



Focus

Part 1: Evangelism Group Discussion Guide

H

HIGHLIGHT

Read *1 Timothy 1:12-17* aloud.

E

EXPLAIN

There are a few realities we must never forget. First, the reality of Hell. There is a real place of eternal torment. There will be utter darkness combined with wailing and gnashing of teeth. No hope of escape for all eternity. Secondly, the reality of lostness. There are over 7 billion people on the face of this earth. A vast majority of people have no relationship with Christ. Hell is a real place where our sons, daughters, relatives, friends, and co-workers will go if there is no repentance of sin. Lastly, the reality of who we are apart from Christ. This is the reality that I want to focus on today. We need the reality of Hell and lostness to grip us if we are to share Jesus regularly but we also need a proper view of self.

So many questions surround evangelism. What is the best way to share your faith? When is the opportunity right to share our faith? What scriptures should I use when I share my faith? What do I do when someone asks me a question that I do not know the answer to? What if I stumble and say something that is not true? By the time of this writing, young Timothy had been ministering in the church of Ephesus for quite some time. One of the favorite verses in the pastoral epistles is 1 Timothy 1:3, "...remain at Ephesus." How do we stay in the battle? How do we continually share our faith? ***Only Christ is able to enable.***

We are never left alone to figure what to say or how to say it. The Holy Spirit will teach us in that very hour.

Do you realize the depths of God's grace and mercy displayed in your life? This was the diving board of evangelism for Paul and should be for us. Paul calls himself the "chief of sinners." One of the greatest dangers of walking with God for a long time is that we get a wrong view of self. We begin to believe that we are less of a sinner than we used to be. Here is the fact: we are still great sinners.

God has been very patient with us but one day there will be no more patterns or patience. Longsuffering does not mean we have forever to trust Christ. There will come a day when grace runs out and the only thing we will be left with is God's wrath.

APPLICATION

Have you lost focus on what is important during this time? Or has the pandemic caused you to gain focus on what God says matters?

Discuss the meaning and implications of this quote from John Maxwell: "We feel unhappy and confused with our life when we don't do the focus or calling that God has on our life."

Do you tend to forget what the Bible says about Hell? How can we live our lives as to never forget this reality? What would you say to someone who doesn't believe there is such a place as Hell?

What are some excuses you have given for not evangelizing? Why is it dangerous to think that our methods and skill will save someone?

Why is it dangerous to think that we are less of a sinner than we used to be?

Discuss some practical ways you can as an individual or as a group evangelize during this time?

RESPOND

Praise God for His presence as you go and evangelize your family and community. Thank him for giving you the words to say and their salvation is not up to you, but is given by God. Ask the Lord for courage to speak even when it is hard. Repent for not proclaiming the Gospel. Pray for those who are lost and need to be told about Jesus Christ.

