

Follow-up Studies: Evangelism, Boldness, Tact —

When it comes to evangelism, few young Christians possess both boldness and tact. We are tempted towards one extreme or the other: so tactful we say little, if anything, or so bold that tact is thrown to the wind. Boldness comes via prayer, and tact is developed through observation of those who are diplomatic. In view of the crippling effect of fear on new Christians—and old—and considering the number of tactical errors that are made by all, is why we need a separate lesson on this important subject.

Evangelism

- 2 Corinthians 5:10-21—Because we know and fear God, we try to persuade others. We are Christ's ambassadors and God has given to us the ministry of reconciliation. It is not an option.
- Acts 8:1-8—The early Christians were evangelistic—not just the leaders!
- 1 Peter 2:9-10—We are all a royal priesthood. There is no “clergy” today!

Boldness

- Romans 1:16-17—The gospel is nothing to be ashamed of because it has the power to save.
- Luke 9:23-26—If we are ashamed of Jesus and his words, he will be ashamed of us.
- Acts 4:29-31—Pray for boldness! God will answer your prayer.

Tact

- Matthew 10:16—Need to be wise/shrewd in our evangelism.
- Negatives:
 - Proverbs 12:18—Beware reckless words.
 - Proverbs 25:17—Avoid too frequent contact.
 - Proverbs 27:14—Don't come on too strong.
- Positives:
 - 1 Corinthians 9:19-23—Accommodate yourself to your hearer.
 - Titus 2:9-10—Make the gospel attractive.
 - 1 Peter 3:15-16—Show gentleness and respect.
- Suggested: Matthew 7:6, 2 Timothy 2:23-26.

Practicals

- Push yourself to be friendly and start conversations wherever you go. The Lord will use this.
- Invite people to come to church with you or to study the Bible with you.
- Work on improving one area of your life in order to make the gospel more attractive.
- Have neighbors into your home for dinner.
- Host a neighborhood cookout or party.