

Master Evangelism:
EVANGELIZING A SAINT
John 3:1-17

Let us learn from Jesus, the master evangelist, how to direct saints to salvation

I. MAKE CONNECTIONS (1-3)

A. UNDERSTAND THE SEEKER (1-2)

1. Jesus understood Nic's perspective - See John 1:19-24 and 2:18
2. Jesus understood Nic's perception - John 2:23 and 3:2
3. Jesus understood Nic's predicament
 - Nic is confident and yet curious, conflicted and confused

B. ADDRESS THE SEEKER (3)

1. Be engaged: Jesus did not ignore Nic but considered his greatest need
2. Refocus attention (Jesus did this rather abruptly)
 - a. Explain: Here is God's plan
 - b. Express: Being born-again is important
 - c. Emphasis: Your destiny depends on your decision about being born-again

II. OFFER CLARIFICATION (4-8)

A. NIC'S CONFUSED RESPONSE (4)

1. His Question: How can one be born-again?
 - He is focused on the physical and not the spiritual
2. His Concern: If this being "born-again" is the exclusive requirement, what does it mean?
 - The fact that he's grappling with this means he's still thinking and engaged

B. JESUS' CLARIFYING REPLIES (5-8)

1. The need for two births (5) > Water and Spirit
2. The nature of two births (6)
3. The notion of two births (7-8)
 - a. This is personal (7)
 - b. Here's a picture (8)

III. DRAW CONCLUSIONS (9-17)

A. NIC'S FINAL QUESTION (9)

1. How can these things be?
2. Nic has moved from "who" to "what" to "how"
3. Nic is being forced to reconsider all that he thought he knew

Over please >

B. JESUS' THOUGHTFUL OBSERVATIONS (10-12)

1. Nic does not perceive (10)
2. Nic does not receive (11)
3. Nic does not believe (12)

C. JESUS' FOCUSED CONCLUSIONS (13-17)

1. Consider God's program (13-15)
 - a. The missionary (13) The "Son of Man" who came from heaven
 - b. The mission (14) > Demonstrating God's grace
 - c. The means (15a) > Believing ... looking up to God in faith
 - d. The message (15b) > Eternal life belongs to believers
2. Consider God's passion (16-17)
 - a. His priority (16) > Sacrificial love that gives life to believers
 - b. His plan (17) > Not sentencing the world but saving it

IV. ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Other lessons from Christ's interaction with Nicodemus

A. BE APPROACHABLE (1-2a)

- Nic came at night and Jesus took time to talk with him

B. BE AWARE (2b)

- Find out what people know about Jesus

C. BE ALERT (3)

- Quickly turn conversations into born-again discussions

D. BE ATTENTIVE (9)

- Listen for their question and seize that opportunity to further explain the gospel

E. BE ASSURED (11a)

- Tell what you know!

F. BE ACCEPTING (11b)

- Know when they're not ready to make a decision

G. BE ANNOUNCING (14-15)

- Whoever believes in Christ's cross has eternal life

CONCLUSION: *One of the greatest and most famous gospel presentations in the world met with rejection!*

Our business is to follow Christ's example and present the good news

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