IT’S NOT ROCKET SCIENCE
Offering a Gospel Invitation in your sermon
WELCOME

• Who I am
• Introduce yourself
  • What’s your name?
  • Where are you serving?
  • In one sentence tell us why you do what you do.
NEW DISTRICT METRIC: HOW MANY TIMES ARE YOU MAKING AN INVITATION TO THE GOSPEL EACH MONTH?
WHY DO THEY NEED TO KNOW?
WHAT IS CONSIDERED A GOSPEL INVITATION?

• Gospel – the GOOD NEWS of Jesus Christ
• Invitation – to make a formal request for someone to do something or go somewhere
You have nothing to do but to save souls. Therefore spend and be spent in this work. And go not only to those that need you, but to those that need you most. It is not your business to preach so many times, and to take care of this or that society; but to save as many souls as you can; to bring as many sinners as you possibly can to repentance.
GOSPEL INVITATION IN A WESLEYAN UNDERSTANDING:

GOD’S GRACE AT WORK WITHIN US

- Searching for Meaning
- Exploring Christ’s Way
- Beginning New Life In Christ
- Growing Our Walk In Christ
- Maturing Our Walk In Christ

Prevenient Grace

Justifying Grace

Sanctifying Grace
NOT GIVEN A SPIRIT OF FEAR – 2 TIM 1:7
THIS DOESN’T NECESSARILY MEAN AN “ALTAR CALL”

• If appropriate in your context/theology go for it
• If not offer some other way for folks to respond
WHAT AREAS IN YOUR WORSHIP SERVICES ALREADY OFFER A GOSPEL INVITATION?
CHECK YOUR ASSUMPTIONS

• “Everyone in my church already knows Jesus”

• “We don’t have any guests, so there’s no need.”

• “I tried it once and there was no response.”

• What other reasons might you have?
You Are Now Entering

THE MISSION FIELD
YEAH, BUT HOW DO I ADD IT TO A SERMON?

• “You must know grace to preach it.” – Bryan Chappell, Christ Centered Preaching
• Remember your “Why?”
• If you are a Lectionary preacher – you have a gospel text every week. Invite people to find where the story comes to life in their life.

• Series preacher – plan that at least one Sunday a month you will have an “invitation” Sunday where you make it a point to invite people to encounter God’s grace
• Does your sermon answer the, “so, what?” question? What does it have to do with my life?

• Work to have an “elevator speech” version of your sermon – can you sum up what your main point is in 1 minute?
• Start with your conclusion or action step – what do you want to compel people to do, believe or avoid? What is the action step?

• What human dilemma or problem is the text addressing? Where does not step into this? Where is God’s grace at work in the situation?
SERMON GOSPEL INVITATION HOW-TO'S

• Remember it is ultimately God offering an invitation for us to follow along the path of salvation.

• Consider offering sermon notes – have the action step on the notes for people to take home.

• Have a plan for next steps – what to do once they say yes!
WAYS TO OFFER A RESPONSE

- Communion – is an invitation with a chance to respond; but help people understand

- Communication card

- Connection Point
QUESTIONS?
TRY IT OUT!

• What text are you preaching on tomorrow?
• What’s your Scripture?
• What is your main idea?
• Where is there already an invitation?
• Where might you be able to add one?