

## PRESBYTERIAN EVANGELISTIC FELLOWSHIP

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### THE FOCUS OF MY MINISTRY :

- To take the reformed faith back to Europe.
- To teach reformed evangelism to churches in Europe.
- To supply new theological books for discipleship authored by Drs. Boice, Sproul, Schaeffer and Packer etc.
- To supply gift subscriptions of Ligonier's "Tabletalk."
- To encourage nationals who are interested in starting Presbyterian and reformed churches in their homeland.

**Much of my evangelism teaching ministry includes teaching my workshop "Boldly Proclaiming." This is a workshop on "The Message and Methods of God-Centered Witnessing." Personal evangelism is also taught, using John Blanchard's "Ultimate Questions" in the national's own language. "Boldly Proclaiming" has been translated into ALBANIAN, RUSSIAN and ROMANIAN. It is currently in the hands of nationals in CROATIA, TURKEY, ITALY, GREECE, CHINA, SPAIN, EGYPT, CZECH REPUBLIC and BULGARIA.**

Why do I do reformed evangelism? It is because of the Evangelical Dilemma.

What is the Evangelical Dilemma?"

There is a curious problem today in evangelical circles for the individual believer. **The problem in brief is this:** a great many personal soul-winners have been mobilized to reach the populace for Christ. They are earnest, zealous, enthusiastic, and persuasive. To their credit it must be said that they are on the job. And it is one of the phenomena of our times that they rack up an astounding number of conversions. Everything so far seems to be on the plus side. But the problem is this. **The conversions do not stick.** The fruit does not remain. Six months later there is nothing to be seen for all the aggressive evangelism. The capsule technique of soul winning has produced stillbirths.

**What lies at the back of all this malpractice in bringing souls to birth?** Strangely enough it begins with the valid determination to preach the pure gospel of the grace of God. **We want to keep the message simple.** Uncluttered by any suggestion that man can ever earn or deserve eternal life. Justification is by faith alone, apart from the deeds of the law. **Therefore, the message is "only believe." From there we reduce the message to a concise formula.** At first blush the method and the message might seem above criticism. On a closer study we are forced to have second thoughts and conclude that we have oversimplified the gospel.

### ***1. The first fatal flaw is the missing emphasis on Repentance.***

There can be no true conversion without conviction of sin. It is one thing to agree that I am a sinner; it is quite another thing to experience the convicting ministry of the Holy Spirit in my life. Unless I have a spirit wrought consciousness of my utterly lost condition, I can never exercise saving faith. It is useless to tell unconverted sinners to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ -- that message is only for those who know they are lost. We sugarcoat the gospel when we de-emphasize man's fallen condition. **With that kind of watered down message, people receive the Word with joy instead of deep contrition.** They do not have deep roots, and though they might endure for a while, they soon gave up all profession when persecution or trouble comes. **We have forgotten that the message is repentance toward God as well as faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**2. A second serious omission is the missing emphasis on the Lordship of Christ.** A light, jovial mental assent that Jesus is Savior misses the point. Jesus is first Lord, then Savior. The New Testament always places his Lordship before his Saviorhood. **Do we present the full implications of His Lordship to people? He always did.**

**3. A third defect in our message is our tendency to keep terms of discipleship hidden until a decision has been made for Jesus.** Our Lord never did this. The message he preached included the cross as well as the crown. He never hid his scar to win disciples. **He revealed the worst along with the best, then told his listeners to count the cost. We popularize the message and promise fun.** The result of this is we have people believing without knowing what they believe. In many cases they have no doctrinal basis for their decision. They don't know the implications of their commitment to Christ. They have never experienced the mysterious work of the Holy Spirit in regeneration. And of course **we have others who are talked into a profession of faith because of the slick salesmanship of the soul-winner.** Or some who want to please the affable, personal young man with the winning smile. And some who only want to get rid of this interloper who has invaded their privacy. **Satan laughs when these conversions are triumphantly announced on earth.**