

## Sticky Group Discussion Questions for Sunday, January 11, 2015

### Why Become a Contagious Christian ?

1. Tell your group the story of how someone (a friend, a family member, someone else) personally influenced you toward faith in Christ. Or, tell the story of how you were able to personally influence someone else toward faith in Christ. How did you feel in either or both of those instances ?

2. What are your negative and positive perceptions of evangelists and evangelism ? Why do you think you hold these attitudes ? How did Sunday's sermon impact your thinking toward evangelism ?

3. On Sunday, we discussed "relational evangelism." State in your own words what you understand relational evangelism to be.

Review the 7 components of relational evangelism discussed Sunday. Which ones ring true as being especially necessary for effective evangelism ? Which ones do you have questions about ?

- **authentic** : flows out of a genuine relationship with Christ and His love for people. "Christians should be good news before they share good news."
- **natural** : The means of evangelism can reflect your individual personality and gifts.
- **personal** : as opposed to impersonal means of evangelism such as tracts, religious TV programs, billboards, or bumper stickers. People want to discuss spiritual issues with a trusted friend.
- **verbal** : The Gospel must eventually be explained (Romans 10:14).
- **process-oriented** : Seldom do people hear the message for the first time and commit their lives to Christ. We must patiently bring people along, step by step.
- **team-oriented** : God usually uses several people to bring someone to faith – like links in a chain.
- **putting others first** : If we want to win people's trust and gain an opportunity to express our beliefs, we need to give high priority to their needs, interests, background, doubts, and frustrations.

How does (should) the team-oriented component play out in a local church ? How are we doing at Emmanuel about being team-oriented ? How can we improve ?

5. As a group, read Luke 15.

- What do the three stories in Luke 15 tell us about God ?
- What do they tell us about people ?
- How do these stories speak to you personally ?
- What was the starting point for Jesus telling these stories in the first place ? (See 15:1-2.)

6. We need to get beyond the generic person "out there" who needs the Gospel, to the specific people we know who need Christ. Take a moment to consider the people are in your life that you could influence and toward a "next step" in the evangelism process. Write their names down on a piece of paper you might call your "Impact List."

Begin to pray for these people. Ask God to work in their lives and to give you wisdom on how to effectively reach out to them. Specifically, you may ask God to :

- draw them toward Himself
- open their eyes to the emptiness of life without Him
- help them see their need for forgiveness
- remove the confusion they may have about Him and the life He offers
- help them grasp the meaning and importance of the cross of Christ
- help you live a consistent and contagious Christian life
- grant you appropriate boldness and courage
- open doors for spiritual conversations
- guide those conversations in pace, frequency, and content.