

Lifestyle Evangelism in the 21st Century:
Building Bridges to Neighbors and Neighborhoods
September 26th, 2009

WORKSHOPS 1
11:00am – 11:45am

From Cults to Cultures: *Bridges, Grounded, and Transitions* as a Case Study in a New Evangelical Paradigm on New Religions

John Morehead

In the Christendom context of previous decades, evangelicals approached adherents of new religions as cults and heretical systems and largely utilized an apologetic contrast and confrontation approach. More recently, evangelicals have developed a cross-cultural missions approach that considers not only the significance of theology and apologetics, but also the history of missions, missiology, as well as the insights of sociology of religion and religious studies. This seminar will discuss this new paradigm among evangelicals and will consider examples from the *Bridges, Grounded, and Transitions* resources of the Western Institute for Intercultural Studies as illustrations of this model.

Together in Story; Holistic Proclamation

Clark Blakeman

Building on the idea that holistic proclamation is the natural unpacking of both the gospel's deed (demonstration) and its word (explanation) this workshop will examine the wonderful opportunities presented through partnerships with neighbors, schools, social service agencies and neighborhood associations. We'll see that deep relationships are forged through sharing common mission and common story with folks who desire to enrich and transform the experiences of their community. In the common story of deep relationships and shared mission the gospel is interpreted providing a fertile context and frequent opportunity for idea exchange and explanation. How can we be together in story?

The Lost Art of Place-making: What We Build Shapes How We Love

Rusty Pritchard

The way we build our cities, transportation systems, streetscapes, and neighborhoods affects how easy it is to meet our neighbors, to share life with them, and to build healthy communities together. Examples from inner-cities and suburbs show how new urban design adapts traditional neighborhood features to modern life, lowers our environmental footprints, opens our eyes to injustice, and enables us to encounter our neighbors in more natural ways.

WORKSHOPS 2

2:30pm – 3:10pm

The Life of a Friend: the Dynamics of Verbal and Non-Verbal Evangelism

Tony Kriz

Evangelism is a whole-person experience. The whole of who we are engages the whole of the other. In this workshop, you will discover that the mechanisms of communication are surprising in how they intricately speak into relationships.

Which Way to the Future?

Caleb Rosado

This workshop analyzes the direction society is heading into the future and the challenges that this will pose to the church and its mission, especially in an urban context. Participants will gain a new perspective on how social forces will impact the ministry of the church, especially its youth, the “digital natives.” It will focus on a Values Systems framework in light of the changing face of Christianity. Welcome to the future!

I Am Dobson: Converting Societal Structures

Paul Louis Metzger

The Evangelical Christian movement has concerned itself with lifestyle evangelism on a person-to-person basis, but by and large has not brought lifestyle evangelism into the discussion of changing societal structures. This is illustrated in the iconic significance of leading Evangelical figures, such as Dr. James Dobson. Many in our society view these Evangelical Christian leaders as not being concerned for compassionate and sacrificial coexistence and loving their enemies. As difficult as this perception may be for many of us as Christ-followers to recognize and engage, we must understand that it is not simply what we say that matters, but also what we communicate to people. We must repent as a movement for those times when we have not been redemptive. Furthermore, we must become more intentional about converting societal structures through sacrificial coexistence if we are to reach all our neighbors with the love of Christ. To the extent we do these things, we will foster lifestyle evangelism in a truly redemptive way in the public square.

WORKSHOPS 3

3:15pm – 3:55pm

Won't You Be My Neighbor?

Ben Malick & Rachel O'Brien, New Wine Interns

What does Scripture say about engaging our neighbor in our cultural context? This interactive dialogue will explore how theology informs the practical application of person-to-person evangelism. Examples of this lived-out expression will help redefine who we consider a neighbor and how we choose to love them.

Uniting to Serve: Churches Working Together to Demonstrate the Love of Christ through Unity and Service

Gary Tribbett

You've read the books, heard the speakers, taken the class and bought in to what God is saying to the church today. That is, the Gospel is to be lived out in an incarnational missional demonstration and proclamation of the whole gospel. How does that work in the local church? How can a group of committed followers of Christ work together across denominational and cultural boundaries to serve their community? Come to this workshop to get a practical example of how this has been taking place right here in Portland in such a way that has attracted national media attention.

Church Based Medicine for the Underserved, Evangelism, and Engaging the Structures of Healthcare

Steve Baker

This workshop will discuss how church based medical ministries can not only help individuals in need of medical care who have slipped through the cracks of the system, but also how they can redemptively engage the structures of healthcare, influencing them with the values of Christ and his Kingdom.