

GROWING
UP



EVANGELIST

One who shares good news, in word and deed, with those outside the family of God.

You might be an EVANGELIST if you...

- Come alive having conversations with people far from God
- Have joy and are enthusiastic about God's family growing bigger
- 'Sell' stuff (you have the engaging, unique qualities of a salesperson)
- Draw people in with engaging stories
- Connect easily (you are a relational connector)
- Have urgency about people who don't have a relationship with Jesus
- Talk a lot about the stuff you love most
- Train others to be evangelists too
- Are an exceptional recruiter

EVANGELISTS might enjoy a job or opportunities as...

- A marketing whiz looking for ways to reach people
- An achiever who is energized by growth and big goals
- A courageous leader who is not afraid of being turned down or rejected
- An innovator who finds new strategies to reach their audience
- A creative communicator who loves to find new, artistic ways to tell a message

Some key contributions you bring to the Body of Christ include...

- Lost people find God through you
- You remind the rest of the church of the Great Commission (Matthew 28:20)
- You make sure 'evangelism' doesn't get shoved down the priority list
- The church grows wider and bigger through your work

Ways you get stuck or frustrated/Traps you can fall into are...

- You can get frustrated and wonder why some people don't seem to have the same passion you do for people.
- You can emphasize proclamation (speaking of Jesus) over demonstration (showing the love of Jesus) – or vice versa.
- You can be tempted to think that you are not an evangelist because you don't pray with people to accept Jesus. You are moving people closer to Jesus all the time – not just at the moment of conversion.
- You don't really worry about integrating people into a community.
- You like recruitment and are less worried about retention.

Places in the Bible where we see this role in Jesus/others are...

- **Luke 15** –Jesus tells three stories that are all about the lost being found
- **Luke 19:1-10** –Jesus meets Zaccheus and declares his mission (again) to all: to seek and save the lost
- **Luke 4** – Jesus proclaims the good news of Isaiah 61 ('to proclaim good news to the poor, to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind to set the oppressed free.')
- **John 8** –Jesus defends and forgives the woman sentenced by the crowd
- **Mark 2** – One of many miracles where Jesus heals and forgives

Some ways you can more fully step into your kingdom role...

- Begin praying for God to either *a)* put people in your path who need to hear good news or *b)* send you to people who need to hear good news.
- Start by practicing. Join us for Spiritual Geocaching (*see the NEXT STEP below!*)
- Read the book of Luke in the Bible and notice how Jesus does evangelism and how he trains his disciples to do it.

Additional Resources (books, articles, blogs, opportunities)

- Read [The Prodigal God](#) by Tim Keller
- Read [Reimagining Evangelism](#) and [Evangelism Outside the Box](#) by Rick Richardson

Spiritual Geocaching

Learn how to bring good news
to your community through
simple spiritual geocaching.

Shibu Mathew and Joe Ratterman
Heartland Hub
Friday, September 7, 7:00-8:30 PM