

PERSONAL EVANGELISM PLAN

How to Develop a Personal Prayer and Action Plan for Evangelism

Most Christians would acknowledge their obligation to be a witness but would also admit that few things give them greater guilt and feelings of powerlessness than personal evangelism. But should it be that way? Paul prayed for Philemon "that the sharing of your faith might become effective." (NKJV) Can we learn that too?



Friendships are vital to personal evangelism. Statistics tell us that at least 80% of those receiving Christ as their personal Savior do so because of the influence of a Christian friend. Developing quality friendships requires intentional planning as well as time and effort. Therefore, it is important for each of us to develop a personal plan for evangelism that will call us to action. Here are six easy steps to follow that will be the beginning of a new challenge that will bear fruit as God enables:

STEP 1 Prayerfully select one to three friends of yours who are not Christians, who you will begin to pray for regularly and seek to be God's faithful witness to. Think of those in your network of friends, relatives, or work associates who you think might be open. (Write their names on pages 3 & 4)

The following steps are designed to help you think through tangible ways in which God's love can be seen in you and experienced by your friends.

STEP 2 Identify three "Acts of Kindness" for each individual named that will be an expression of Christian love, showing them you care. Our love for God should produce this kind of response that will help in building a credible witness.

*"People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care."
- Joe Aldrich*



STEP 3 Choose three "Events" for each individual named that will build on Step 2 and give you quality time with your friends. A variety of events would be helpful, however, include at least one in which your friend would be exposed to the gospel of Jesus Christ in an appropriate way. (see sample)

STEP 4 Plan for three different times where you will have an opportunity to share a "Personal Witness" with them. These may vary in design and intensity and will need prayerful thought and preparation. One such time might follow a special event to which you invited your friend. Think of that person's individual need. Now plan something that can lead to a personal witness (ie. talking about how Christ has changed your life, or met a specific need) and where you can meet with them (coffee after seminar).

STEP 5 Counting the cost... Identify a preliminary 'budget' relating to each individual. Think about a creative way to collect money for your use or the family's for your evangelism efforts (family missions budget). An example could be a cookie jar on the kitchen table to put all of the family's change into for taking your friends out to coffee or pizza when it is clearly in keeping with your evangelism plan.



By now you are probably wondering, "Why are you asking for so many specific things to be listed?" The answer is that we know if we are not willing to "count the cost" and prepare adequately through prayer and planning, nothing will happen.

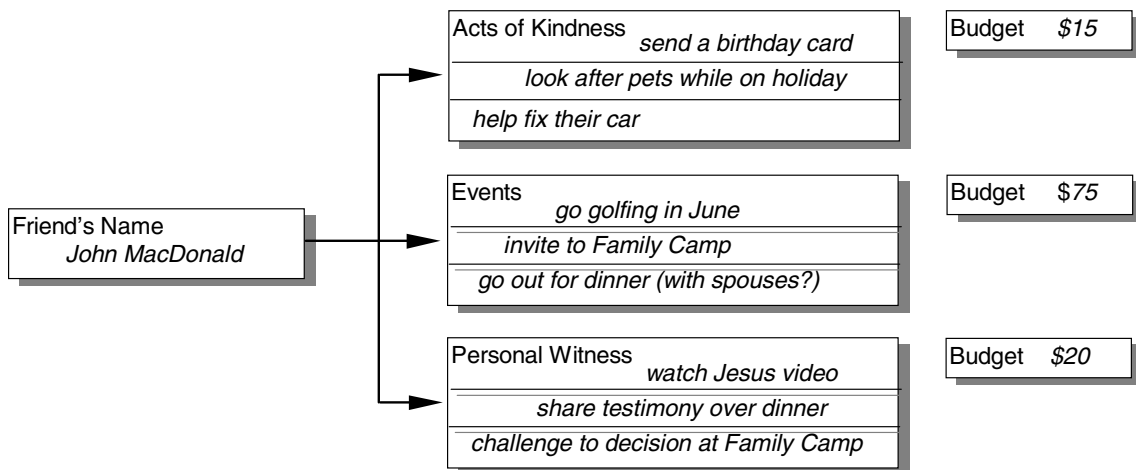
STEP 6 A prayer support team is very important. You need to identify those who would be willing to support you with their prayers over the next twelve months or the length of time you are committed to work your plan. These individuals need to be the kind who will encourage you and hold you accountable to your plan for evangelism. The best prospects would be those who share common goals and have developed their own personal plan for evangelism. One of the pastoral staff members from your church should be asked to pray specifically for your effectiveness in evangelism in regard to this "Personal Prayer & Action Plan for Evangelism". As you receive positive responses from your selected prayer support team, duplicate your completed plan and give each other copies. This will enable you to pray specifically for each other and the various approaches you will be making.



Those on this support team could also be the nucleus of an evangelistic home Bible study as each of you brings one of your non-Christian friends. This is an excellent way to get them together allowing God to speak to them through His Word.

A regular (once a month) time to pray together will also prove beneficial. Remember, you are only committing to be a tool in the Lord's hand to bring your friends to a personal relationship with Christ. It is not going to be your effort or cleverness that will draw these friends to a personal faith in Christ. Only the Holy Spirit can and will open a hardened heart. You are only asked to be obedient and witness, the results are up to Him.

Sample



NOTE

This guide intentionally does not address any specific tools that can be used in sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is very important that you select ones that clearly articulate the Gospel message that you are comfortable using. This only gives direction so as to assist you in giving a credible witness with your life and actions.

"I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ." Philemon 6 (NIV)

MY PRAYER & ACTION PLAN FOR EVANGELISM

<div data-bbox="142 338 440 411" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">My Name</div>	<div data-bbox="367 522 667 596" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Friend's Name</div>	<div data-bbox="797 338 1247 468" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Acts of Kindness</div>	<div data-bbox="1284 338 1474 380" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Budget</div>
		<div data-bbox="797 489 1247 619" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Events</div>	<div data-bbox="1284 489 1474 531" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Budget</div>
		<div data-bbox="797 640 1247 770" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Personal Witness</div>	<div data-bbox="1284 640 1474 682" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Budget</div>
	<div data-bbox="367 1018 667 1092" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Friend's Name</div>	<div data-bbox="797 835 1247 966" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Acts of Kindness</div>	<div data-bbox="1284 835 1474 877" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Budget</div>
		<div data-bbox="797 987 1247 1117" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Events</div>	<div data-bbox="1284 987 1474 1029" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Budget</div>
		<div data-bbox="797 1138 1247 1268" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Personal Witness</div>	<div data-bbox="1284 1138 1474 1180" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Budget</div>
	<div data-bbox="367 1516 667 1589" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Friend's Name</div>	<div data-bbox="797 1331 1247 1461" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Acts of Kindness</div>	<div data-bbox="1284 1331 1474 1373" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Budget</div>
		<div data-bbox="797 1482 1247 1612" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Events</div>	<div data-bbox="1284 1482 1474 1524" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Budget</div>
		<div data-bbox="797 1633 1247 1764" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Personal Witness</div>	<div data-bbox="1284 1633 1474 1675" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Budget</div>

Committed Prayer Partners

Pastor	Friend	Friend
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JOURNAL OF MY OBEDIENCE & GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

Friend's Name	(Fill each box with the date you complete each action)			Comments:	
	Acts of Kindness	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>
	Events	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>
	Personal Witness	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>
	Answers to Prayer:				

Friend's Name	(Fill each box with the date you complete each action)			Comments:	
	Acts of Kindness	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>
	Events	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>
	Personal Witness	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>
	Answers to Prayer:				

Friend's Name	(Fill each box with the date you complete each action)			Comments:	
	Acts of Kindness	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>
	Events	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>
	Personal Witness	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>
	Answers to Prayer:				

Notes for Church Leaders

While this is designed for individual implementation it becomes more effective when a larger group does it together, providing mutual support and encouragement. It is recommended that you make it part of the church's "strategy of evangelism" and that the church state and review this on a yearly basis. Permission is granted to duplicate this form (without altering it). Master copies may be purchased and help for a church strategy can be obtained by contacting Outreach Canada.



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