

Sneaky Evangelism

I. Introduction: Recently a man names Tom Montgomery called me. He claimed he had addresses of people interested in Bible Studies in El Paso. I was so excited to get any information on people that could even remotely be interested in the Gospel. After our conversation he emailed me a list of addresses and recommendations on what I should do to reach them. He didn't think going to them in person was a good idea. Instead, he wanted me to mail multiple mailings to the addresses. He recommended that I do this: "Zoom meetings are going on everywhere with most denominational churches, so my recommendation is to put forward in your mailing is that if your church is conducting weekly zoom Bible study meetings, you would like to be with them online and come to their zoom meeting to study the Bible." So, he thinks the way to reach the lost is to be dishonest and infiltrate a denominational group. Things like this are the depths of what people are doing to reach the lost in times of lacking interest in the Gospel. *His list was not accurate. I went to many homes on that list. None of them were interested in Bible studies at all. Most were not "religious" in any way and not interested in the Scriptures at all.

A. We know that few are going to be saved (**Matthew 7:13-14, Luke 13:23-24, and Luke 18:8**).

1. Those who care about souls are troubled with anyone being lost (**Psalms 119:136, Psalms 119:158, and Romans 9:1-3**).
2. We can look around and feel like the faithful in the past felt at times (**Psalms 14:1-3; cf. Romans 3:11-12**).
3. We have to remind ourselves that, even if few (**I Peter 3:20-21**), there is always some that desire to please God (**Romans 11:1-5; cf. I Kings 19:1-18**).

B. The difficulty in finding the faithful is not a new problem (**Proverbs 20:6 and Jeremiah 5:1-2**).

1. God had times where it was difficult to find a man to keep Him from destroying the land (**Ezekiel 22:23-30**).
2. Think about how Moses must have felt when he was alone (**Psalms 106:23; cf. Exodus 32:1-35**).
3. When you realize how hard it is to find the few, you want so desperately to reach the lost. You start to try and figure out "HOW??" That is when trouble comes about (**Proverbs 14:12**).

II. Body: Not Handling The Word Deceitfully (**II Corinthians 4:1-2**).

A. What converts (**Psalms 19:7-11, Romans 1:14-17, and James 1:21-25**)?

1. When people wanted to follow Jesus for reasons other than the truth, how did He react and what was the result of His reactions (**John 6:1-60**)?
2. If we are not using the Gospel, the only other authorized tool of teaching the Gospel is living it and being an example to be followed (**Proverbs 4:18, Matthew 5:14-16, Philippians 2:14-16, Titus 2:7-8, and I Peter 3:1-4**).

- B. We cannot be sneaky. That is the tactic of false teachers (**Matthew 7:15-20**, **Ephesians 4:14**, **II Peter 2:1-3**, **II Peter 2:18-19**, and **Jude 1:3-4**).
1. We are supposed to be honest (**Romans 12:17** and **I Peter 2:12**).
 2. We are told to speak truth to our neighbors (**Ephesians 4:25**).
 3. Think about this: “*He that speaketh truth sheweth forth righteousness: but a false witness deceit*” (**Proverbs 12:17**; cf. **Proverbs 19:5**).
- C. We cannot even think the messenger has to be special (**I Corinthians 2:1-5**).
1. Having a faithful messenger is of great importance (**Acts 8:30-39**, **Romans 10:14-17**, and **Titus 1:1-3**).
 2. But, the messenger cannot stand in front of or in place of the message (**I Corinthians 4:1-6**).

III. Conclusion: The word of God works when the seekers genuinely seek Him and desire to change (**Isaiah 55:1-11**).