

Christ-follower/s: the complexities of committing your life to Jesus.

Weakness Into Strength

March 25, 2007

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Clip: Rachel at the bowling alley.

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Evangelism

- ☞ What is evangelism?
- ☞ How does does the prospect of doing “evangelism” make you feel?
- ☞ What do you think about it when you hear about people who are “evangelicals?”
- ☞ Why do some have problems with it?

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Why some Evangelism may not work

- ☞ Assumes relationship that are not there
- ☞ Inauthenticity of self.
- ☞ Friendship with expected destination.
- ☞ No sense of mutual transformation.
- ☞ Ultimately most Christians come of as arrogant, truth holders.
- ☞ Seems more about doing than being; immediate and finite destination over ongoing journey of discovery.

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When translations matters

- ☞ Verb To Go
- ☞ Present Middle/Passive Indicative
 - ☞ when you go, as you go, if you go
- ☞ Imperative
 - ☞ Go! Go now!
- ☞ Poreuomai = Not a command to go, but an understanding that if/when/as we go . . .

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Matthew 28:18-20

- ☞ 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

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This new reading and Paul gives us another posture for Evangelism

- ☞ We go, but we do so with humility; *for when I am weak, then I am strong.*
- ☞ See transformation as strength
- ☞ Live with gratitude w/o obvious cause
- ☞ Have compassion w/o expectation
- ☞ Be in solidarity w/o judgment
- ☞ Be passionate about what we believe to the point of being, living, doing . . .

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So what does it look like here

- ☞ Deconstructing, redefining, claiming of faith centered on the fullness of Christ.
- ☞ Authenticity and Integrity as a community: postcards, website, blogs, networks . . .
- ☞ Acknowledging, sharing and living our own discovery of a spiritual journey . . .
- ☞ How else might you/we engage in healthy and appropriate evangelism?

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Next Week // *The Innocence of Hope*
