

FOUNTAINGATE CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY EVANGELISM POLICY

Before beginning in this policy, a distinction must be made between Evangelism and Missions. Missions is the kind of ministry that extends across a culture whereas evangelism does not make that kind of distinction. Our Mission's Policy begins by making that clear differentiation by stating that it is . . .

"Any approved endeavour of cross-cultural ministry of either a local congregation or para-church organization which determines to fulfill the Great Commission by proclaiming the Gospel of Christ, making disciples, and relating to the whole need of mankind - spiritual and physical.

It is **not** the whole scope of evangelism, church planting and ministry to non Christians and nominal Christians, but rather any approved ministry which primarily concerns and identifies itself with a specific cross-cultural ministry whether at home or abroad."

Our evangelism ministry will include the areas that are not recognized in the mission's ministry. Therefore, the major distinction between the two involves whether the ministry is cross-cultural or not. Many of the specific ministries will often be similar but one will specifically reach out to a specific culture (i.e. - language, race).

There are at least four major areas that we want to focus upon in our scope of evangelism ministry.

- I. THE PARADIGMS OF EVANGELISM**
- II. THE PURPOSE OF EVANGELISM**
- III. THE POWER FOR EVANGELISM**
- IV. THE PEOPLE FOR EVANGELISM**

I. PARADIGMS OF EVANGELISM

A. WHAT ARE PARADIGMS?

Paradigms are the unchanging truths of God's Word.

B. KEY PARADIGMS OF THE GOSPEL

1. The World is Condemned Because of Unbelief

“He that believeth on Him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.”

John 3:18-19

“He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.”

John 3:36

2. Man Can Do Nothing to Save Himself

“But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.”

Isaiah 64:6

“As it is written, There is {none righteous}, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.”

Romans 3:10-12

I. PARADIGMS OF EVANGELISM (Contd.)

B. KEY PARADIGMS OF THE GOSPEL (Contd.)

3. God Has Provided a Saviour

“For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.”

Romans 5:6

“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”

Romans 5:8

“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

Acts 4:12

C. OTHER PARADIGMS OF EVANGELISM

1. Evangelism Is Communication

“But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.”.

Romans 10:18

2. In 44 Different Verses, the Gospel Is Said to be PREACHED

Matthew 4:23; 9:35; 11:5; 24:14; 26:13; Mark 1:14; 14:9; 16:15; Luke 4:18; 7:22; 9:6; 20:1; Acts 8:25; 14:7,21; 16:10; Romans 1:15; 10:15; 15:19,20; 16:25; I Corinthians 1:17; 9:14,16,18;15:1; II Corinthians 2:12; 10:14,16; 11:4,7; Galatians 1:8,9,11; 2:2; 3:8; 4:13; Colossians 1:23; I Thessalonians 2:9; Hebrews 4:2; I Peter 1:12,25; 4:6; Revelation 14:6.

I. PARADIGMS OF EVANGELISM (Contd.)

C. OTHER PARADIGMS OF EVANGELISM (Contd.)

In other passages the gospel is used in conjunction with the words...

Publishing	Mark 13:10
Fellowshipping	Philippians 1:5
Defending	Philippians 1:7,17
Confirming	Philippians 1:7
Furthering	Philippians 1:12
Conversing	Philippians 1:27
Serving	Philippians 2:22
Labouring	Philippians 4:3
Boldly Contending	I Thessalonians 2:2
Speaking	I Thessalonians 2:4
Entrusted with	I Thessalonians 2:4
Pleasing God	I Thessalonians 2:4

1. Faith is the Key Response Sought in Evangelism

<u>Keyword</u>	<u>OT verses</u>	<u>NT verses</u>
Faith	2 verses	229 verses
Believe	17 verses	113 verses
Believed	22 verses	89 verses
Believing	0 verses	8 verses
<u>Belief</u>	<u>0 verses</u>	<u>1 verse</u>
TOTAL	41 verses	440 verses (10 times the verses of the OT!)

In the NT, faith is reckoned as obedience to God (John 6:28-29; Romans 1:5; 3:31; 4:5; 10:16; 16:26; I John 3:23), as righteousness (Romans 1:17; 3:22; 4:5,9,13; 9:30; 10:6; Galatians 5:5; Philippians 3:9; Hebrews 11:7)

“But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.”

Hebrews 11:6

I. PARADIGMS OF EVANGELISM (Contd.)

C. OTHER PARADIGMS OF EVANGELISM (Contd.)

2. Repentance from Sin is NOT Unique to the New Testament.

Keyword	OT verses	NT verses
Repentance (man from sin)	0 verses	24verses
Repent (man from sin)	4 verses	20 verses
<u>Turn (man from sin)</u>	<u>51 verses</u>	<u>8 verses</u>
TOTAL	55 verses	56 verses

Repentance from sin is found in equal proportions in both the Old and the New Testaments. Under the New Covenant however, salvation is hinged not on repentance but rather on regeneration, from which comes sanctification.

“Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost.”

Titus 3:5

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

II Corinthians 5:17

3. Evangelism is Good News

“As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country.”

Proverbs 25:25

4. The Gospel Represents Goodness

The good news is the promise of eternal blessings:

Eternal covenant	(Genesis 17:7,13,19) (Hebrews 13:20)
Eternal possession	(Genesis 17:8, 48:4)
Eternal salvation	(Hebrews 5:9)
Eternal redemption	(Hebrews 9:12)
Eternal inheritance	(Hebrews 9:15)

I. PARADIGMS OF EVANGELISM (Contd.)

C. OTHER PARADIGMS OF EVANGELISM (Contd.)

4. The Gospel Represents Goodness (Contd.)

Eternal glory	(II Corinthians 4:17) (I Peter 5:10)
Eternal consolation	(II Thessalonians 2:16)
Eternal Comforter	(John 14:16)
Eternal righteousness	(II Corinthians 9:9)
Eternal habitations	(Luke 16:9)
Eternal building	(II Corinthians 5:21)
Eternal purpose	(Ephesians 3:11)
Eternal King	(I Timothy 1:17)
Eternal throne	(Hebrews 1:8)
Eternal kingdom	(II Peter 1:11) (Revelation 11:15; 22:5)
Eternal Priest	(Hebrews 5:6; 6:20; 7:17,21)
Eternal sacrifice	(Hebrews 10:12,14)
Eternal gospel	(Revelation 14:6)
Eternal Jesus Christ	(Hebrews 13:8) (Revelation 1:18; 4:9,10)
Eternal Word of God	(I Peter 1:23,25)
Eternal truth	(II John 1:2)

There are also 46 verses which mention the promise of **ETERNAL LIFE**:

Matthew 19:16,29; 25:46; Mark 10:17; 10:30; Luke 10:25;
18:18,30; John 3:15,16,36; 4:14,36; 5:24,39;
6:27,40,47,51,54,58,68; 8:35; 10:28; 12:25,50; 17:2,3; Acts
13:46,48; Romans 2:7; 5:21; 6:22,23; Galatians 6:8; I Timothy
1:16; 6:12,19; Titus 1:2; 3:7; I John 1:2; 2:17,25; 3:15; 5:11,13,20;
Jude 1:21

5. The Gospel Represents Newness

New cloth	(Matthew 9:16) (Mark 2:21) (Luke 5:36)
New wine	(Matthew 9:17) (Mark 2:22) (Luke 5:37-39)
New treasure	(Matthew 13:52)
New testament	(Matthew 26:28) (Mark 14:24) (Luke 22:20) (I Corinthians 11:25) (II Corinthians 3:6) (Hebrews 8:8,13; 9:15; 12:24)
New doctrine	(Mark 1:27) (Acts 17:19)
New commandment	(John 13:34) (I John 2:7-8)
New lump	(I Corinthians 5:7)

I. PARADIGMS OF EVANGELISM (Contd.)

C. OTHER PARADIGMS OF EVANGELISM (Contd.)

5. The Gospel Represents Newness (Contd.)

All things made new	(II Corinthians 5:17) (Galatians 6:15) (Revelation 21:5)
New man	(Ephesians 2:15; 4:24) (Colossians 3:10)
New and living way	(Hebrews 10:20)
New heavens & earth	(II Peter 3:13) (Revelation 21:1)
New name	(Revelation 2:17; 3:12)
New song	(Revelation 5:9; 14:3)
New Jerusalem	(Revelation 21:2)

6. The Topics of the Gospel Message

a. The Kingdom of God - Matthew 4:23; 9:35; 24:14; Mark 1:14

b. Jesus Christ / God - Mark 1:1; Romans 1:1-3,9,16; 2:16; 15:19,29;
16:25; I Corinthians 9:12,18; II Corinthians 2:12; 4:4; 9:13; 10:14;
11:4,17; Galatians 1:7; Philippians 1:27

c. The Grace of God/Christ - Acts 20:24; Galatians 1:6

d. Peace - Romans 10:15; Ephesians 6:15

e. Salvation - Ephesians 1:13

f. Heavenly Hope - Colossians 1:5,23

g. Recipients of the Gospel

i). The poor - Matthew 11:5; Luke 4:18; 7:22;

ii). The Gentiles / All the world / all nations - Matthew 24:14;
26:13; Mark 14:9; 16:15; Acts 8:25; 15:7; 16:10; Romans 15:16;
Galatians 2:2,7; Galatians 3:8; Ephesians 3:6

iii). All creation - Mark 16:15; Colossians 1:23

iv). Both in urban and rural settings - Luke 9:6; Acts 8:25; Acts
14:6-7,21; Romans 1:15; II Corinthians 10:16;

v). In the Temple - Luke 20:1

II. THE PURPOSE OF EVANGELISM

A. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE?

The purpose is the God-given plan to apply the paradigms contained in God's Word.

1. Purpose can be further defined in three ways:

- a. **PRINCIPLES** define why we need a policy
- b. **POLICIES** demonstrate what evangelistic activities will be conducted.
- c. **PROCEDURES** define the how of evangelistic activities.

a. **PRINCIPLES: WHY?**

i). **The purpose of our evangelism policy**

1. To establish a set of guidelines which will help us achieve a clear sense of direction, motivation and co-ordination for all evangelistic endeavours.
2. To avoid making important decisions based on an impulsive, irrational and/or haphazard basis.
3. To appoint a leadership team that will implement the policy with consistency and integrity.
4. To make it easier for our church attendees and membership to familiarize and involve themselves in evangelism.
5. To ensure proper stewardship of financial resources, according to God's direction.
6. To develop a loving accountability within our Evangelism department.
7. To synchronize with other 'Fellowship of Christian Assembly' Evangelism Committees.

II. THE PURPOSE OF EVANGELISM (Contd.)

A. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE? (Contd.)

1. POLICIES: WHAT?

a. What is evangelism?

The Great Commission is the clearest message our Lord has spoken concerning evangelism. The Bible records it at the end of Matthew's Gospel.

“And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you;”

Matthew 28:18-20a

Our Lord therefore commanded all of His followers to approach their unconverted neighbours with His authority, in order to minister to them within the boundaries of their neighbour's language, culture, social structure, and geographic location, bathing them in the fullness of God, and training them by the commandments of Christ their Lord.

b. What kinds of evangelism?

There are a number of evangelistic efforts that we will become involved in as follows:

- i). Evangelistic crusades
- ii). Altar worker's training
- iii). New Convert's Course/Welcome Classes
- iv). Bible/Book/Tract Distribution
- v). Gospel Text Signs
- vi). Gospel Concerts

2. PROCEDURES: “HOW TO”

a. Evangelism education in the church

Programs and vehicles for evangelistic education

1. Training seminars for personal evangelism
2. Evangelism conferences/conventions
3. Information packages statistically profiling the local average unsaved person
4. Internet web site containing information and links related to evangelism

II. THE PURPOSE OF EVANGELISM (Contd.)

A. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE? (Contd.)

2. PROCEDURES: “HOW TO” (Contd.)

b. Evangelistic conferences, seminars and rallies

1. **LOCAL** We will hold interdenominational evangelistic rallies featuring available evangelists.
2. **REGIONAL** We will encourage participation in regional evangelism conferences.
3. **NATIONAL** We will encourage approved delegates from the Evangelism Committee to attend the FCA convention once every three years. We will allocate money for expenses in part or in full as funds permit, based upon need as monies are available. All monies will be handled through the Financial Director as determined by the Church Board

c. Modification of this evangelism policy

All modifications to this Evangelism Policy are to follow these guidelines:

1. Any recommendation for modification to this policy will be submitted in written form to the Evangelism Ministry Leader, to be copied and distributed to each Evangelism Committee member for initial discussion.
2. The Evangelism Committee will then render a written assessment of the recommendation to the Board of Directors for review.
3. The Board of Directors will then discuss and forward any further recommendations back to the Evangelism Committee in written form.
4. Once an agreement is reached between the Board of Directors and the Evangelism Committee, a motion will be presented by the Evangelism Committee during the next congregational meeting.
5. A letter of appreciation will be sent to the initiator of the recommendation by the Evangelism Committee, explaining which modifications were implemented.
6. The Evangelism Committee will maintain an ongoing evaluation of our Evangelism Policy.

III. POWER FOR EVANGELISM

A. WHAT IS POWER?

Power is the God-given ability to implement the purpose and put it to practice.

B. THE NECESSITY OF PRAYER

In order to cultivate the spirit of prayer in our local assembly, the Evangelism Committee will from time to time approach people within the congregation who manifest the aptitudes of prayerful devotion to God in order to recruit them for the development of an Intercessory Prayer Team.

IV. THE PEOPLE FOR EVANGELISM

A. WHO SHOULD BECOME INVOLVED IN EVANGELISM?

1. All Believers Are One in Christ

“I do not ask in behalf of these [apostles] alone but for those also who believe in Me through their word; that they may all be one”

John 17:20-21a

“For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.”

I Corinthians 12:13

2. Every Believer Needs to Publicly Confess Their Faith in Jesus Christ

“Everyone therefore who shall confess Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever shall deny Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.”

Matthew 10:32-33

IV. THE PEOPLE FOR EVANGELISM (Contd.)

B. DEFINITION OF THE EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

Herein, the name ‘**Evangelism Committee**’ is defined as the body of the Fountaingate Christian Assembly Inc. members or adherents who are appointed to implement the evangelism policy. Appointed to the Committee are the following:

1. The Evangelism Ministry Leader (Chairperson)
2. Secretary
3. Treasurer
4. The Prayer Co-ordinator
5. The Resources Co-ordinator
6. The Public Relations Co-ordinator

C. CRITERIA FOR SELECTING MEMBERS OF THE EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

1. A firm knowledge, experience, belief, and readiness to defend the Good News of salvation, which is by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, according to the Scriptures alone.
2. A daily walk with the Holy Spirit, through God’s Word (the Bible) and prayer.
3. A willingness to undergo initial training to learn the guidelines set out in the policy.
4. Membership or regular adherents to Fountaingate Christian Assembly Inc.
5. Eighteen (18) years of age or older.
6. Adhering to Fountaingate Christian Assembly Inc’s Statement of Faith.

D. MANNER OF SELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

1. Recommendations are to be presented in written form to the existing Evangelism Ministry Leader who will discuss the recommendation with the existing Evangelism Committee members and serve the Board of Directors with their evaluation and recommendation in written form.
2. The Church Board Secretary is to draft a letter back to the Evangelism Committee to express their decision on the recommendation(s).
3. The approved candidates are to be approached by the Evangelism Director(s).
4. If they accept, the Board of Directors is to be notified by letter and an announcement is to be made during the next congregational meeting.
5. A letter of appreciation will be sent by the Evangelism Committee to the initiator(s) explaining the outcome.

IV. THE PEOPLE FOR EVANGELISM (Contd.)

E. SIZE OF THE EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

The Evangelism Committee should not be less than four (4) or more than eight (8) members. A quorum will consist of 50% plus one (1). A motion will be passed with a majority vote of the quorum.

F. TERM OF OFFICE

The term of office shall be three year terms, overlapping to ensure proper training for succession.

H. FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

Meetings will be held quarterly. Special meetings may be called and sub-committees may be formed, as deemed necessary by majority vote at an Evangelism Committee meeting.

I. OVERALL RESPONSIBILITIES OF OUR EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

1. To form a tight nucleus of **people** firmly dedicated to the cause of spreading the message of salvation by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, according the Scriptures alone.
2. To ensure that Evangelism Department **resources** are used with integrity, to the glory of Jesus Christ, exclusively for the communication of the Good News, according to the Great Commission.
3. To represent the **church** in its evangelistic endeavours at home and abroad, and in relation to other evangelistic ministries.
4. To broaden within the church the **awareness** to the necessity and the rewards of individually and personally sharing the Gospel with the lost.
5. To **accommodate** and supply the needs of incoming and local evangelistic ministries.

IV. THE PEOPLE FOR EVANGELISM (Contd.)

J. RESPONSIBILITIES OF EACH MEMBER OF THE EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

1. To exemplify the life of Christ in all areas of life
2. To maintain daily spiritual devotion to Jesus Christ through Bible study and prayer
3. To develop and maintain strong social skills through productive living, community involvement, church attendance, and volunteer work.
4. To be a baptized member or adherent of the local church, carefully adhering to the Statement of Faith and Evangelism Policy.
5. To regularly attend Evangelism Department meetings (usually quarterly).
6. To be willing to serve in areas of Evangelism, as needs arise.
7. To bear the burdens of other Evangelism Committee members in supportive fellowship.

I am indebted to the work of Phillip Dufour for the many hours he put in to help develop this policy. This has been a work of love and service to God.

Blessings
Pastor Brad Montsion