

Gift of Evangelist

Ephesians 4:11 And He Himself gave some to be ... evangelists,

Defined:

Greek - "EUANGELIST&S"— Messenger of good; bringer of good tidings

Description:

'The gift of evangelist is the special ability God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to share the gospel with unbelievers in such a way that men and women become Jesus' disciples and responsible, fruitful members of His Body.'

Isaiah 52:7 "How beautiful upon the mountains
Are the feet of him who brings good news,
Who proclaims peace,
Who brings glad tidings of good things,
Who proclaims salvation,
Who says to Zion,
"Your God reigns!"



People with this gift show:

- Love for others
- Love for Jesus
- Zeal
- Compassion for the lost
- Good speaking ability
- Knowledge of the Scriptures
- Friendliness
- Persuasive personality
- Passion

Characteristics:

1. In a compelling, persuasive way the evangelist urges the hearer to make a decision to follow Christ as a natural step of commitment. The evangelist is a persuader, born of the conviction that a person without God is headed for eternal punishment. He is passionate about rescuing the perishing and caring for the lost.
2. Although all Christians should be able and eager to tell others what Christ has done for them (Mark 5:19), not all are called to be in the office of an Evangelist. It is a distinct gift given by the ascended Christ to some of His servants.
3. The evangelist will tell the story—proclaim the good news. The word *evangelist* contains the smaller word *evangel*, which literally means *good news*. The evangelist is also able to give a reason and defense of the faith against false and untenable claims.
4. The evangelist works within the local church, the body of Christ. Along with other gifted ones, the work of the evangelist is to prepare people for God's work in the harvest—work that extends naturally into discipling those who are born into the Kingdom and nurturing of God's people.

Ephesians 4:12 "... equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ..."

Scriptural Example:

1. Philip:

Acts 8:5-8 Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them. And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed. And there was great joy in that city.

Acts 8:26-39 Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, "Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is desert. So he arose and went. And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace the queen of the Ethiopians, who had charge of all her treasury, and had come to Jerusalem to worship, was returning. And sitting in his chariot, he was reading Isaiah the prophet. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go near and overtake this chariot." So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?" And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him. The place in the Scripture which he read was this:

"He was led as a sheep to the slaughter;
And as a lamb before its shearer [is] silent,
So He opened not His mouth.

In His humiliation His justice was taken away,
And who will declare His generation?
For His life is taken from the earth."

So the eunuch answered Philip and said, "I ask you, of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man?" Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, [here] [is] water. What hinders me from being baptized?" Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing.

Misuses:

1. Operating outside of, and without accountability to, the local church. Being rebellious and renegade to the structure of established churches. Not recognizing that their strength is to compliment the weaknesses of the local church.
2. Being critical of the failure of the local church in evangelism, thus not operating in it. There is a tendency for some to function only in para-church organizations.
3. Gift projection: Making others feel guilty for not being evangelists.
4. Relying on personal charisma, techniques and manipulation rather than the leading and power of the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 2:4 And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

5. Talking instead of listening and being sensitive to peoples needs.
6. Making disciples unto oneself and not establishing new converts into the local church.
7. Competing with other ministry gifts instead of seeing their role as completing the body.

...except ye repent,
ye shall all likewise
perish!



Practical Wisdom:

1. Pray for more Evangelists.

Luke 10:2 Then He said to them, "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.

2. Every Christian is called to be witness.
3. The local church should maximize the special gifts of the evangelists and honor their place in the Body by careful and full use of their role.
4. Assist the evangelist with follow up and discipleship of new believers.

Acts 8:14 Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them...

5. Be careful not to assume that only those with the "gift of gab" are evangelists or can be involved in evangelism. God uses every personality, even the small, quiet voices. Example: Timothy was a pastor whom Paul exhorted to stir up his gifts.

2 Timothy 4:5 But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, *do the work of an evangelist*, fulfill your ministry.

Ministries of the Evangelist:

- Preaching
- Hospital visitation
- Door to door witnessing
- Children's/Youth ministry
- Friendship evangelism
- Discipleship
- Itinerant ministers
- Missionaries
- Prison ministry
- Market place ministers (business, sales)
- Healing

Complementing Gifts:

- Exhortation
- Miracles
- Word of Wisdom
- Word of knowledge
- Discerning of Spirits
- Gifts of Healing

Pastors' Opinion



"Every church should have the goal to have an Evangelist on staff"