

Evangelism

How do we live on mission in this modern age? How do we "be" good news and not just share it then run away. Consider this journey of building real incarnational relationships within the normal limits of your life.

1 Incarnation

Be with people where you work, eat, party, play, and serve. Rather than building up the nerve to convince friends to come to a church building, share your time and bring the church as a network of relationships to them.

Reputation

Do it consistently for awhile. Share the values of the Kingdom before people even believe. Lean into the tensions and conflicts modeling a different way.

Conversation

Lean in and listen to actually engage people's stories. Come as a learner first not a teller. Do we love people before and even if they never change. Here we begin to invite people into our life rhythms and a real friendship.



Transformation

Some people begin to lean in and express mutual interest in your life. They may even explicitly express their desire to change their lives. Explicitly invite people to community rhythms that are centered around our Good Teacher. Jesus.

Pastoring

Living from the story that is most true about is takes practice and we cannot do it alone. Conversely, we get to help others do the same by leaning into three postures.

Awareness

This is the posture of presence with another person. Your job is to listen for the 1st story of glory over their life. If we are not careful, we often hear and reinforce the 2nd story that is being spoken over people's lives.

2 Curiosity

This is a posture of intentional question asking. The aim is not to solve or fix anything. This is often done in response to the 2nd story we heard or it is our own projection of brokenness. Instead, you want to ask open-ended questions to help the person see the 1st story of glory for themselves.

Kindness

This is much more than being nice. It is closer to the scriptures idea of prophecy and blessing. At times it may even be confrontational.

The goal is to speak out the 1st story over another person's life.



Prophecy is Hearing God's voice for another person or group. Paul says this gift is for strengthening, encouraging, and comfort. Below are three categories that you can think about prophecy in to make it more practical and approachable as we grow in practicing the gift of prophecy in community.

The Way (directional forward)

Words that provide insight, context, and clarity for decisions someone or a community is trying to make.

Truth (realignment back)

Calling us or a community back to who God is and who we are. Often these words are corrective by calling us back to core values and priorities.

3. & Life (blessing in the present)

These words remind us that we are seen and know by God. They secure us in our identity simply by reminding us of his intimacy. Also, they have the benefit of knitting us closer with the community that is stewarding and sharing the words.

Other Practical Tips:

- "No formulas just growing in familiarity" It's going to be unique to your relationship with God,
- Starting place: allow a space of silence when praying, submit your thoughts/imagination to God and invite the spirit to speak to you in thoughts from outside of yourself, picture / movies, impressions, feelings in your body, parables, scriptures, stories.
- Separate: Revelation || Interpretation || Application *A point where I end and the other person begins.
- No mates, dates, babies *So much emotion around mates and babies, and dates can just get weird fast.

Hearing God

We call this journaling exercise a "Trip-In." Think of a situation that you need insight on. This could be a joyful or difficult experience. If you have a hard time thinking of one ask the Lord to bring one to your mind. Now prayerfully submit yourself to God's will and invite the Father to speak about what happened.

Holy Spirit, what was going on?

- + Thoughts you were having in the moment, simple and honest
- -/+ Emotions you experienced in this situation
- -/+ Behaviours you exhibited during or afterward

2 Holy Spirit, why was this going on?

- -/+ <u>Beliefs</u> about life, God, others, and yourself
- -/+ I Am... core messages you were believing about yourself
- -/+ God Is... core messages you were believing about God

3. Listening to the Holy Spirit

- -/+ Are there any <u>pictures</u> or <u>images</u> you want to speak?
- -/+ Are there any <u>scriptures</u>, <u>stories</u>, or <u>parables</u>?
- -/+ What do you have to say to me <u>personally</u> about this situation?

Responding

Repentance be honest! focus on the false beliefs you wrote down

- + <u>Gratitude</u> what can you be grateful for from this experience
- -/+ <u>Learning</u> What is God teaching you through this?

Scripture

We try to model a holistic model of discipleship that aims at forming disciples at the deepest levels of identity. This formation is facilitated in a lot of ways, a few key ones are the Story you live in, the practices you regularly do, and the core relationships in your life. As we read Scripture we want to model and guide others to be formed on these levels as Faithful readers of the Biblical Text.

Pray - Submit to the Divinity of the Text

- Dependency on the Holy Spirit for guidance and illumination
- Foundational existential posture of The Fear of the Lord
- Always unto the The Unfailing Love of God as revealed ultimately in Jesus

2. Observe - Respect the Humanity of the Text

- Read it in multiple translations for a better sense of the words
- Place it in its literary genre and context (within the book and the canon)
- Reflect on any relevant historical or cultural context

3. Interpret - Discern the meaning of the Text

- First for the author and audience
- For you and us (modern church local and universal)
- Acknowledge potential blindspots for you personally

Embody - Live into and from the reality of the Text

- What thoughts & actions of your own does this challenge or affirm
- On a deeper level does this stir anything in you, is God inviting you to respond in some way
- Lastly how does this shape the story you are living in, the practices in your Rule of Life, and the way you relate to others