

**THIS IS A PERSONAL WORKSHEET/EVALUATION GUIDE TO BE COMPLETED  
INDIVIDUALLY AND THEN SHARED WITH YOUR CHURCH'S PASTOR  
AND/OR OUTREACH MINISTRY.**

## **B — Believing in Your Church's Evangelistic Call**

**What for me and my church defines Evangelism?** YOU must believe that you have a call to Evangelism before you can effectively Evangelize.

**What IS Your Church's Call? Each Church is UNIQUE. What is our specific God-given call to evangelism?**

Two Key Elements: —

### **Individual Identity:**

*In your own life, what has prepared you to evangelize to the people in your communities?*

1. Write out your faith journey (how God brought you to where you are) —  
What were the key points along the journey?  
Who were the key individuals involved?
2. How, if at all, does the word “evangelism” relate to your own faith journey?  
That is, how and by what individuals or groups of individuals was the “Good News” shared with you? Why did you respond to the “Good News?” Was your response natural and progressive, or was it rather sudden and definitive?
3. What does “sharing” the “Good News” look like to you? What do you believe is your individual role in “sharing” the “Good News” with others? Are there ways you are doing so which are patterned after your own experience of receiving the “Good News?” Are there ways you are doing so which are *not* patterned after your own experience? List them.

### **Corporate Identity:**

*Have you had an opportunity to sit with your Pastor and/or others in your congregation who have a heart for Reaching Your Communities? If not, study the following and share with your Pastor/Children-Family Outreach Group:*

1. What are some possible definitions of “evangelism?” Which definition(s) is/are the primary definition members and guests at your church would think of when they hear the word “evangelism?” Which of these definitions is your church most likely to embrace? Why? It might be helpful to think of some “pictures” of the church at work that display “evangelism.”

2. What are your core *values* as they relate to the idea of “evangelism?”  
How do these core values shape the way you define and practice “evangelism?”
3. How do the following often-used phrases/ideas relate to your definition of evangelism?  
In other words, does your definition of evangelism include or exclude these concepts?  
If so, how?
  - “sharing your faith”
  - “telling others about Jesus”
  - “spreading the Good News”
  - “being/getting saved”
  - “giving your life/heart to Jesus”
  - “becoming a Christian”
  - “joining/entering the Church”
  - “born again”
  - “evangelizing children”
4. What is your church’s history as it relates to “evangelism” to children and families? Has it changed over the years? If so, how? Why? What is relevant now? What is NOT relevant now?
5. Are there any ministries in your church which you would consider primarily and intentionally “evangelistic” to children and families? If so, which ones, and what about them makes them “evangelistic?”

**Discernment:**

Based on the work you’ve done above, summarize in one paragraph your church’s definition of evangelism.

**Call:**

Based on the evaluation of your personal identity and that of your church, do you believe God has a plan/desire for your future and for the future of the church that involves evangelism as you have defined it?

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**REGARDLESS OF THE PARTICULAR SITUATION A PERSON IS IN, GOD  
LOVES HIM, AND WE MUST BE AGENTS OF THAT LOVE...THE WORLD  
IS TEACHING US WHAT THE HOLY SPIRIT SHOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO  
TEACH US LONG AGO, NAMELY, THAT WE ARE LIVING IN ONE WORLDGOD'S WORLD.  
NO ONE OF US CAN BE COMPLETELY WHOLE SO LONG AS ANYONE ABOUT US IS BROKEN. ~  
FINDLEY B. EDGE—THE GREENING OF THE CHURCH**

## **U — Understanding Your Communities**

1. What do your communities 'look like'?
  - Poverty? Affluent? Middle Class?
  - Children? Young Adults? Seniors?
  - Single Parent? 2-Parent?
  - Gay Community? Drug Community?
  - What are the Communities involved in?  
Sports? Time in Parks? Movies? Videos? Nothing?
  - On and on....
  
2. Travel through your communities with 'OPEN EYES'.
  - Take some time! *What kinds of people live here? Work here? Play here?*
  - Look at the people! What does God want to do here?
  
3. What other churches are in your communities? Are those churches evangelizing? What evangelistic methods/programs do they already have in place with which you could partner?
  
4. Get to Know "YOUR NEIGHBORS"
  - Discover ways to talk with the residents of your community.
  - Find out about their experiences, what they value most about the city.
  - Ask them what the church can do to contribute to their community.
  - Encourage your church to be a part of the life of your community.
  - Lead your church on prayer walks or prayer drives through your neighborhood.  
Vary the day and time you do this. You will begin to see your community as never before.
  - Help your people to develop Jesus' eyes and ears and heart.

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LET ME BE THE FIRST TO CONFESS: THERE ARE TIMES WHEN I SUFFER FROM EVANGELISM FATIGUE. I KNOW I SHOULD CARE, I KNOW I SHOULD REACH OUT TO THEM, I KNOW I SHOULD TALK TO THEM ABOUT JESUS — BUT MY MOTIVATION METER IS HOVERING AT LOW VOLTAGE.

~LEE STROBEL

## **I — Inspiring Others and Improving Methods**

### **How to I Inspire others to come along side me?**

- Always be faithful and obedient to what God is calling YOU to do, no matter how many obstacles may come.
- Go to places you do not know & LIVE BY FAITH when you get there.
- Invest in the people you serve beside.
- Listen to God through His Word & prayer.
- Be confident & remember who you really are...a child of God.

#### **The results of this?**

**You will become PASSIONATE about Evangelizing, bringing in the Harvest!  
And, that Passion will spill over to other!**

### **How do I (my church) improve on our Outreach/Evangelistic Methods?**

By the time you have gotten to the “**I**” in B.U.I.L.D., you will understand and know what methods of Evangelism have been / are working for your church, in your communities, and what are NOT.

- Talk with Your Pastor / Share Your Heart.
- Develop STRATEGIC PLANS/GOALS for Evangelizing Your Communities.
- **Remember, Go OUTSIDE the FOUR WALLS — go to where THEY LIVE — GO!**
- Build Relationships, Friendships — show you care.
- **Don’t just plan events, plan and grow Relationships!**  
Using this method, will bring in the Harvest!

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*WHEN WE LISTEN WITH LOVE, THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL GIVE US THE OPENING, SHOWING US WHEN AND WHO TO SHARE THE SWEETNESS OF OUR STORIES. ~ ACTS 8:26-39*

## **L — Learning to Listen to Your Communities**

Developing awareness begins with curiosity about the people around us — both in our individual lives and in our shared congregational lives — **(B. U.)** As we become more PRACTICED in compassion and gratitude in our everyday lives, we will begin to SEE/RELATE TO other people differently. And, begin to notice more closely our own struggles with interacting with people who are different, who are not like us.

### **DON'T BE INTIMIDATED!**

You do not have to have ALL THE ANSWERS! Just be honest, truthful, open!

### **So, How do I Listen to My Communities?**

- Go where they are! Hang Out with Them!
- Look at Community bulletin Board and see what's going on—where you can get plugged in
- Use Strategies you learned in “**U.**” to find ways/places to LISTEN
  
- **Plan events that your community will ACTUALLY COME TO, and BE PART OF—or be involved in THEIR EVENTS:**  
This is called NEED-ORIENTED Evangelism — not PROGRAM-ORIENTED.  
When you actually look at WHAT YOUR COMMUNITY WANTS, you will begin to see a difference in your Relationship with them.
  
- **When you GO Where They Are/Live, you show them you care!  
You let them know you are Listening!**

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WE SHOULD BE HOLY PEOPLE, EAGER TO GREET OUR LORD WHEN HE RETURNS, READY AT ANY MOMENT  
FOR THE TRUMPET'S CALL, PEOPLE OF OPTIMISM, BUSY IN EVANGELISM, HANDS TO THE PLOW,  
EYES ON THE PRIZE. ~ DAVID JEREMIAH

## D — Developing Strategic Ministry Programming for Evangelizing Your Communities

You are now on the last part of **B.U.I.L.D. — D —**  
The following are questions you should be able to answer:

- What are My/My Church's Objectives?
- What do We want to accomplish?
- What are Our resources?

Once you have established these points, begin putting your strategies into place.

Strategy #1: *BECOME PART OF THE COMMUNITY: Most communities pride themselves on involvement with what's going on.* For the church to be effective in outreach, it needs to become part of the community, and be a center for fostering a spirit of community within the region. Being a good neighbor is the springboard for evangelistic efforts (John 13:35). Having a bake sale for a family going through a medical or financial crisis not only is a testimony to that family, but to the whole community.

Strategy #2: *PROGRAMS MUST BE SOCIAL and RELATIONAL. Your church's strengths is its relationships.* In many small communities, the church is both a religious and a social center. Social and fellowship events can not only be opportunities for developing the church community, but can also be evangelistic events. By having evangelistic events focused upon social interaction rather than "evangelistic preaching" the gospel can be presented in a clear manner yet in a way that does not violate the value of privacy within the small community.

Strategy #3: *FOCUS UPON PEOPLE RATHER THAN PROGRAMS. Small-church approaches to evangelism need to be people centered.* This is the pattern and strength of the small church. Super churches attract people through their winsome pulpiteer and their glamorous programs. The small church attracts through the contacts people have with its members." (Doran McCarthy, *Leading the Small Church*, p 142).

Strategy #3: *NEEDS-ORIENTED EVANGELISM.* If community is the central value to the social structure, practicality is the value marking its work ethic. What determines the value of anything, or anyone, within the small community is their contribution to the productivity, health and well being of the community. If the community does not see the church contributing to these values, they will question the value of the church. Consequently, the church should not only think of how it can contribute to the spiritual and physical well being of people within the congregation, it needs to consider how it can contribute to the physical

and spiritual well being of people within the community. The Christian life must be demonstrated practically, not just argued and preached theoretically and theologically. Proclaiming Christ to the lame involves both the gospel proclamation as well as helping the lame walk (Acts 3:6-7).

Strategy #4: QUALITY PROGRAMMING. *There is no substitute for quality in the ministry of the small church.* Scripture commands the church to perform all its duties in such a way that it reflects one's worship of God (Ephesians 6:7; Colossians 3:17). In planning evangelistic events, the church needs to make sure that the program has a high standard of performance. **Quality does not mean being the best, but doing the best with the available resources and abilities.**

Strategy #5: FOCUS UPON FAITHFULNESS RATHER THAN RESULTS. *Evangelism in the small town community is difficult, requiring diligent labor to attain fruitfulness.* If those involved in the small church focus only upon results, they will soon become discouraged and unmotivated to witness. Since producing fruit is the responsibility of God, then the focus of the church should be upon faithfulness in proclaiming the gospel to the lost (see Isaiah 6:9-13).

BONUS: Involve Your Church Kids/Teens: Children can learn to give to others by being involved in Community Outreaches.

### **EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY-BASED CHILDREN / FAMILY EVANGELISM PROGRAMMING : (Details are available)**

- Build a Partnership/Relationship with the Community/School Sports — Little League / Youth Leagues / School Sports Teams—Concessions
- After School Kids Club (ASKC)
- Neighborhood Kids Clubs
- Side-Walk Sunday School
- Dinner in the Park
- Holiday Community-wide Events:  
Egg Hunts / Halloween Alternative — Harvest Fest — Trunk-O-Treat  
Live Nativity / Free Babysitting—Parents shopping
- Kids Night Out — GLOW PARTY—Sleepover
- Summer: Drive-In Family Movie Night
- Food Pantry / Clothes Closet

- Angel Tree
- Single Mothers' Car Maintenance
- 5th Quarter
- Back-To-School Events
- Bus Ministry
- Children's Revival / Crusade
- VBS
- Fellowship Dinners / Family Movie Events
- Lego Cities.

**Remember, Child Evangelism Ministry Is Important to the Entire Family!! Many times, I have seen children share the Gospel with their parents—their entire families—leading them to a relationship with Christ! Their interaction with You may transform entire families into productive citizens in the Kingdom of God.**

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**EFFECTIVE OUTREACH PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN/FAMILIES**

1. Sponsor a school or classroom
2. Angel Food Ministry
3. Family movie night
4. Super Bowl party
5. Host a music concert
6. Block party
7. community festival
8. Halloween alternative
9. Community heroes
10. Christmas nativity tour
11. art show
12. build a labyrinth
13. free hotdog lunch
14. school supplies
15. parents' night out
16. mothers morning out
17. partner to raise money for a local cause
18. invite former members back — homecoming
19. themed worship
20. recognize special groups
21. pulpit exchange or joint worship with other congregations
22. community vbs
23. community thanksgiving service
24. thanksgiving for singles, seniors, and others
25. trunk-or-treat
26. day camps
27. multi-generational groups
28. crafting, scrapbooking, quilt-making groups
29. day trips for seniors
30. senior adult programs, lunch
31. talent show
32. church yard sale
33. blessing of the animals
34. free carwash
35. make a difference day
36. computer access
37. computer training
38. grandparents day
39. mothers day
40. fathers day
41. achievement recognition — ball teams, championships, etc
42. election day activities
43. county or state fair booth
44. homebound ministry
45. nursing home ministry
46. lock in
47. door-to-door food collection
48. christmas parties for seniors, kids, families, target groups
49. school recognition
50. volunteer recognition and thanks
51. addiction programs
52. single adult programs
53. single parent groups
54. special needs events
55. health screenings
56. diet and cooking classes
57. prayer ministry
58. open sanctuary or prayer room
59. community celebration events
60. community newsletter or bulletin board
61. newborn gifts
62. newcomer welcome baskets
63. graduate recognition
64. weddings and funerals
65. second Sunday fellowships
66. personalized invitation
67. Easter, palm Sunday invitations
68. food, clothing, and cleaning supplies pantry
69. family skate nights
70. Rain & Groceries! (Give umbrellas/church brochure to shoppers coming out of store on rainy days)