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Introduction

PLAN

- ✓ Session 1 = Getting the Gospel Right
- ✓ Session 2 = Pros and Cons of Evangelism Methods
- ✓ Session 3 = Starting the Conversation and Ideas for evangelism

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Key Concepts to Start

- \checkmark Some believers more gifted than others
- ✓ Not a perfect method
- ✓ Guilt should never be the motivator
- $\checkmark \;\; \text{Our duty is to proclaim the gospel, not coerce a decision}$
- ✓ Two key issues: the message and opportunity
- ✓ Organic vs. Organized—both/and

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Wrong Ways to Proclaim the Gospel

- ✓ Seeker-friendly false gospel
- ✓ Push for a decision—the "sinner's prayer"
- ✓ Obnoxiously in a way that turns someone off
- ✓ Not proclaiming the gospel at all
- $\checkmark~$ Not factoring in discipleship when possible

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Getting the Gospel Right

Biblical Evangelism is God-Centered when it \dots

- ✓ Proclaims God's Holiness (1 John 1:5)
- ✓ Details man's sinful condition (Jer 17:9; Isa 64:6; Rom 3:10, 23)
- ✓ Declares Christ as Savior and Lord (2 Cor 5:21; 1 Cor 15:1–4)
- ✓ Calls sinners to repent and trust Christ (Isa 55:7; Luke 9:23; Acts 17:30; John 3:16–18)
- ✓ Proclaims God Himself as the great end and goal of the gospel

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Getting the Gospel Right

Biblical Evangelism is Driven by Theology

- ✓ Beware of "repackaging" the gospel
- ✓ Evangelism is not method-driven (1 Cor 2:14)
- ✓ Since the unbeliever's mind is blinded (2 Cor 4:4) the gospel is the only solution (2 Cor 4:5–6)
- ✓ The goal is not to reduce the gospel to the bare essentials. The goal
 is to be content-rich.

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Getting the Gospel Right

Biblical Evangelism is Discipleship-Oriented

- ✓ The goal is not to engineer so-called decisions but to make disciples (Matt 28:18–20; Luke 9:23)
- ✓ Emphasizes the faithful following of Christ over and above an onthe-spot decision (Luke 14:26–33)

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Final Thoughts

- ✓ It takes hard work to be clear and understandable—this may take minutes to years in a discussion with a lost person.
- ✓ Don't reduce the gospel to the smallest amount of information.
- ✓ Be God-centered
- ✓ Be Discipleship-driven
- ✓ OPTION 1: Pray for lost family members and for opportunities...take and give away 3 – 25 GBC gospel tracts
- ✓ OPTION 2: Have 3 conversations with one or more person(s) whom you are not sure as to his/her salvation. Write a 1-page summary of your interactions.

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