

BE READY!

1 Peter 3:13-16

1 Pet 1:1–2 - 1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who reside as aliens, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, who are chosen 2 according to the foreknowledge of God the Father...

FIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR EFFECTIVE EVANGELISM

I. TRUST

1 Pet 3:12 - FOR THE EYES OF THE LORD ARE TOWARD THE RIGHTEOUS, AND HIS EARS ATTEND TO THEIR PRAYER, BUT THE FACE OF THE LORD IS AGAINST THOSE WHO DO EVIL.

13 (Therefore) Who is there to harm you if you prove zealous for what is good?

*Rom 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If
God is for us, who is against us?*

FIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR EFFECTIVE EVANGELISM

I. TRUST

*14 But even if you should suffer for the sake of
righteousness, you are blessed....*

2 Thes 1:4 - ... we ourselves speak proudly of you among the churches of God for your perseverance and faith in the midst of all your persecutions and afflictions which you endure.

2 Tim 3:11–12 - 11 persecutions, and sufferings, ... happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium and at Lystra; what persecutions I endured, and out of them all the Lord rescued me! 12 Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

FIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR EFFECTIVE EVANGELISM

I. TRUST

14 But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, you are blessed....

Matt 5:10–12 - 10 "Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 "Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. 12 "Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great...

FIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR EFFECTIVE EVANGELISM

I. TRUST

*14...AND DO NOT FEAR THEIR INTIMIDATION
AND DO NOT BE TROUBLED...*

Matt 2:3 - When Herod the king heard this... (meaning the report of the Magi seeing the 'star)... ..he was troubled...

Matt 14:26 - When the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified...

John 14:1 - Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me.

Isa 8:12–13 - 12 "You are not to say, 'It is a conspiracy!' In regard to all that this people call a conspiracy, and you are not to fear what they fear or be in dread of it. 13 "It is the LORD of hosts whom you should regard as holy. And He shall be your fear...

FIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR EFFECTIVE EVANGELISM

II. CONFIDENCE

15 but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts...

1 Pet 1:22 - ... fervently love one another from the heart,

1 Pet 3:3–4 - 3 Your adornment must not be merely external--braiding the hair, and wearing gold jewelry, or putting on dresses; 4 but let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in the sight of God.

FIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR EFFECTIVE EVANGELISM

II. CONFIDENCE

15 but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts...

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III. READINESS

15...always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you...

1:21 - ... your faith and hope are in God.

1:3 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead...

1:13 - ... fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

FIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR EFFECTIVE EVANGELISM

III. READINESS

15...always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you...

Acts 22:1-21 – Paul’s defense before the Jews in Jerusalem

Acts 24:10-24 – Paul’s defense before Felix, the Governor

Acts 26:1-29 – Paul’s defense before King Agrippa

FIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR EFFECTIVE EVANGELISM

IV. GRACIOUSNESS

15...yet with gentleness and reverence;

FIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR EFFECTIVE EVANGELISM

- I. TRUST
- II. CONFIDENCE
- III. READINESS
- IV. GRACIOUSNESS
- V. INTEGRITY

16 and keep a good conscience....

JOBES: It is hard to effectively explain the hope we have in Christ if we are living in ways that contradict that hope.

16...so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ will be put to shame.

*1:15 - but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your **behavior**;*

*3:2 – Wives are called upon to demonstrate **chaste and respectful behavior**.*

1 Cor 1:27 – but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong...

#1 – Why Evangelism Is Difficult? \

**#2 – How does this passage view the idea some have that their faith is *private*? **

**#3 – How does this passage impact the view some Christians have that they should withdraw from society...or from the world? **

GOPPELT: Faith does not close doors to relationships with other people out of either fear or hate. It turns, rather, in openness to others just as it turns to God.

1 Cor 5:10–13 - 10 I did not at all mean with the immoral people of this world, or with the covetous and swindlers, or with idolaters, for then you would have to go out of the world. 11 But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he is an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler—not even to eat with such a one. 12 For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Do you not judge those who are within the church? 13 But those who are outside, God judges. REMOVE THE WICKED MAN FROM AMONG YOURSELVES.

Cultural isolation is not to be the route taken by the Christian community. It is to live its life openly in the midst of the unbelieving world, and just as openly to be prepared to explain the reasons for it.

#4 – How should this passage alter our view of trials?

#5 – How is our inner life and our outer life connected?

1 Pet 1:6–7 - 6 In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, 7 so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

#6 – How should this passage impact the manner in which we proclaim truth?