witness means to tell others what we have seen, heard, and experienced in our lives concerning the Lord Jesus. It means to tell others about how our family came to believe in the Lord Jesus and then to share how they too can know Him and be saved.

The Holy Spirit gives us the courage to speak about the Lord Jesus boldly and powerfully. Before the disciples received the Holy Spirit, they dared not tell others about the Lord Jesus. They dared not even admit that they were followers of Christ. The disciples were afraid of the Jews so they shut themselves in the room (Jn 20:19). However, after the disciples received the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost, they changed completely! The Holy Spirit gave them the power to witness for the Lord. Peter and the other eleven disciples were no longer hiding in a room; instead, they stood up and witnessed openly and boldly to a great number of people. On that day, 3,000 people were baptized and many signs and miracles were performed to show that the gospel they preached was true.

On another day, when Peter and John were going to the temple to pray, they met a lame man at the Beautiful gate asking for alms. When Peter and John saw him, they took pity on him and, through the power of the Lord Jesus, caused the lame man to walk. When the priests and rulers knew of this, they captured Peter and John. When they appeared before the rulers, they were not afraid. Let's read Acts 4:13. The Bible tells us that the rulers saw that Peter and John were full of boldness. When the rulers commanded Peter and John not to speak anymore about the Lord Jesus, Peter and John replied that they could not obey them. Read Acts 4:19-20. Where did they get such courage and power? Absolutely, they received it through the power of the Holy Spirit.

God has given every one of us a special commission. The Lord Jesus wants each of us to carry out this mission before we can go to heaven. God understands that we cannot do this by ourselves, so He has given us the Holy Spirit to fill us with the power and courage to preach to others like the disciples did. For those who do not yet have the Holy Spirit, let us pray and ask God to give us His Spirit soon so that we can carry out the Great Commission.

Preach Because We Love Others

Let's turn to Romans 13:8. It reads, "Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law."

What does it mean to owe something? It means that we have to pay back something to someone. Have you owed anyone anything? The Bible tells us that we should

owe no one anything. However, there is one thing that we owe everyone and that is love. God loves us so much that He died on the cross for our sins. God hopes that we can repay the love that we received by loving not only God, but also the people around us. Do you think we can ever repay God for all the love He has shown us? No, that is why we have a debt of love. This means we owe love to God and to men.

What are some of the ways we can show love to others? [Allow students to respond, and then write their answers on the board.] Our answers show that we can love others in many different ways. We can provide food, clothing, money, comfort, or help to those who need it. But what is the greatest love we can show to others?

That is right. We can preach to them so that they can get to know the Lord Jesus and enter into heaven later.

Without knowing the Lord, they cannot be saved and they will suffer in hell. We can see that giving food, money, or clothing is good, but, on the other hand, the gift of salvation is eternal and most precious.

Testimony

There was a sister from the United States who visited her cousin in Taiwan. When she met her cousin, she said to her, "I'm sorry I didn't bring any gifts for you. But there is a gift I would like to share with you. To me, this gift is the most precious thing in the whole world. Can I share it with you?"

Her cousin was very puzzled and wondered what this gift could be. "Tell me about this gift," she said.

"The most precious gift I have is Jesus Christ," the sister began. "If you come to know the Lord Jesus and pray to Him, He will give you everything you need. I know the Lord Jesus, and He listens to all my prayers. Whenever I'm sad and lonely or whenever I have problems, I pray to Jesus and I can experience His love for me. I found the Lord Jesus in the True Jesus Church. You can, too! He is real!"

"Really? Jesus is real?" her cousin asked.

The sister knew that her cousin had problems in the family and that she needed God. Sensing that her cousin was willing to hear more, the sister asked, "Do you want me to teach you how to pray? You can pray to Him anytime, anywhere. You can tell Jesus all your troubles and He will listen to you. You don't even have to pay any money. Jesus is right beside you. This is how I learned to pray. We begin in the name of Jesus Christ, and then we say 'Hallelujah' repeatedly. 'Hallelujah' means 'Praise the Lord.' If you pray like this, you will soon find out that God is true. And when you do experience God, will you let me know?"

After hearing this, her cousin said, "All right. I will try. Thank you for telling me about Jesus."

A few months after the sister returned to the U.S., she received a letter from her cousin in Taiwan.

"Yes!" her cousin wrote, "You were right. Your God is

an awesome God!"

Thank the Lord that afterwards, her cousin continued to go to church and she eventually received the Holy Spirit and was baptized.

- In this testimony, how did the church sister love her cousin?
- What is the most precious gift that the cousin received?

- What might have happened if the sister did not preach to her?

Because the cousin was introduced to the Lord Jesus, she was able to receive joy and peace and most importantly, eternal life.

CHECK FOR UNDERSTANDING

1. **The Holy Spirit gives us the courage, power and wisdom to preach.** True.
2. **When Peter and the eleven disciples received the Holy Spirit, they were still too afraid to tell others about Jesus.** False; they boldly went out to preach everywhere.
3. **The best way we can show love to others is to give them food, money, or clothing.** False; the best way to show love is to tell others about God.
4. **Only the adults need to preach the gospel.** False; children should also witness for Jesus.
5. **The Great Commission God has given us is to go into the world and spread the gospel.** True.
6. **When we preach the gospel, we bring good news, peace, good things, the news of salvation, and the message that God reigns.** True.
7. **The debt we owe to everyone is love.** True.
8. **People can still be saved if they do not believe in the Lord Jesus.** False; those that do not believe will be condemned.

MEMORY VERSE PRACTICE

Please reinforce the memory verse every week.
You can practice the memory verse with your students anytime during class.

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you.” (Acts 1:8a)

HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

1. True
2. False; after receiving the Holy Spirit, they boldly went out to preach.
3. True
4. C
5. C
6. A
7. Answers may vary; possible answer: make an invitation to invite people to church.
8. It is a commandment of God, and it is how we can love others.
9. Answers may vary; possible answer: my neighbor, my classmate, my family

SPIRITUAL TEACHING & LIFE APPLICATION

A. Have You Told Others about Jesus?

Instructions

1. Before class, cut out pictures of individual people from magazines or write random names on small pieces of paper.
2. In class, scatter the small pictures or pieces of paper around the room.
3. Ask for a volunteer. When you say "go," have the volunteer gather as many "people" (pictures or pieces of paper) as possible in a specified amount of time (about five seconds).
4. Count how many people the student was able to gather.
5. Ask the students if more people could be gathered if that student had help.
6. Scatter the pictures or pieces of paper around the room again, and ask the entire class to help.
7. Have the students gather as many people as possible in the same amount of time as before.
8. Count how many people everyone was able to gather.

Ask students the following questions:

- How many persons did one student preach to?
- How many persons did the whole class preach to?
- What did you learn from this activity? Yes, the more students who preach, the more people who have the opportunity to hear the gospel and be saved.

The Lord Jesus gave us the Great Commission so that we can preach to the world about Jesus and so that everyone can believe in Him and be saved. Those who do not believe in Jesus cannot be with Him in heaven. Instead, they will suffer eternally in hell. That is why we must preach the gospel of the Lord Jesus. We must tell our friends that the Lord Jesus loves them very much and that He has the power to save them from sin. Later, He will take them to heaven where they can live with Him forever.

Preaching the gospel is the best way to show our love for others. If every believer went and preached the good news to others that Jesus loves them and is able to save them, many more people would be able to hear the gospel and believe.

Have you told others about Jesus? We can begin to preach with small steps. God will reward and bless us as long as we try our best.

What can you do to preach? [Have the students brainstorm ideas.] Some ideas could be:

1. Pray daily to ask God to help us tell others about Him. Ask God to give us the courage and the proper words to preach to others.
2. Pray for the pastors and workers who preach the gospel.
3. Be a good Christian. Be friendly and help others. When people see our good behavior, they will know that we are believers of Jesus, and they may want to find out more about God.
4. Talk to our friends about God. We can share our testimonies about how God loves and helps our families and us. We may also invite our friends to come to church.
5. Pin a button on your backpack telling others that "Jesus Loves You".
6. We can give our friends or neighbor our church flier or booklet that explains how to become a Christian [teacher can show samples of these]. Put the flier or booklet in your backpack and be ready to preach when God sends someone your way.
7. Make our own invitation cards to invite people to church.

B. Preach the Word

Role-Play

In this activity, the students will be given different scenarios with which they will practice preaching the gospel.

1. Select a scenario for the students to perform.
2. Select the appropriate number of students and explain the scenario to them.
3. Have the student(s) act out what they would do in that scenario.
4. Go through enough scenarios to allow each student to participate.

Use the following examples or create your own:

Scenario 1 (three students): Your friend comes to school looking very sad. She tells you that her father is sick and can't work. Her mother is also very worried. *What would you do or say to your friend?*

Scenario 2 (two students): You see a neighbor with an armload of groceries. One of the grocery bags breaks, and the groceries fall onto the ground. *What would you do?*

Situation 3 (two students): You are playing with your friends. A child, who has just moved in next door, stands at a distance looking at you and your friends play. *What would you do?*

Situation 4 (two students): You have a good friend who lives next door. S/he is not a member of our church. You think s/he might enjoy coming to church next week. *What would you do?*

Situation 5 (two students needed): It is an evangelical service at church. Your mom's friends and their daughter/son, who are not members of the church, have come to attend. It is their first time coming to church. *What would you do or say to make them feel welcome?*

[Show and explain to students the church welcome card and prayer card. Tell our students how they can make their friends feel welcome at church. Our students should be familiar with how to pray so that they can share this information with their friends.]

Glad you could join us today. Please help us get to know you better.

Mr. Mrs. Miss Date: _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Street _____ Apt # _____

City _____ State & ZIP _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Interested in knowing more about God, Truth, Holy Spirit & Salvation?

REQUEST

Join Mailing List? (Sermon, Music, Testimonies)

Bible Study with you? At Home At Church

Best Time? Sun Mon Tue Wed Thrs Fri Sat

Prayer Request? _____

How Do I Pray?

1. Kneel down.
2. Close your eyes and concentrate.
3. Say "In the name of the Lord Jesus I pray."
4. Say "Hallelujah" again and again.
(*Hallelujah" is a Hebrew word praising God.)
5. Pray to God in your mind.
6. End with "Amen."

Testimony

Once there was a church sister who was eager to preach to her aunt. She would visit her aunt often to tell her about the Lord Jesus. The sister knew that the Spiritual Convocation was approaching. She wanted to invite her aunt to attend the evangelical service. On the evening of the evangelical service, she rushed to her aunt's house and preached the gospel to her and invited her to the church.

When the niece began preaching to her aunt, the aunt became impatient and angry. She was tired from working. She found her niece's preaching annoying, and she didn't want to hear anymore. So, she shoved her niece out of her house and slammed the door. Feeling very tired, she took a nap. When she woke up, it was already dinnertime and she felt hungry. She decided to buy something for dinner from outside. When she opened the front door, she found her niece still standing outside the door.

"Why are you still here?" the aunt asked. "I already told you that I don't want to hear any more of your

preaching. Why have you not gone home?"

The niece replied, "When you pushed me out the door, you slammed the door so quickly that my skirt got caught in the door. I tried to pull my skirt from the door, but I couldn't. I wanted to tear the skirt to free myself, but that would have ruined my skirt. I decided to wait here and pray for you until you opened the door. I asked God that if you opened the door tonight, it meant that you would be willing to listen to the gospel. Look, you have opened the door! Now, will you come with me to the service tonight?"

The aunt could not believe how persistent her niece was. She was also touched by her love. She decided to attend that evening's evangelical service with her niece. Later, the aunt believed in the Lord Jesus and received baptism.

ACTIVITY

Tell Others About Jesus

Objectives: To encourage students to preach the gospel to others.

"Jesus Loves You" Greeting Card

Ask the students to think of people to whom they could share about Jesus, such as friends, neighbors, and relatives. Next, have students make a greeting card to let the people know that Jesus loves them and to invite them to church.

Materials

- Cardstock, different colors
- Colored tissue paper
- Glue
- Markers
- Envelopes

Instructions

1. Have students fold a piece of cardstock in half so that it can fit into an envelope.
2. Have the students decorate their cards using the materials provided.
3. After the card is dry, have students write a simple message inside the card, such as "Jesus loves you and I do, too."
4. Encourage students to write their own personal message as well.
5. Once the cards are completed, insert them into the envelopes and have the students pass out/mail their cards to the person they wish to invite to church.

Remind the students that there are many people out there who have not yet come to know Jesus, so they should always take the opportunity to tell others about Jesus and invite them to church.

E1 Year 3 Book 3 Lesson 12—Evangelism: A Special Mission for Me!

Homework Assignment

Name: _____ Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Bible Truths: 1. Jesus gave us a special commission to preach the gospel.
 2. Preaching is the best way to love God and others.
 3. The Holy Spirit empowers us to preach.

Lesson Objectives: 1. To learn the importance of sharing our faith.
 2. To learn that the Holy Spirit is the key to evangelism.
 3. To learn that preaching is the greatest love we can show to others.

Bible Reading: Please put a check mark in the space when you complete the reading each day.

Prayer: Please put a check mark in the space on the days you prayed to God.

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Bible Reading							
Prayer							

Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse.

(Acts 1:8a)

What I Learned from the Bible This Week

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Homework Assignment

Understanding What You Have Learned

True and False

1. _____ The Holy Spirit gives us the courage, power, and wisdom to preach.
2. _____ When Peter and the eleven disciples received the Holy Spirit, they were still too afraid to tell others about Jesus.
3. _____ When we preach the gospel, we bring good news, peace, good things, the news of salvation, and the message that God reigns.

Multiple Choice

4. ____ : The best way we can show love to others is _____.
 - a. To give them food, money or clothing
 - b. Be their friend
 - c. To share the gospel with them
5. ____ : Who did God instruct to preach the gospel?
 - a. Adults only
 - b. Those who only speak English
 - c. Every believer, young and old
6. ____ : What is the Great Commission that God has given us?
 - a. To go into the world and preach the gospel
 - b. To go and be good students
 - c. To go into the world and enjoy ourselves

Short Answer

7. Name one way that you can preach the gospel.

8. Why do we have to preach the gospel?

9. Name one person to whom you will tell about the Lord Jesus this week.
