

Revelations

Evangelism and pastoral care have become my strengths but this didn't come from anyone praying for me. It came from a journey with God, wrestling with the Holy Spirit and most commonly getting revelations from scripture that seemed to come alive and active in me, changing who I am and how I see life. For example as I reflected on the Word I realized;

- That I cannot save anyone. The Holy Spirit draws and convicts. He just wants me to join in and support Him with my 'words' when He asks me to.
- That I will never see or meet someone that God doesn't love and has already tried to draw to Himself in some way.
- That there are not seasons of salvation. Today is the day of salvation for someone. Biblically, a 'normal' church will see people added to their number daily.
- That it takes a team to make a disciple. It cannot be done apart from the local church.
- There isn't cold turkey, hit and miss evangelism in the bible, you must confront someone with the gospel and be available personally to follow up. Paul for instance, the Apostle I consider the most effective evangelist, would stay with folk, establish a church and then check up on folk pastorally.
- Heaven and hell are realities. Time is short.
- The model we most commonly use to bring people to salvation is very different from that of the early church.

It's the revelations you and I get from the Word and from the Holy Spirit that change us and increase our anointing, our effectiveness in an area of ministry.

My prayer is that as you work through this, on your own or with a friend, small group or leadership team that revelation will come to you and you come to experience sharing your faith and making disciples in a way that is natural, fun and effective.

For further study in small groups

1. Is there anything like a sinner's prayer in the Bible?
2. Is the goal of evangelism to get someone to pray a prayer or to make disciples? (see Matt 28:19-20)
3. Following Acts 2, the day of Pentecost (normal Christianity began on that day). Is there any Christian in the New Testament who had not expressed faith, repentance, and been water and Holy Spirit baptized?
4. In the Biblical norm, how long did it take for someone to receive water and Holy Spirit Baptism?
5. How old does a person have to be before they can believe, repent, be water and Holy Spirit Baptized?