

SERMON Acts 6:8-7:60

Godly Character and Gospel Evangelism

Point 1. The Character of the Messenger

v3 He was **full** of the Holy Spirit.

v3 He was **full** of wisdom.

v5 He was **full** of faith.

v8 He was **full** of power.

v8 He was **full** of the grace of God,

v7:2 He was **gracious**.

v60 He was **full** of compassion.

The starting point of evangelism is the character of the messenger, by which Godly character produces a credible witness.

Think WHO , not HOW.

POINT 2. The Content of the Message

a.) God is not tied to any physical and geographical location.

Heb 11:3

He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature...

b.) God's appointed leaders have always been rejected.

The simple content of the gospel message we share-

1. God is holy,
2. We are sinners and we have sinned against God.
3. But God demonstrated his love that while we were sinners,
4. God sent us Jesus – he received the punishment we deserved.
5. And Christ rose victorious over sin and death that we might be accepted by God.
6. And we receive this gift of salvation by faith.

Point 3. The Continuing Work of the Messiah

Discussion and Application

- 1) Share an evangelism experience you have had sharing your faith.
 - a. methods, techniques, tips and questions you used.
- 2) What is your greatest fear in sharing your faith?
- 3) How was Stephen Christlike in His character?
- 4) Why is character so important in sharing your faith?
- 5) We often talk about '5 finger evangelism' → 5 people we know God has crossed our paths with to invest in. Who are your 5 people and what have you done recently?
- 6) How do you share the contents of the gospel... Romans Road? God/Man/Jesus/Response?
- 7) How does the continuing work of the Savior give us confidence in our outreach efforts?
- 8) Some practical to ask yourself in your outreach:
 - a. Do we view people as projects or track recipients or a gospel duty-
or-
do we genuinely love them, are compassionate with them, have a genuine interest in them and are willing to invest in them?
 - b. Do you see people as big and fear their rejection of you
or-
do you view God as big and is eager to use you, and WHO you are in Christ?
 - c. Are you argumentative and want to win debates,
or-
are you gentle, engaging with questions, and a listener?
 - d. Is there self-righteousness about unbelievers lives and habits....?
(Self-righteousness sounds like this - "I would never do that" or, "How can they do such a thing"?)
or-
Do you approach them with a genuine humility- knowing that you're just as capable of doing those things, or in fact used to do those things as well but by the grace of God, you're in process and you're being changed.
 - e. Do you do evangelism so that you can tell others about it and impress others with your methods and techniques, and your questions and your style,
or -
is your biblical motivation one that is full of grace and motivated to please God in sharing this incredibly good news?