

Evangelism Part IV

Why We Don't Do Evangelism Cont...

1. Review (Why we don't)
 - a. Cultural Hindrance – it's a personal choice, none of my business etc.
 - b. First-hand faith missing
 - c. Empty Cup – distracted or bound in sin

2. It costs us too much
 - a. Rejection.
 - b. Don't want to offend anyone
 - i. The Name of Jesus itself just offends people!
 - ii. The "Offense" of the Gospel
 1. Acts 4:12
 2. John 14:6

3. Cultural isolation – we are isolated in the church
 - a. The Christian Ghetto - A **ghetto** is a part of a city in which members of a minority group live, especially because of social, legal, or economic pressure
 - b. Our Challenge... Living a life that keeps us connected to the world yet not overcome by the world
 - c. John 17:14-18

4. We do not believe there is a need
 - a. Do we really believe people will be lost?
 - b. Christian Universalism = a misunderstanding of love and creates apathy towards the world.
 - c. *By Love, most of us mean kindness—the desire to see others than the self happy. And not happy in this way, or in that; just happy. What most of us mean by God is not so much a Father in Heaven, as a grandfather in heaven—a senile old benevolence who, as they say, liked to see the young people enjoying themselves, and whose plan for the universe was simply that it might be said at the end of each day, that a good time was had by all.*

But if God is Love, then He is, by definition, something more than mere kindness. To ask that God's love should be content with us as we are is to ask that God should cease to be God. Because He is what He is, His Love must be impeded and repelled by certain stains

in our present character, and because He already so deeply loves us, He must labor to make us more lovable.

When Christianity says that God Loves man, it means that God really actively Loves man. Not that he has some disinterested and impartial concern for our welfare, but that in hard to swallow and unbelievable surprising truth, we are the actual objects of His great Love. You asked for a Loving God, and you have one. The great Spirit you so lightly invoked, the 'lord of terrible aspect,' is in fact present. Not a senile benevolence that drowsily wishes you to be happy; not the cold philanthropy of a conscientious magistrate; not the care of a host who feels responsible for the comfort of his guests; but the consuming fire Himself, the Love that made worlds, persistent as an artist's love for his work, provident and venerable as a father's love for a child, and as jealous and inexorable and exacting as the love between a man and a woman.

Abridged and adapted from "[The Problem of Pain](#)" by C. S. Lewis

d. John 3:14-18

5. Our world is waiting!