Evangelism Course Contents

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Evangelism Course

Introduction

"Then Jesus came and spoke to them saying, all authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the ends of the earth." Matthew 28:18-20

The great commission of our Lord is to go and make disciples of all nations by teaching them the commandments of Jesus.

Before anyone can become a disciple they must first be born-again (John 3:3; 1 Peter 1:22-23).

The purpose of this course is to equip every believer with the scriptural as well as practical knowledge that they will require to share the gospel and lead a soul to salvation by the enabling of the Holy Spirit.

On this course you will not only learn how to share the gospel but also how to answer those who are in the cults, New Age as well as those from other religions. In addition you will learn how to pray effectively for new converts and if need be how to minister deliverance.

1. Sharing the Gospel

Preparation

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and always be ready to give a defence to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you with meekness and fear. 1 Peter 3:15

Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. 2 Timothy 4:2

Anyone who desires to share their faith with another must first have sanctified the Lord in their hearts. What does Peter mean by this? We are called to be witnesses unto Jesus (Acts 1:8 KJV) i.e. not just to share the gospel message but to be examples so that those you witness to can see Jesus in your life.

We are called to be epistles or letters that speak of what Jesus has done in our lives (2 Corinthians 3:2). Our lives and testimony must match the gospel we preach.

Importance of Prayer

In order to be effective as a soul winner it is imperative that you have a consistent prayer life and that you spend time building up your faith through the study of the word and fellowship.

It is a fact that we cannot save anyone. Salvation is of God (**John 6:44-45**) and no one be saved unless he is drawn to repentance by the Father through the Holy Spirit (**John 16:8**; **Romans 2:4**).

We must pray for those whom we are going to witness to so that the Spirit might draw them to repentance.

Remember that there is a war raging for the souls of the unsaved. We must fight against the spiritual strongholds that cause people to reject the gospel through the deception of the enemy (2 Corinthians 10:3-5) through prayer.

There are many courses available that try to teach Christians how to share the gospel. Although scripturally sound in terms of doctrine they almost always are bound to a particular format in presenting the gospel. These formats often restrict the Holy Spirit from moving in the heart of the person being witnessed to because they are rigid and inflexible in their presentation. It is essential to remember that it is the work of the Spirit to convict and then save those who respond to His moving upon them. The gospel must be presented simply yet powerfully by the Holy Spirits anointing.

When studying how the early Christians presented the Gospel from the book of Acts, we observe that they followed no set pattern. The only exception was that to the Jews they would begin with the Old Testament but with the Gentiles they began their witness with Jesus.

On this course you will learn what must be shared as well as what must be emphasised when presenting the gospel.

Ascertaining if a Soul is Born-again

How can we know if someone is born again? There are only three ways we can know. Firstly, by their fruit (Matthew 7:15-20; Romans 7:4; Galatians 5:22-23). Those who readily confess Jesus as their Lord and Saviour (NB 1 Corinthians 12:3) and exhibit the fruits of repentance are saved. Secondly, by the witness of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:10). The Spirit will reveal whether a person is truly born-again in your spirit.

Thirdly, by asking them. There are two questions that you can ask that will help you determine if someone whom you do not know, are born again.

The first question is;

If you were to die right now would you go to heaven?

A person who is born again will confidently answer, yes. The Bible teaches us that we can be assured of our salvation. *These things I*

Notes:-

have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that Notes:you may know that you have eternal life, ... 1 John 5:13 However, there will be those who will also answer yes but are not born again, therefore it is necessary to ascertain what they believe the criteria for entry into heaven is. You must then ask them the next auestion; If God were to ask you why He should let you into heaven what would vou answer? The born again believer will immediately respond that they have surrendered their lives to the Lordship of Jesus through repentance and faith in the work of the cross. If they say that they have said the sinners prayer, chances are they are not born again. Remember, the sinners prayer does not save us. We will take a deeper look at this later in the course. If they make reference to good works or anything but faith alone in Jesus then you can be assured they are not Christians. Presenting the gospel The word gospel is translated from the Greek "euaggelion" (pronounced - yoo-ang-ghel'-ee-on) meaning a good message. The gospel is the good message of God's love for mankind. When presenting the gospel the love of God must be explained together with the consequences of rejecting that love. 1. Begin with God Himself. Unless people understand the full nature of God they will not realize that they will have to answer to His wrath and judgement. It is necessary to explain that God is love and wants all to be saved but at the same time emphasis that He is a God of wrath that hates sin and cannot let it go unpunished. God is love - 1 John 4:8; He loves all men • For there is no partiality with God – Romans 2:11; God does not reject anyone. ...Not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance – 2 Peter 3:9; Salvation is for all ...merciful and gracious, longsuffering and abounding in goodness and truth. - Exodus 34:6 But He is also... ...a jealous God – Exodus 34:14; He wants our love And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity - Isaiah 13:11; He will punish those who sin and rebel against His Word and His love. 2. Man and Sin Man has been created in the image of God therefore he is an eternal being. He will spend eternity either with God or if he

rejects Christ, in hell for eternity. This must be explained. Secondly, if a person does not understand that they are a sinner then they will not see the necessity for a Saviour. The person being witnessed to must be told that their sin has separated them from God.

Then God said, Let us make man in Our image,

according to Our likeness...- Genesis 1:26 Our spirit is made from the same substance as God's thereby making us eternal beings.

- And the Lord God called to Adam, where are you?
 - Genesis 3:9; Sin separated man from God
- For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God
 Romans 3:23
- But we are all like an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags Isaiah 64:6;
 Our good works are not accepted by God. If we have sinned only once in our lives we are still guilty before God of that one sin. We cannot pay the price required by God for our own sins
- No one is good but One, that is God Luke 18:19
- The wages of sin is death Romans 6:23; God must punish our sin. We are all deserving of hell.

3. Jesus our Saviour

The gospel message hinges on Christ our Saviour. It must be explained that Jesus had to be born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1:30-35) free from the sin nature that is passed down from Adam through the seed of the male. Because He was sinless and perfectly followed God's Law, He alone qualified as a sacrifice for mankind's sin.

- ... The Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all Isaiah 53:6
- For He (God the Father) made Him (Jesus) who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him – 2 Corinthians 5:21
- In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace Ephesians 1:7

4. Repentance

Many people are willing to accept the gospel message but do not come under conviction of their sins before God. They may understand that they are sinners but have not been moved to repentance by the Holy Spirit. If the person that you witness to is not under conviction of sin they are just not able to repent. You must pray that the Lord move them to Godly sorrow and repentance. Asking Christ to be their Lord and Saviour without repentance will only lead to a premature spiritual birth at best.

- For godly sorrow produces repentance to salvation...
 - -2 Corinthians 7:10
- ...not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance – Romans 2:4
- ...Repent and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ... - Acts 2:38
- Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out... - Acts 3:19
- The Lord is...not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance – 2 Peter 3:9

5. Explain the Cost of Salvation

If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes and his own life also, he canno be My disciple. And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be my disciple. – Luke 14:26-27

We live in a time of "cheap grace". People are told to except Jesus as their Saviour but not as Lord. Jesus wants absolute Lordship of our lives and will not share us with the world. When witnessing, it is imperative that you explain the full cost of serving the Lord. Never use the gospel message as a promise of earthly riches and a life free from trials, this is untrue.

- I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live but Christ lives in me...- Galatians 2:20
- And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires - Galatians 5:24

6. Faith

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God not of works, lest anyone should boast.

- Ephesians 2:8-9

God gives faith for salvation. Without faith in the gospel message no one can be saved. If an individual is not convinced that there is a God or that Jesus is the only way to the Father they cannot be saved.

Do not try to lead someone to the Lord in prayer if they are in unbelief Nothing will happen and they will say that they tried Jesus but it made no change in their life.

Only continue if you see that God has begun to touch their lives and that they are receptive to the Spirit leading them to repentance.

7. Leading a Soul in Praying for salvation

There is no set prayer when leading someone to salvation. The bible teaches that we must believe on Jesus for salvation (John 6:47). When Peter preached to the household of Cornelius, they were all saved without Peter praying for them (Acts 10:43-48). There will be times when you might not have to pray for an individuals salvation because the Holy Spirit saves them whilst you are still sharing the gospel. Remember salvation is a work of the Spirit (John 3:3-6).

Apart from the above, when leading an individual in prayer it is important **for them** to,

- a. Repent of their sinfulness
- b. Forgive everyone that has sinned against them or else God will not forgive them (Mark 11:25-26; Matthew 6:14-15)
- c. Be willing to surrender all to Jesus and make Him the Lord of all their life.
- d. Ask Jesus to be Lord and Saviour of their life.

Summary

Use the points covered in above in presenting the gospel but remember not to be rigid in your presentation. Be sensitive to the Holy Spirits leading because He knows what the other person needs to know. Never compromise the gospel message it is the power of God to salvation (Romans 1:14)

Homework

Go over the key points learned and be ready to present the gospel to someone in the class next week as part of your practical training.

Gospel Outline

- Begin with the nature of God
- Man and Sin
- Jesus our Saviour
- Repentance
- The Cost of Salvation
- Faith
- Pray for their Salvation

2. Sharing the Gospel to those in the Cults

A cult can be defined as quasi-religious system that devotes itself to the teaching of an individual rather than that of the Bible. It then can be said that any form of belief that does not acknowledge the Triune God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) and salvation by faith in Jesus alone, is a cult.

The chart that you received with these notes outlines the beliefs and errors of the most common cults that you will come across.

For the purpose of this course, we will only look at three of the most common errors that cults teach with regards to God, Jesus and Salvation and how to contradict these errors from Scripture.

The Trinity

"Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son?"

1 John 2:22

As many of the cults do not regard Jesus as equal with God, you can use Scripture prove His Deity. Below are two examples that uou can use to Biblically prove the plurality of God.

Abraham and God

Then the Lord (Yehovah) appeared to him by the terebinth trees of Mamre, as he was sitting in the tent door in the heat of the day. So he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing by him; and when he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them, and bowed himself to the ground, and said, "My Lord (Adonay), if I have now found favor in Your sight, do not pass on by Your servant. "Please let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree.

"And I will bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh your hearts. After that you may pass by, inasmuch as you have come to your servant." They said, "Do as you have said." So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah and said, "Quickly, make ready three measures of fine meal; knead it and make cakes." And Abraham ran to the herd, took a tender and good calf, gave it to a young man, and he hastened to prepare it. So he took butter and milk and the calf which he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree as they ate. (Genesis 18:1-8)

When Yehovah (Lord) appears to Abraham, Abraham calls Him Adonay (Lord/Master). Abraham could not possibly call Him Jehovah because God had not yet revealed that Name to man until the time of Moses, *And God spoke to Moses and said to him: "I am the Lord* (Yehovah) *"I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as God* (El) *Almighty* (Shadday), *but by My name Lord* (Yehovah) *I was not known to them.* (Exodus 6:2-3).

Abraham addresses the Lord by the only name that he knows Him by. Abraham invites Jehovah to eat and rest as his guest which was typical of the custom of his day. Abraham was fully aware that one of the three men that were before him was God because he had used the

word Adonay which is only ever used as a proper name in Scripture for God. Jehovah God eats and remains to fellowship with Abraham whilst the other two men, who the bible later describes as angels (Genesis 19:1), depart to Sodom (Genesis 18:16-33).

Abraham remains speaking to Jehovah and intercedes for the city of Sodom until Jehovah departs.

After the angels lead Lot out of Sodom the scriptures teach, *Then the Lord* (Jehovah) *rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah, from the Lord* (Jehovah) *out of the heavens* (Genesis 19:24). Notice that the angels had warned Lot that Jehovah would destroy the city (Genesis 19:12-13) although they do add that they would participate in the destruction. However, when the bible records the destruction it says that Jehovah God was raining fire and brimstone on Sodom and Gomorrah by directing Jehovah who was in heaven. In other words, two beings, both called Jehovah are interacting to destroy the two cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Isaiah's Prophecy of Messiah

"Listen to Me, O Jacob, And Israel, My called: I am He, I am the First, I am also the Last. Indeed My hand has laid the foundation of the earth, and My right hand has stretched out the heavens; When I call to them, They stand up together..."Come near to Me, hear this: I have not spoken in secret from the beginning; From the time that it was, I was there. And now the Lord (Adonay) God (Yehovih – form of Yehovah) and His Spirit Have sent Me." Thus says the Lord (Yehovah) your Redeemer, The Holy One of Israel: "I am the Lord (Yehovah) your God (Elohiym), Who teaches you to profit, Who leads you by the way you should go. (Isaiah 48:12-17)

In this passage we can identify the Lord Jesus as the narrator simply by the phrases He uses to identify Himself. He begins by saying that He is *the First and the Last*. In Revelation 22:13, it is Jesus who says of Himself that He is *the Alpha and the Omega the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last* (Revelation 2:8 and Revelation 22:13).

He then says that his hand has laid the foundation of the earth and My right hand has stretched out the heavens. We know from scripture that it is Jesus who is the Creator, all things were made through Him and without Him nothing was made that was made (John 1:3).

Then in verse sixteen He says that from the beginning, from the time that it was, I was there. The gospel of John says, in the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God (John1:1-2). We know that the Word is Jesus who was with the Father in the beginning. The prophet Micah verifies that the Messiah Jesus is eternal like the Father. But you Bethlehem, Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be ruler of Israel, Whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting (Micah 5:2).

At the end of verse sixteen Jesus then says, and now the Lord (Adonay) God (Yehovih – another form of the word Yehovah) and His Spirit Have sent Me."

Jesus says that He had been sent by the *Adonay Yehovih* – the Father and by His Spirit referring to the Holy Spirit. Clearly we can see all three persons of the Trinity together, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Contained in this one sentence is the mystery of the Trinity revealed in the Old Testament. This one sentence clearly illustrates how the Trinity work together as each member of the Deity performs His specific function in unity with the others. As with 1 John 5:7 (For there are three who bear witness in heaven: the Father the Word and the Holy Spirit and these three are one) the Old Testament bears witness that God is indeed three yet God is one.	Notes :-
In the last verse Jesus, the Lord our Redeemer say, <i>Thus says the Lord</i> (Yehovah) <i>your Redeemer, The Holy One of Israel: "I am the Lord</i> (Yehovah) <i>your God</i> (Elohiym)*, <i>Who teaches you to profit, Who leads you by the way you should go</i> (v17). Note the expression translated literally as <i>I am Jehovah your Gods</i> *. Jesus is Jehovah our Elohiym (Gods plural). In other words, Jesus is the full expression and representation of the Trinity. Even though they are individuals yet their full expression can be found in Jesus. This is exactly what the New Testament teachers, <i>For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead in bodily form</i> (Colossians 2:9).	
The above are just some examples that you can use to prove the Trinity and the Deity of Jesus. Other Scriptures that you can use are (Isaiah 9:6; John 1: 1-4 & 14; John 5:18; Colossians 1:15-18; Colossians 2:9; Philippians 2:5-6; Hebrews 1:1-3)	
Salvation All the cults reject salvation by grace alone. Some might agree with the work of the Cross but then add additional requirements for salvation. Below are a few Scriptures that teach that salvation is by faith in God's grace through Jesus alone	
"But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealedbeing justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." Romans 3:21-24	
"Therefore, having being justified by faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Romans 5:1	
"Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ" Galatians 2:16	
"For by grace you have been saved through faith and that not of yourselves, it is a gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast." Ephesians 2:8-9	
"For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." 2 Corinthians 5:21	
"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16	

Heaven & Hell Notes:-Most of the cults do not believe in a place of eternal punishment. They believe that those who do not obey their understanding of God will simply cease to exist once they die. But the Scriptures teach differently. Here are some examples of what Scripture says about hell. "But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth." Matthew 8:12 "And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth." **Matthew 13:50** "Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ve cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.' Matthew25:41 "In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;" 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9 "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." Revelation 20:15 "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death." **Revelation 21:8 Ancestral Worship** Africa is a continent plagued by ancestral worship. When early missionaries came to Africa, the gospel was embraced but ancestral worship was then incorporated into their new faith. Follows of the ZCC and Shembe are steeped into this form of worship which calls up the spirits of the ancestors to heal and deliver from evil spirits. This form of worship is forbidden in Scripture because the spirits that are called up are always demonic. The Bible teaches that once we die we go either to heaven or to hell (Hebrews 9:27) and our spirits do not have influence on the earth. Here are some Scriptures that speak against ancestral worship. "Give no regard to mediums and familiar spirits, do not seek after them to be defiled by them, I am the Lord your God." Leviticus 19:31 "And the person who turns after mediums and familiar spirits... I will set My face against that person and cut him off from his people." Leviticus 20:6 "A man also or a woman that has a familiar spirit, or who has a

Leviticus 20:27

familiar spirit shall surely be put to death: they shall stone them with

stones; their blood shall be upon them."

3. Ministering Deliverance

The Difference Between Demonic Possession and Oppression

From time to time you will come across people who are either demonically possessed or demonically oppressed. What is the difference?

Demonic Oppression

Demonic Oppression is the state in which a person is being severely attacked by demons and is unable to break free from their influence. The root cause of this will always be as a result of one of two reasons. Firstly, unrepentant, habitual sin for example, unforgiveness, pornography, bitterness etc.

Secondly, by not resisting and standing against an attack of the enemy. For example, thoughts of depression and anxiety come to a person and they do not rebuke these and go to the Lord in prayer. These thoughts then increase in intensity and the person finds it more and more difficult to break free of them.

Demonic Possession

Unlike oppression, demonic possession is when a person's soul, i.e. their mind and will, are completely under the influence of a demonic spirit or spirits. The nature of the demon is often seen in their unrestrained behavior.

A demon cannot simply enter a person; they must have a legal right to take possession. Doors that will give them this right are,

- 1. Unforgiveness (Matthew 18:34-35)
- 2. Involvement in the occult (Acts 16:16)
- 3. Envy and Self-seeking (any habitual sin of the carnal nature like pornography, drunkenness, lying etc) (**James 3:16**)

The Believers Authority over Demons

"Behold, I give you authority to trample on serpents and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy and nothing shall by any means hurt you."

Luke 10:19

"And these signs will follow those who believe, in my Name they will cast out demons..."

Mark 16:17

It is imperative for the believer to know that he or she has been given authority by Jesus over every demonic spirit and they cannot harm them at all. Satan's greatest weapon against the believer is to intimidate them into believing that they do not have this authority. Remember, he is the father of lies and is unable to speak the truth (John 8:44). Never be intimidated by him because "greater is He who is in you than he (the devil) who is in the world." (1 John 4:4).

Demons are terrified of the Spirit of Christ in you, never be afraid of them. Read **Matthew 8:28-30**

How Do You Cast Out a Demon

1. Before you even address the demon to cast it out, the persor that you are ministering to must repent of the sin or sins that gave the demons a legal right to possess or oppress them. If

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Notes:-

- they will not do this then do not even attempt to cast out the spirit, it will not leave.
- 2. Mark 1:23-26 & 34. Never allow the demon to speak, if it tries and it often will, command it to be silent in Jesus Name.
- 3. Always remember that the demon is subject to Jesus (Matthew 28:18; Philippians 2:9-11) and not you. Command the demon to leave the person in Jesus Name. Speak the command in faith and with authority. There is no need to scream and shout, just speak with authority.
- 4. Do not be afraid of demonic manifestations whilst casting out the spirit, they will not hurt you. Remember your God given authority.
- 5. The easiest way to know if the demon has left is to ask the person how they feel. But the best way to know is by the discernment that the Holy Spirit gives.
- 6. Once the demon is out, the person must accept Jesus as Lord and Saviour and commit to serving Him otherwise the demons will come back with others worse than themselves (Matthew 12:43-45)

Establishing Your Spiritual Authority

Read Acts 19:11-16 and Matthew 17:14-21

Although we have authority to cast out demons, we must establish that authority through prayer and fasting. If you do not spend time in pray and fast from time to time, you will not be able to exercise authority over certain demons.
