

LESSON NINE

THE EVANGELIST'S CONDUCT (Continued)

This lesson is a continuation of a study of the conduct of an evangelist who is engaged in the public ministry of Evangelism.

A. THE EVANGELIST SHOULD SPEND MUCH TIME IN PRAYER:

The success of the evangelist's ministry will depend much upon the time he spends in the closet in prayer and private devotion. He cannot expect that there will be souls saved at the altar if he has had his mind upon other things all day. His prayer life will do many things for him. (1) He will be able to hear from God and know God's will for the service. He will know what God has decided concerning his message and how the service should be directed. (2) God will be able to reveal to him the special needs of the local assembly. (3) Upon his knees he will receive love and compassion for those to whom he will be ministering. (4) As he waits upon God he will receive the anointing and unction which is so essential, and without which all will be in vain. (5) He will be setting a good example before the pastor and the entire church.

The evangelist must not leave this to mood or chance. He must have a regular time for prayer and devotions.

B. THE EVANGELIST SHOULD HAVE DAILY EXERCISE:

The evangelist's physical health is vital to his entire well being. If he is going to be at his best for the Master, he should watch his health. This will call for daily physical exercise of some nature.

The type of exercise that an evangelist may partake of while travelling is very limited. There may be times when he will be able to go to a YMCA for a swim or work out. However, this will be the exception rather than the rule.

There is one healthy exercise that is always available. No matter where he is conducting revival crusades he can always go for long walks. A one-hour walk first thing in the morning will do much towards keeping him well and fit physically. In one hour he will be able to walk three miles without undue exertion. He might try jogging the last half-mile.

Understanding the importance of his health he should never ride in an automobile when it is possible to walk. Whenever possible he should walk rather than accept a ride.

C. THE EVANGELIST SHOULD HAVE A DAILY SCHEDULE:

Time should never be wasted. Therefore the evangelist should have a daily schedule which he will follow faithfully.

If he is staying in an evangelist's apartment, he will be able to arrange his timetable to suit his own convenience. However, if he is being entertained in a home he must adjust himself to their

schedule. He should enquire concerning the time that meals will be served, and make certain that he is never late. If he decides to fast, he should always give the hostess notice that he will be absent for certain meals.

There is no excuse for an evangelist lying in bed in the morning and arising late. God certainly does not bless lazy people. The writer has little patience with an evangelist that lies in bed late in the morning.

A suggestive timetable is given here:

7:00 A.M.	Rise and Shine.
7:00 - 7:30 A.M.	Dressing and tidying room.
7:30 - 8:30 A.M.	Walk.
8:30 - 9:00 A.M.	Breakfast.
9:00 - 10:00 A.M.	Prayer and Devotion.
10:00 - 12:30 P.M.	Study and Preparation.
12:30 - 1:00 P.M.	Relaxation.
1:00 - 1:30 P.M.	Lunch.
1:30 - 2:30 P.M.	Rest.
2:30 - 5:00 P.M.	Visitation with pastor or studying in the local library, etc.
5:00 - 6:00 P.M.	Dinner.

This is only suggestive and every evangelist must work out his own schedule where each minute will be used most profitably.

D. THE EVANGELIST SHOULD GET SUFFICIENT REST:

An extremely injurious habit has developed in Pentecostal ranks. This is the habit of eating a heavy meal after church and sitting up into the early hours of the morning talking.

It is natural that the evangelist is hungry after preaching hard and working around the altar with seekers. However, he will not get up in the morning rested if his stomach is working half the night digesting food. Eating before going to bed is a habit that should be broken. A glass of milk, or a hot drink should be sufficient. Possibly an orange or an apple could be eaten. In this way he will not make his hostess a lot of extra work. Also it will allow everyone to get to bed and get their rest. In the morning the evangelist should awaken rested and fresh for another day to labor for the Master.

E. THE EVANGELIST SHOULD BE FRIENDLY:

The evangelist is a soul winner, and as such he must be friendly and show a real interest in people.

He can gain the attention of many with his smile and warm handshake. People will respond to love and attention.

He will be meeting hundreds of people. He must train himself to remember names. When he meets a person there is nothing wrong in inquiring concerning the person's name. Generally a person is pleased to give his name for he desires attention. However, if he has to do this a second or third time it becomes very embarrassing.

A good way is to always repeat the name. If the name is a strange name, enquire just how it is spelled. This all helps to fix the name in your mind. After meeting several people write this list

of names in a notebook and review them. While sitting on the platform study the congregation and see how many names you can remember. When the evangelist greets them the next evening he should be able to call them by name. By concentrating on this he should know the names of the majority of the people within a week.

Although the evangelist must be friendly, he must never be disrespectful to his elders nor show familiarity with the opposite sex. Being friendly does not mean that he is going to be frivolous. Much joking with the young people may make him popular but it certainly will cheapen the gospel.

F. THE EVANGELIST'S WIFE MUST ALSO SHOW A GOOD EXAMPLE:

Everything that has been written in these two lessons about the conduct of the evangelist also applies to his wife. However, there is much that can be added here. The wife can do much to make the stay in any home a happy one. She should be alert and quick to offer her help in the kitchen, drying dishes, etc. She should fold up bath towels, etc. and not make any more extra work than is needed.

If she is happy and helpful, it will do much to make the meeting a success and to receive an invitation to return for another meeting.

G. THE EVANGELIST SHOULD ALWAYS SHOW APPRECIATION:

A good way to show appreciation is to mail back a "Thank You" card. This is an excellent habit to have and everyone can do it.

The evangelist should desire that the sweet blessings of the revival crusade should linger on. An appreciative spirit will certainly help in this regard.

LESSON NINE

SELF HELP TEST

- A. How may an evangelist get sufficient exercise?

- B. How may an evangelist remember names of those he meets?

- C. How may an evangelist show appreciation for hospitality?

- D. What is wrong with eating a heavy meal after church?

- E. Make out a suggested daily schedule.