

Become A Slave To Be An Effective Personal Worker (An Evangelism Brushup)

➤ = next PowerPoint slide

➤ Intro:

- evangelism brushup, reminder ourselves about things we talked about in the past – stimulate
- lesson: Become A Slave To Be An Effective Personal Evangelist
 - I've commended you today for your work in the Lord – tonight I'll also challenge you!

➤ Personal Work - the things we do outside of church

- "personal work" is a expedient term we use to refer to the evangelism, edification, teaching, and benevolent deeds we do on a personal basis – good works
 - Eph. 2:10 we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works
 - some of the good works are done on a personal basis, not as a church – personal work

➤ - examples of personal work:

- 1 Tim. 5 taking care of widows in our families, so the church is not burdened
- Acts 2 sharing meals together, fellowship, edification
- Acts 12 assembling for worship outside of the assembly, as brethren did to pray for Peter
- 1 Pet. 4:9 being hospitable to brethren
- Tit.3:4 meeting pressing needs of brethren (emergency, dire)
- Gal. 6:10 doing good deeds toward people who are Christians, and who are unbelievers
- Ja. 1:27 helping widows and orphans when their in need, outside our families
- Acts 8; 18 teaching the lost, as did Philip the evangelist, and Aquila and Priscilla

➤ We must make ourselves slaves (attitude of servitude) regarding personal work – evangelism

- 1 Cor. 9:19 Paul made himself a slave to all, to win more
 - we voluntarily make ourselves slaves, to reach others with the gospel - God doesn't make us
 - enslave ourselves to all, not pick and choose, do good toward all, try to reach all with gospel

➤ - illus.: Hebrew voluntarily enslaving themselves to another person - Deut. 15:12-17

- Hebrew were commanded to set Hebrew slaves free the 7th year of service
- if the slave didn't want to go free, wished to remain a slave for entire life, master pierced his / her ear
- Deut. 15:16-17a love: reason self-enslave
 - we must love people / souls to self-enslave ourselves, and be god personal workers
 - Rom. 13:8 owe no one anything but love

➤ - illus.: Jesus became a slave and served us – salvation

- Phil. 2:7-8 Jesus took the form of a bond-servant (slave), humbled himself, death on the cross
- Heb. 5:7-8 Jesus was very distraught over the things He had to do, but did them anyway
 - song # 102 (s) And Can It Be review 1, 2, 3, chorus
 - realize Jesus' love for us, want to love others and serve as slave
- Rom. 15:2-3 we are to please others for their good, as Christ had done toward us
 - become a slave and serve others, as Jesus . . . , so they can be saved and encouraged (gospel)

- **Everything we do should be with a view toward helping others go to heaven** – gospel, salvation, personal work
 - **1 Cor. 9:22-23** all thing to all men, save some, do all things for the sake of the gospel
 - **1 Cor. 4:16; 11:1** commanded to **imitate the apostles**

- - **illus.: Paul / Timothy**
 - **Acts 21:23-26** Paul made **public display**, vow, shaved heads, sacrifices, to **show kept the Law**
 - **Acts 16:3** **circumcised Timothy**, to **remove a stumbling block** for Jews
 - **better chance of them listening** to the message if not have to deal with issue of circumcision
 - **contrast: Peter and Barnabas**, Antioch, ok till Jews came and they became hypocrites, Paul confronted them because they stood condemned, not straightforward about truth of the gospel (**Gal. 2**)

- - **illus.: assembly together**
 - **Heb. 10:24-25** **stimulate** one another to **love and good deeds**, not our **assembling, encouraging** one another
 - **1 Cor. 14:23** **unbelievers assemble with Christians**, we must **not do things that would discourage them** regarding matters of liberty
 - Paul's instructions regarding speaking in tongues, unbelievers could understand without interpreter
 - **Will Smith**, assembly with us on Sunday, **church service with evangelistic - everything we did**
 - **LS** proclaims Christ's death
 - **singing** admonishes, teaches
 - **prayers** encourage, edifies
 - **teaching** is instructive, edifying, encouraging
 - **giving** shows the proper attitude we have toward God and others
 - **greeting** one another encourages, edifies

- - **illus.: spending time outside of church (assembly)**
 - **Acts 2:46** **1st Christians, apostolic example, taking meals together** with gladness and sincerity of heart
 - **this afternoon**, Trask's, **influence and edification, youngest** who will be Christians one day, leaders in the church
 - **Will Smith**, **impressed so much that day by the example of the young people**, he wanted to become a Christian

- - **illus.: work we do and arranging of schedules so we can do personal work**
 - **Andrea**, **working very hard all week to get her school work done**, so she can take Sunday afternoon off, and encourage the younger kids at the Trask's house
 - **Willie and Nicole, Dennis and Donna**, **all the work they did at home to prepare** for having people over, personal work
 - **Tom and Melanie**, work hard every month to have us all over
 - **many things that many are doing in the congregation**

- - **other things we can do to build relationships and influence people**
 - go to **lunch** with a co-worker
 - **help a neighbor** with chores
 - **baby sit** for a friend
 - **study God's word** to stay mentally sharp, 1st principles, present-day issues

- **We have to discipline ourselves to be effective personal workers**
 - **1 Cor. 9:24-27** athletic metaphor, discipline body so can compete, do the work
- - **we must discipline ourselves so we can do the Lord's work**
 - **mentally** so we have the right attitude to sacrifice self for the benefit of others – **Mk. 12:30**
 - - **physically** so we have the physical ability, strength, fortitude – **1 Cor. 6:19-20**
 - - **time**
 - not caught up in worldly pursuits so much that we are too tired, not have time, to do personal work
 - we can't put as much time in our careers as worldly people, or we'll be lost, just like them
 - prioritize what's truly important in life
 - not obsessed with recreation
 - we can't spend as much time recreating as people in the world, or we'll be lost
 - allocate time to do personal work, just like we allocate time to assemble with the saints
 - **Ja. 1:27** if we don't allocate time and energy for personal work, we're only 1/2 a Christian, and lost
 - - **money**
 - necessary to work, but not consumed by work and money – work as unto the Lord
 - stay out of financial trouble so we're not slaves to the almighty dollar
 - prioritize our finances, so we don't not work more than we should, and so we can share with others
 - can't keep up with the Jones, unless we want to spend eternity with them
 - - **without disciple, no personal work would ever be done** (evangelism, benevolence)
 - we'd all be workaholics, and recreationaholics
 - **Rev. 3:16** lukewarm Christians, Jesus spew us out of us mouth
 - - **Have you disciplined yourself, to prioritize the things that are most important in life? Are you a whole Christian?**
- **What's the most effective thing you can do as a member of the church, to reach people with the gospel?**
 - **Eph. 4:16** do our share, faithful member of the church, causes growth
 - makes the congregation a place where people can come, learn about God, become Christians, be encouraged, grow spiritually
 - **illus.: Dawn's friend and family visited recently**, said SL was the most friendliest congregation of all the churches (denominations) they visited
 - **illus.: Jeremy and Brittany Emerson**, looking for a different place to go to church, looking for a place like the SL congregation
 - **SL serves as a model church**

➤ **What's the most effective thing for us to do as individuals, to reach people with the gospel?**

- **build relationships, bring people to church with you, diligently follow up**
 - **Matt. 22:39** love your neighbor - bring people to church
 - **Matt. 5:14-16** be a light to the world - bring people to church
 - **Lk. 10:1-29** be a good Samaritan - help a dying soul - bring people to church
- **stat: 79%** of people attend a particular church because a friend or relative invited them
 - **most effective way to lead people to Christ today, is bring them to church – 1 Cor. 14:23**
- **illus.: Gary Palmer**, recommended a congregation, put lady in contact with people, obeyed gospel
- **illus.: Will Smith**, come to church many times with us, accumulative experiences, influenced him to obey

➤ **Summary / Inv.**

- **Have you become a slave** to be an effective personal worker! – mentally, physically, time, \$
 - **Jesus because a slave to serve you – have you become a slave to serve others?**
 - **Are you a whole Christian, or just half a Christian?** – hot, or lukewarm
- **What can you change in your life, to be a better personal worker for the Lord?**
 - **What can you do to serve those of our congregation who have unfulfilled needs?**
 - **Who can you build a better relationship with, to have an opportunity to influence them? – Will you?**
 - **Who can you ask to come to church with you? – Will you?**
- **Let's remember everything Jesus did to help us, and maybe we'll be more eager to help others!**
 - **song # 102 (s) And Can It Be** - chorus, Amazing Love, how can it be, that You, my God, would die for me.
- **inv.**