

Evangelize Men to Salvation **March 2019**

The 4 E's of Men's Ministry are the cornerstones to make sure we are touching a man in every area of his walk with Christ. To make sure we are not only being involved in "ministries by men" but, we are also involved in "ministering to men." Both are important but often the "ministering to men" element is overlooked and if one is more important, "ministering to men" is the one. For when men get the spiritual part right, then they will have a longing desire to do "ministries by men."

To remind us what are the 4 E's we discussed in a previous article, I have listed them again. They are;

1. **Evangelize** Men to Salvation
2. **Establish** Men to Spiritual Maturity
3. **Equip** Men to Ministry
4. **Extend** Men on Mission

In this article let's review the first cornerstone; **Evangelize** Men to Salvation.

Sam Chan in his book, *Evangelism in a Skeptical World*, states, "The best way to understand the term evangelism is that it is our attempt to describe what happens when someone tells {the} gospel." Jesus told us in Matthew 28:19, "Go... and make disciples." Part of making disciples is telling them of the gospel and how to live as a disciple of Christ. Therefore, when we consider Chan's explanation of evangelism, when we are telling the gospel then we are evangelizing.

One of the keys to helping men become the men they were created to be is helping them understand their need for Christ. For since we are made in the image of God (Gen. 1:26), we need to have our spiritual life right to become the man God expects us to be.

When we plan events, we need to always keep in mind the opportunities to tell the gospel message. How that message is conveyed can be different depending on the venue and event. For instance, in a gathering over a meal it could be told through someone's testimony of them recognizing their need of Christ and surrendering. In a participatory event such as a golf, fishing, or other activity it could be by providing material such as a gospel tract provided in a gift bag. Or even through a devotional prior to event.

This cornerstone should be considered every time an event is being planned. NEVER assumed every man who attends a church event have a personal relationship with Christ. For many will appear to have a relationship but Jesus may one day look at them as say, "I never knew you," (Matt. 7:23).

I am reminded of a conversation I had with a man in his 70s a few years ago who told me about his wife. When he married her, he thought if anyone would be in heaven at death it would be her. She was always ministering in the church in some manner. Ten years into their marriage she woke him one night as she came to a realization of her need for Christ and she had never surrendered her life to God. He told me that night she gave her life to Christ, and even after being one who was always working in the church, he saw a change in her.

So, never assume when you have events that the men attending has accepted Christ as their savior just because he is always in church and participating in ministries. Remember Judas, all the disciples thought he was one of them because he participated in all their activities – there may be one in your midst who, though may not be a betrayer like Judas, may not be like you in Christ.

Always plan a method to present the gospel message with the men you connect.

Together in the challenge and adventure to disciple men - Mike