



## **How To Have Beautiful Feet** **Lessons On Evangelism From The Early Church**

### *Icebreaker:*

When's a time you heard unexpected good news which just about made you jump for joy?

### *The Study:*

"You will be my witnesses," Jesus said right before he returned to the Father. The birth of the Church was fueled by the fires of evangelism, and God's kingdom continues to grow today as God's people share their hope in Christ with others. This study looks at how the first Christians practice evangelism. It came down to two major activities which they engaged in over and over, then wash-rinse-repeat.



### **First, they prayed.** Read Acts 1:1-10.

1. Put yourself in the sandals of the disciples right now. What would you be feeling after listening to Jesus, then watching him up and go (literally)? What would you be thinking about the idea that Jesus expected you to continue his work on a global scale?

2. What's comforting about the fact that he told them to first wait until the Father sent the Holy Spirit upon them?

3. Read Acts 1:12-14. What was the first thing the disciples did upon returning to Jerusalem? How do you feel to know that before God asks you to go out there and talk to others about him, that he wants you to come and talk to him about it first?

4. How important was prayer to the early Church? Read the following Scriptures, then share any observations you have.

*Acts 2:42 \* Acts 3:1 \* Acts 4:23,31 \* 6:1-6 \* 10:9 \*  
12:12 \* 13:1-3 \* 14:23 \* 16:13,16,25*

5. When it comes to sharing our faith with others, what are some things we should ask the Lord for? Be specific.

- *Colossians 4:3-4*
- *2 Timothy 2:24-25*
- *2 Corinthians 4:4*

### **Second, they spoke.** Read Acts 2:1-7, 14-17

6. In this story about the "birthday" of the early Church, who is doing most of the speaking?

7. Why is it technically inaccurate to call this book the *Acts of the Apostles*? (For a hint, read any of the following: Acts 7:2, 8:4-5, 9:17, 18:24-26, 21:9...).

8. Why doesn't Acts have a real ending? Where is Acts 29?

Though sharing God's word with others might seem intimidating to you, there are 3 different levels of speaking – ranging from easiest to more difficult – which every believer should master. Let's look at these more carefully.

### **LEVEL 1: Be Able To Share Stories.**

9. We're challenging each of you to write out 3-5 "30 Second Stories". It's a story that begins, "I love Jesus because...". Each follower of Christ should have multiple 30-Second Stories in their back pockets. Write a sentence out that completes the following sentences.

*I love Jesus because he saved me by... (or when...)*

*I love Jesus because he taught me about... (or showed me...)*

*I love Jesus because he delivered me from...*

*I love Jesus because I experienced his power when...*

Share what you wrote with the group. These are the beginnings of some of your 30-Second Stories. Keep working on these for next time.

### **LEVEL 2: Be Able To Explain The Gospel**

10. When the first Christians were asked questions about their faith, they were able to explain the core truths of what we call the "Gospel" – the story of Christ's death & resurrection. They were able to explain:

- *Who Jesus was*
- *Why he had to die*
- *Why there's no better good news you'll ever hear (and that's what 'gospel' means – Good News)*
- *How a person can come to know Christ as Savior and Lord*
- *How the Gospel message changes us*

How highly would you rate your ability to competently explain the nuts and bolts of the Christian Gospel to someone else?

I Stink 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Billy Graham's got nothing on me

What are some models you can learn to help with this?

### **LEVEL 3: Be Able To Start And Sustain Spiritual Conversations**

11. What does 1 Peter 3:15 say we each should be able to do?

12. Level 3 is the ability to answer people's questions about our faith (the fancy word for this is "*apologetics*" – which is the ability to make a reasoned defense) . Why is this "level 3"? What's challenging about this?

13. What are ways we can grow in this ability?

## LEVEL 2: Be Able To Explain The Gospel

10. When the first Christians were asked questions about their faith, they were able to explain the core truths of what we call the “Gospel” – the story of Christ’s death & resurrection. They were able to explain:

- *Who Jesus was*
- *Why he had to die*
- *Why there’s no better good news you’ll ever hear (and that’s what ‘gospel’ means – Good News)*
- *How a person can come to know Christ as Savior and Lord*
- *How the Gospel message changes us*

How highly would you rate your ability to competently explain the nuts and bolts of the Christian Gospel to someone else?

I Stink 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Billy Graham’s got nothing on me

What are some models you can learn to help with this?

## LEVEL 3: Be Able To Start And Sustain Spiritual Conversations

11. What does 1 Peter 3:15 say we each should be able to do?

12. Level 3 is the ability to answer people’s questions about our faith (the fancy word for this is “*apologetics*” – which is the ability to make a reasoned defense) . Why is this “level 3”? What’s challenging about this?

13. What are ways we can grow in this ability?



## How To Have Beautiful Feet Lessons On Evangelism From The Early Church

### *Icebreaker:*

When’s a time you heard unexpected good news which just about made you jump for joy?

### *The Study:*

“You will be my witnesses,” Jesus said right before he returned to the Father. The birth of the Church was fueled by the fires of evangelism, and God’s kingdom continues to grow today as God’s people share their hope in Christ with others. This study looks at how the first Christians practice evangelism. It came down to two major activities which they engaged in over and over, then wash-rinse-repeat.



### ***First, they prayed.*** Read Acts 1:1-10.

1. Put yourself in the sandals of the disciples right now. What would you be feeling after listening to Jesus, then watching him up and go (literally)? What would you be thinking about the idea that Jesus expected you to continue his work on a global scale?

2. What's comforting about the fact that he told them to first wait until the Father sent the Holy Spirit upon them?

3. Read Acts 1:12-14. What was the first thing the disciples did upon returning to Jerusalem? How do you feel to know that before God asks you to go out there and talk to others about him, that he wants you to come and talk to him about it first?

4. How important was prayer to the early Church? Read the following Scriptures, then share any observations you have.

*Acts 2:42 \* Acts 3:1 \* Acts 4:23,31 \* 6:1-6 \* 10:9 \*  
12:12 \* 13:1-3 \* 14:23 \* 16:13,16,25*

5. When it comes to sharing our faith with others, what are some things we should ask the Lord for? Be specific.

- *Colossians 4:3-4*
- *2 Timothy 2:24-25*
- *2 Corinthians 4:4*

***Second, they spoke.*** Read Acts 2:1-7, 14-17

6. In this story about the "birthday" of the early Church, who is doing most of the speaking?

7. Why is it technically inaccurate to call this book the *Acts of the Apostles*? (For a hint, read any of the following: Acts 7:2, 8:4-5, 9:17, 18:24-26, 21:9...).

8. Why doesn't Acts have a real ending? Where is Acts 29?

Though sharing God's word with others might seem intimidating to you, there are 3 different levels of speaking – ranging from easiest to more difficult – which every believer should master. Let's look at these more carefully.

### **LEVEL 1: Be Able To Share Stories.**

9. We're challenging each of you to write out 3-5 "30 Second Stories". It's a story that begins, "I love Jesus because...". Each follower of Christ should have multiple 30-Second Stories in their back pockets. Write a sentence out that completes the following sentences.

*I love Jesus because he saved me by... (or when...)*

*I love Jesus because he taught me about... (or showed me...)*

*I love Jesus because he delivered me from...*

*I love Jesus because I experienced his power when...*

Share what you wrote with the group. These are the beginnings of some of your 30-Second Stories. Keep working on these for next time.