

THE ROLE OF THE EVANGELIST IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

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"And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ."
Ephesians 4:11-12.

Evangelists are God's Gift to the church:

QUALIFICATIONS OF AN EVANGELIST:

Based on my 65 years as an Evangelist:

- (1). God called man. ----- Not a chosen career but a called acceptance.
- (2). Lifetime career. ----- Be sure before you enter evangelism and stick to it.
- (3). Totally surrendered. ----- It is not a hobby but a dedicated lifestyle.
- (4). Unquestionable morals. ----- In everything an example of Godliness.
- (5). Tireless visionary.-----Without vision the grinding schedule will defeat you.
- (6). Strongly motivated.----- A stubborn doer of what is right regardless of obstacles.
- (7). Enjoy travel. ----- Be prepared to go, go, and go.
- (8). Servant's heart. ----- An evangelist must serve others including pastors.
- (9). Not greedy of lucre. -----Money will be tight. Expect to live by faith. God provides.
- (10). Multi-talented speaker.----- Fluent speaker, musical ability helps.
- (11). Lover of souls.----- The pursuit of souls must be your greatest desire.

PROBLEMS FACED BY THE EVANGELIST:

- (1). Scars from the past ----- Most churches have shot themselves in the foot.
- (2). Internal problems ----- Leadership flukes, staff inconsistencies & hurt feelings.
- (3). Worldliness ----- The epidemic of Satan's infiltration into members lives.
- (4). Too busy syndrome ----- Most have chosen to be too busy to serve God.
- (5). Indifference ----- Little conviction, small hunger for God, absence of concern.
- (6). Unconfessed sins ----- Scant concern for the penalty of unrighteousness.
- (7). Prayer and Bible neglect ----- Lack of growth, weakness and impotence.
- (8). Absence of Godly fear ----- Most more afraid of what their friends think than God.
- (9). Lack of love for Christ ----- Head knowledge but little heart love for Christ.
- (10). Little desire to serve ----- Not me, let someone else do it.
- (11). Squander of time ----- Hours for entertainment, TV and earthly things.
- (12). No Compassion for the lost ---- Too cold hearted to sow seed and reap the lost
- (13). Tragic self satisfaction ----- Grading and comparing self by others, not Christ.
- (14). Unpreparedness for eternity -----Earthly riches now, but facing heavenly drought.

Latter day apathy everywhere but NOW enter the evangelist, God's called revivalist.

THE ROLE OF THE EVANGELIST

- (1). Ambassadors for Christ ---"We are ambassadors for Christ" II Cor 5:20.
- (2) Salvage Reclaimers -----"To us the ministry of reconciliation" II Cor. 5:18.
- (3). Trouble shooter -----"Cry aloud, spare not, show their transgression" Isa. 58:1.
- (4). Peace Maker----- "Lead quiet and peaceable life, Godliness, honesty" I Tim. 2:2.
- (5). Humble Servant----- "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord" James 4:10.
- (6). Soul seeker----- "Repent, be converted, sins blotted out" Acts. 3:19.
- (7). Push for confession----- "If we confess our sin." I John 1:9.
- (8). Pastor backer-----"Worthy of double honor" I Tim 5:17.

- (9). Youth Lover----- "Remember thy creator in the days of thy youth" Ecc. 12:1.
- (10). Challenge to love----- "Love one another" John 13:34.
- (11). Raise level of loyalty--- "Forsake not the assembly" Heb. 10:25-26.
- (12). Rekindle purpose----- -"Chosen, ordained, to go and bear fruit" John 15:16.

DON'TS

- (1). Don't be demanding in financial expectations.
- (2). Don't require certain living, sleeping and eating requirements.
- (3). Don't allow someone to bend your ear with names and past wrongs.
- (4). Don't undercut the pastor in any way.
- (5). Don't choose up sides and smell the armpits of past warfare.
- (6). Don't be careless with women. Be on guard against immoral traps.
- (7). Don't embarrass, ridicule or attack anyone in a personal way.
- (8). Don't pad results or pressure for better offering

DO'S

- (1). Do give yourself with sacrificial service, doing your very best.
- (2). Do preach with simplicity, directness and God given power.
- (3). Do warn of the evils of sin, compromise, and all worldliness.
- (4). Do preach Godly standards and return to disciplined living.
- (5). Do warn of present day compromises in musical presentations.
- (6). Do shake many hands and get out with the people, showing great interest.
- (7). Do treat each meeting like it was the last one before the rapture.
- (8). Do encourage the young people to surrender all and live for God.
- (9). Do remember your return will depend on how you bless the pastor.
- (10). Do leave with thanksgiving and leave the results with God.

Chosen evangelists are given the opportunity to reach more souls than any other call of God. They will shine as the stars of Heaven and stand among the throng they pointed to Christ in their years of faithful service. To God be the glory!