

Gospel-Shaped Outreach: Living and Proclaiming Christ Daily

Sep 16, 2026

Summary

Gospel-Shaped Outreach: Living the Great Commission

Scripture References

Primary text

- Matthew 28:19-20

Other references

- Ephesians 6:18-20
- Acts 16:25-34
- Romans 12:2
- Romans 1:16
- Ezekiel 36

Overview

Evangelism is not a church program or a once-in-a-while project; it is the everyday overflow of lives that have been reshaped by the gospel. Drawing chiefly from Matthew 28, the study defines evangelism as going through life and “as you are going, make disciples who obey God's Word.” Salvation re-orders our affections, renews our minds, and turns every relationship, task, and trial into fertile soil for gospel witness. The session closed by urging prayerful alertness, intentional engagement, and love-driven faithfulness rather than number-driven results.

Context

This lesson launches the final segment of a long-running “Gospel-Shaped” series, turning now to gospel-shaped outreach. The opening hymn lyrics and remarks on Christ's resurrection set a tone of hope before the pastor announced Matthew 28 as the primary text.

Main Points

What evangelism is

- Evangelism = the Great Commission lived out:

“As you are going, make disciples who obey God's Word.”

- The Greek “evangelion” means “good news” ; proclaiming it is more than inviting someone to church or handing out tracts.
- A simple working definition: proclaim Christ so that people become lifelong followers who learn to obey everything He commanded.

“As you are going” – lifestyle, not program

- The command “go” carries the nuance “as you are going” — everyday movements count.
- Jesus opposed man-made systems that strain out gnats; He calls for a life that continually displays the gospel.
- Ties back to the creation mandate (Genesis) to be fruitful and fill the earth with God's glory.
- Salvation reverses our twisted self-orientation and brings every sphere — work, family, rest, conversation — under Christ's lordship.
- Illustration: changing how one loads the dishwasher out of love for a spouse mirrors how new affections reshape mundane choices for Christ.

“Make disciples” – become and produce scholars of God

- “Disciple” implies a committed learner — “become a scholar” and help others enroll.
- Goal is not decisions or statistics but deep-rooted followers who know and obey Scripture.
- True scholarship is transformative: renewed minds (Romans 12:2) lead to renewed talk, work, and love.

Motivation and measurement

- Love for Christ, not tallying results, fuels outreach.
- Nobody saves anyone; God alone saves (Romans 1:16). Faithfulness is our responsibility.
- Number-driven methods often create shallow converts and stifle genuine witness.

Cultivating evangelistic faithfulness

- Pray continually for boldness (Ephesians 6:18-20).
- Stay alert for openings in ordinary moments—checkout lines, sales calls, diaper changes.
- Listen for cues in conversation and steer gently to the gospel.

- Ask daily: “How should the gospel reshape how I prepare for my day?”

Example: Paul and Silas (Acts 16:25-34)

- **Story:** Beaten and jailed, they sang Psalms at midnight. An earthquake opened the doors, yet they stayed. Their worship and restraint led the jailer to ask, “What must I do to be saved?”
- Trials become platforms; the world watches how believers react in hard places.
- Trust the Shepherd in the valley of shadow rather than rushing for the exit.

Key Truths

- Evangelism is a way of life shaped by Christ's authority, not a scheduled program.
- Salvation realigns every affection, making gospel witness as natural to the maturing believer as breathing.
- Disciples are scholars of God who help others become scholars.
- Faithfulness is measured by obedience and love, not by counting converts.
- Prayer and alertness open our eyes to the white-hot harvest all around us.

Response

- Begin each morning asking, “How should the gospel reshape my plans today?”
- Pray for boldness and clarity before entering routine settings.
- Listen actively; use conversations to point to Christ.
- Welcome inconveniences as divine appointments for witness.
- Invest time in helping others study and obey Scripture.

Closing

The commission to “go and make disciples” is Christ's call on every believer's ordinary footsteps. Outreach flourishes when the gospel saturates our thinking, speaking, and doing. Rather than chasing numbers, the church is urged to pursue prayer-soaked, love-driven faithfulness that proclaims Jesus and forms obedient scholars in every corner of life.

Prayer

The group closed with a congregant's prayer, thanking God for His Word, asking for understanding, bold opportunities to speak, safety in travel, and that all be used “for Your will and for Your glory…in Jesus' name.”