

Evangelism Class #6 - Outline

7 Ways to move Jesus from Stranger to Savior:

1. Heavy Love and Mercy
2. Interested Conversation
3. Consistency
4. Listening
5. Authenticity
6. Service
7. Sacrifice

Authentic - genuine, real, without pretense or show.

- **Matthew 23:14** - Pharisees did everything “for a pretense.” All to cover up sin.

3 Ways to be Authentic in Evangelism:

1. Be Yourself

- **1 Corinthians 2:1-3** - Okay being himself; didn't need to impress them with fancy speech.
- **Psalms 139:13-16** - We're all unique! Different personalities/abilities given to us by God!
 - **Problem:** Sometimes we think we need to be someone else to be effective at evangelism.
 - “Get out of comfort zone” = take risks, be willing to talk about what's hard.
 - “Get out of comfort zone” does **NOT** = change your personality/be someone you're not.
 - **1 Samuel 17:37-40** - Changing who we are HURTS our effectiveness.
 - God can use who we are and what we have in His service!
 - **Point:** Get out of comfort zone by taking risks. Stay IN your comfort zone by being you!
 - **Forced:** Forcing ourselves to say hard things. That's natural. (boldness)
 - **Fake:** Saying/doing things that don't match our personality at all. (inauthentic)
 - **Extroverts (Solar Panels):** gain energy from other people, prefer big groups, think quickly on the spot, like to share thoughts out loud, prefer more friends, prefer talking rather over writing, prefer to multi-task.
 - **Introverts (Rechargeable batteries):** people drain their energy so they reach inward to re-charge (quiet time is crucial), prefer small groups, think best when alone, very deep thinkers, prefer fewer friends but deeper relationships, prefer writing to talking, tend to focus on one thing at a time.

2. Share your Flaws

- **1 Timothy 1:12-16** - Ashamed and didn't brag about his past, but not afraid to share.
 - **Problem:** Sometimes we hide our flaws so people will think more highly of God.
 - **Truth:** Hypocrisy shames God, not authenticity. Authenticity highlights God's mercy.
 - People need to see us as regular people, saved by grace and trying to live better.
 - 1) Share your past 2) Apologize when you sin/make mistakes 3) Share present struggles 4) Don't be afraid to say, “I don't know the answer to that.”
 - **Benefits:** 1) Stronger relationships 2) Shows people God's grace is available for all.

3. Let People In

- **1 Thessalonians 2:7-8** - Paul shared both the gospel and his soul with them.
 - Don't put walls up and isolate. Disclose yourself to others. Let them see your past, your fears, flaws, hurts, dreams, and emotions.
- **John 10:35** - “Jesus wept.” Let people see you, and they'll see Jesus, and then they'll let you and Jesus see them.