

Question-

As a lay person, how can we spread the Gospel to others?

There are many avenues to spreading the gospel for a lay person.

Things to Consider

- ❖ The **environment** you find yourself
- ❖ The **pastoral** (spiritual/emotional/ physical) needs of the people around you
- ❖ The **interest** you have
- ❖ Your **gifts/ talents** (spiritually, emotionally, physically)
- ❖ What you are **capable** of giving pastorally (spiritually/emotionally, physically)

Be SMART about it

An Approach that is..

Specific,

Measurable,

Attainable,

Relevant,

Time-based

will significantly impact the goal of any evangelism.

S

Specific



Who, what,
where, when,
why

M

Measured



You can't
improve what
you don't
measure

A

Achievable



Challenging but
not impossible

R

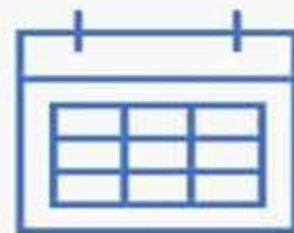
Relevant



Closely
connected to
the objective

T

Timed



A completion
date holds you
accountable

GOALS

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ASK FOR PERMISSION

Seeking permission before delving into religious discussions is a mark of respect and consideration.

It acknowledges the individual's readiness to engage in such conversations.

Asking for permission also ensures they feel comfortable and ready to explore the gospel.

This respectful approach lays a solid foundation for sharing the gospel in a manner that is considerate of the individual's personal boundaries.

BUILD TRUST

- Building trust is the cornerstone of effective communication.

When it comes to spreading the gospel, it's essential to **establish a rapport with the individual.**

- Get to **know them**, engage with them in meaningful conversations, show empathy towards their situations, and genuinely care for their needs.
- Demonstrating understanding and compassion not only builds trust but also creates an open gateway to sharing the gospel.
- Someone needs to trust us before considering openness to us, having this trust in place makes for a great space to be open about the Christian faith.

MEET NEEDS

Today many yearn to be heard.

Listen ! Listen !! Listen!! There is power in listening.

In personal interactions, attentive listening can be life-changing, laying a foundation for trust.

It will also allow us to stop and hear what challenges, problems or issues people are facing and provide an opportunity for us to address those needs in the lives of individuals.

This act of meeting needs often leads to deeper discussions, potentially creating a conducive environment for evangelistic conversations.

In broader ministry contexts, addressing the congregation's collective needs fosters a sense of belonging, deepening the bond between ministry leaders and members.

This communal care not only enhances receptivity to spiritual teachings but also amplifies the ministry's impact, as members are inspired to extend this care outward.

CREATE RECIPROCITY

Reciprocity is about mutual exchange and understanding.

Be Open, You are not “a fixer”

The Law of Reciprocity suggests that when someone generously gives to another, the recipient often feels an innate, strong urge to give back to the giver.

Attending to an individual's needs means they're more likely to be receptive to what you have to share. **This typically elicits a desire within them to reciprocate/ respond.**

It creates a platform of mutual respect and openness, which is crucial in pastoral work/ evangelism.

This step reinforces the notion that evangelism is not merely about preaching (in words and actions) but about creating a two-way “gospel highway” (interaction).

CREATE COGNITIVE DISSONANCE

when dealing with none believers

Respectfully Provoking thought and self-reflection.

By introducing ideas that might challenge their existing beliefs in a respectful manner, you pave the way for meaningful discussions about the gospel.

This step encourages individuals to explore the gospel as a means to fulfill their spiritual needs, question existing and even possibly conflicting beliefs allowing deeper understanding and connection to the gospel message being shared.

Some Suggestions

- ❖ Visit hospitals, nursing homes
- ❖ Prison ministry
- ❖ Visit and spend time with sick/elderly in their homes, helping with their grocery shopping, gardening, kitchen tasks, etc.
- ❖ Teach catechism, adult formation classes, pre-cana
- ❖ Supporting missions/ ministries
- ❖ Prayer