Why Should I Be Involved in Evangelism?

I was leaving the parking lot of a church building right here in America recently when I saw a sign, obviously meant for members of that particular church, that read: “You are now entering YOUR mission field.” That sign reminded the members of that congregation that God never intended for His church to be a parking lot where members merely sit and gather dust, but rather He intends for the church to be a launching pad from which members launch out into a world full of lost souls with God’s message of salvation. Have you considered some of the magnificent reasons to be involved in evangelism?

Because God’s word is a seed — Jesus said that the word is a seed to be planted in the hearts of men (Luke 8:11). When the pure seed of the word of God is planted and allowed to grow, it brings forth amazing fruit: a Christian! The modern-day church desperately needs to recommit itself to the Biblical notion that there is power in the word of God (Rom. 1:16). He has promised that when we plant the seed, our efforts will not be fruitless (Isa. 55:11; 1 Cor. 15:58). Are you, personally, willing to claim that promise?

Because we are beggars who have found a feast — In 2 Kings 6-7, the city of Samaria was besieged by the Syrian army, and conditions inside the city were so bad that people were literally starving to death. One evening, four lepers went out of the gates and found that the Syrian army had fled in terror (the Lord had performed a miracle), so they began to fill their starving bellies with the food the army had left behind (2 Kings 7:6-8). Suddenly they remembered the starving multitudes still in the city and uttered one of the great statements in all the Old Testament: “We are not doing right, for this is a day of good news, and we hold our peace” (2 Kings 7:9). We Christians have come to feast on the riches of God’s grace, and we are not doing right if we ignore the starving multitudes around us!

Because teaching helps us to learn — Some of our greatest occasions for learning the word of God better are found in teaching the word of God. Not only does teaching force a conscientious individual to digest the subject to be taught beforehand, but in the very process of teaching our eyes are also often opened to fresh applications of the word of God (Psalm 119:18). Remember this axiom: pools become stagnant because they have no outlets, and Christians likewise become stagnant when they do not teach! While we are to beware of teaching with a casual, flippant or prideful spirit, Scripture clearly states that we are all to teach (cf. James 3:1; Titus 2:1-4; Eph. 4:12ff). Teaching the truth is good for the soul — both our souls and the souls of those that hear us (1 Tim. 4:16).

Because it is part of our mission — The Great Commission is actually comprised of two commands: we are to make disciples, “baptizing them...” and then we are to mature disciples, “teaching them to observe whatsoever I have commanded...” (Matt. 28:18-20). Evangelism is, therefore, part of the very core of what God expects the church to be busy doing. Are we truly about our Father’s business (Luke 2:52)?

Because it is our privilege — God did not give the task of preaching the Gospel to animals or angels; He gave it to man. The word of God has been delivered, “once for all to the saints” (Jude 3), and thus it is the distinct privilege of every Christian to be involved in the greatest work in the world — teaching God’s word! One Greek word for the act of preaching, “kerusso,” carries the idea of a town crier declaring a message not his own. What a privilege to be able to serve as the King’s messengers! God honors us by giving us His message to proclaim to others, and we dishonor Him when we timidly fail to open our mouths in the face of clear opportunities to teach.