

MEN'S LIFE BLOOMINGTON & GOD @ WORK

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

A Surge of Sharing

Definition: As you make it a practice to share your faith and involve others, a movement of sharing about Jesus will start growing. You can help others join this movement by being intentional, pursuing unity, leveraging technology, and modeling simple methods.

Segment Questions:

- On a scale of 1-10 how tech savvy are you? What are your perceptions on using technology for sharing the gospel?
- Using the same scale, how would you rate your church on using technology in sharing the gospel? Have you ever watched a live sermon or recorded sermon online? Share about that experience.

Mark 2:4

And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and when they had made an opening, they let down the bed on which the paralytic lay.

- Is this an example of thinking outside the box? As Christ followers and churches, do you think God expects us to think outside the box when it comes to personal evangelism and outreach?
- Think of Billy Graham and Franklin Graham. How do you feel about the Grahams' use of technology in their ministry?

One of the devotionals was about a man sharing Christ with a young sales clerk. He talked with the young lady and then used a mobile app on his smartphone as a witnessing tool to lead her to Christ. Do you think using his phone over a Bible tract would have made any difference to this young lady? Why?

Action Questions:

- Most of us use email daily. How could you use email this week to share the gospel or encourage others?
- Maybe technology isn't your cup of tea. Do you think you could still pray for technology and those that use it? Could you pray that the Internet stays free from government regulation and censorship around the world?
- Would you be willing to learn about a technology you aren't using if it meant that it would help share the gospel?
- Would you tell someone about the Bible app in hopes that they might download it on their phone? Would you browse the Internet to see how many Christian websites are online?

A Surge of Sharing

Last November, I came home from one of our IU FCA meetings and my wife Ruth casually mentioned, "I saw that Cassie Atchley shared her testimony tonight." My response was, "How did you know that?" She was watching it on Facebook with about eighty other people. Dave Hudson, meet Facebook live! Cassie's friend filmed her from the front row, and as of today her testimony has over 1,500 views!

A surge of sharing takes on a new meaning with modern technology. Sharing our faith and our one on one experiences with God in real time is a highly effective method that *most* of us prefer, but today I want to challenge you to try something different. I want you to use technology and social media to share the Good News. This might be an automatic turn off for some of you, but hang with me for a while!

Since that night in November, I've been reading and thinking about how the FCA ministry at IU can use technology and social media to expand the kingdom for Christ. One strategy I am experimenting with is Google Hangouts. Similar to Skype or FaceTime, Hangouts are an easy way to have interactive meetings online. With this technology readily available to practically everybody, I can't help but ponder the numerous opportunities Hangouts can create for FCA at IU. Imagine what multiple weekly Bible studies would look like using Hangouts. How great would this method be for the Men's Life ministry! Especially for those that can't make it to the meetings. But it doesn't end there. Consider how much more activity we would receive if we recorded and posted our Men's Life meetings online. The possibilities are truly endless!

Romans 10:14-15

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"

Thanks to the Bible application and smartphones, 200 million people have access to this verse by simply tapping a screen. Did you know that? Have you ever thought about how many sermons can be listened to or watched online?

Today, I think it would be very likely that Paul would write (or type), "How beautiful are the fingers of those who share the Good News!"

May we be open to new ways of sharing the Good News with others! Let us pray for those who are using modern technology to reach others for Christ. May we be willing to share Christ daily and open to the lead of the Holy Spirit. Let us pray that God will use us in a way that brings glory and honor to Him in all we say and do.