churches preaching the gospel wherever/whenever they could, men who dedicated their lives as evangelists, and churches who sent men to preach. To spread God's word effectively today, disciples and churches must constantly be praying for and looking for the open doors for the word God opens (Colossians 4:3-6)! The more doors we can utilize effectively, the more people will be reached with the saving gospel message!

**Possible evangelistic efforts.** Although not an exhaustive list, consider the following areas and spend some time brainstorming ways to spread the gospel through them. First, church assemblies (i.e. weekly assemblies, special assemblies, assemblies at various locations, etc.). Second, support evangelists (i.e. in a local area or in multiple areas). Third, be visible in public places (i.e. booth at a fair/festival, public advertising, etc.). Fourth, media (i.e. content or advertisements in commonly consumed media). Fifth, internet (i.e. websites, social media platforms, podcasts, online courses, webinars, etc.). Sixth, small group Bible studies (i.e. at the regular meeting place, in homes, at restaurants, etc.). Seventh, cold calling (i.e. door-knocking, door-hangers, mass mailings, etc.). Eighth, relationships (i.e. conversations and Bible studies with people you know and people you meet).

To be evergywhere with the gospel, you need to develop the ability to see opportunities to spread God's saving message. Keep your eyes open for doors for the word in the areas we've discussed as well as in other areas. Both churches and individual Christians can try to utilize as many strategies and avenues as possible to share the gospel with others!

## Conclusion

How effective are you and the congregation you work with in spreading God's saving message to the lost? Are you following the effective evangelism model of "be evergywhere" used in the first century? Or, are you and the church neglecting this great work by leaving the seed in the hard? Certainly, those who love God and love message as far and wide as possible! they can to spread God's saving message to the lost? Are you the first century? Or, are you

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There is a true need for local churches and individual Christians to be committed to spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ today. When this happened in the first century, the gospel spread and the disciples multiplied (Acts 6:7). However, this kind of multiplication is often not seen today. While there may be various reasons for this, we must consider whether we are leaving the seed of God's word in the barn (Haggai 2:19). For, it is only when we diligently sow the seed (even when it costs us much) that we will be able to rejoice at the harvest (Psalm 126:5-6). A Biblical model for doing this can be described as "be everywhere."

The purpose of this lesson is to learn how local churches and Christians should utilize the "be everywhere" model in evangelism today.

### Be Everywhere – A Successful Model for Evangelism

**John 4:1-42.** Jesus overcame barriers to talk to this Samaritan woman (vv. 4-10). This resulted in the woman believing in Him – and others believing in Him through her after she went back to the city and told others about Jesus (vv. 28-29). Both Jesus and the woman taught people wherever they were and did what they could to save the lost!

**Mark 16:15.** Since Jesus would no longer be in the world to teach the lost, this work would be left to His apostles and disciples. As we will see, they went about doing this work – taking the gospel wherever they would go!

**Acts 5:42.** Even though the Jewish leaders commanded the apostles not to teach about Jesus anymore, they continued teaching the gospel and tried to utilize as many avenues as Jewish people who would visit the temple and they taught in reached the Jewish people.

**Acts 8:4**. When a severe persecution forced many Christians to leave Jerusalem, they took the gospel with them. Acts 11:19-24 everywhere demonstrates how these "ordinary" Christians spread the gospel wherever they went, as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch.

**Acts 17:6**. As Paul went about preaching in various places, he and his companions were not trying to have some minimal impact on society with the gospel. Rather, they wanted everyone to have the opportunity to hear and obey its saving message!

**Acts 17:16-17**. When Paul was in Athens, he did whatever he could to help them learn about the true God and the salvation available through Jesus. Notice the tried to reach people where they were – talking to worshipers of God who met in the synagogue and people everywhere marketplace who happened to be there. So, he utilized multiple avenues in trying to reach people with the gospel and was busy trying to reach them every day!

**Acts 19:26**. This passage records the accusation by one man who stood opposed to Paul in Ephesus. Simply notice how the gospel had preached had been spread far and wide. This should be attributed to the efforts of taking the gospel anywhere he could and utilizing many effective avenues for spreading that message.

**Acts 20:20**. In this passage, Paul discussed his past work in Ephesus (as he met with the elders from the church). He had taught people what they needed to hear and would do so in both public and private settings. We know he utilized public settings such as the synagogue and marketplace. And, he also went house-to-house spreading this message.

**1 Thessalonians 1:8**. The church in Thessalonica used whatever opportunities and abilities they had (individually and collectively) to ring out God's word both locally and beyond! God only knows the kind of impact this had on the world for Jesus, including the people who may have obeyed the gospel and the churches that may have been started in connection with these efforts.

**1 Timothy 3:15**. Although no specific strategy is outlined here, it does demonstrate a certain mentality all God's people should have. God's church has the responsibility to hold up and proclaim the message of truth to a lost and dying world!

**2 Timothy 2:2**. While many strategies have been and can be used in preaching God's word, God's message, they have the responsibility to spread learn and obey the gospel's message to others, etc. So, God wants "all that message to other, who will spread it to others, so God wants "all hands on deck" in evangelism – with every Christian doing what he/she can do.

**Colossians 1:23**. After Jesus gave the Great Commission (Mark 16:15), this passage shows that the gospel was spread throughout the world in around 30 years! How did they do this? Not with large numbers to start. Not with modern conveniences of travel and technology. Not with financial resources and buildings. But, simply with a zeal to spread the message wherever they went! This is worth much more than anything else!

## Observing Some Common Problems With Today's Evangelistic Methods of Evangelism

**Afraid/unwilling to change from traditional methods of evangelism.** Although we must never change the message or do things that are Biblically unauthorized, we must be willing to adapt our approaches to evangelism to become more effective and utilize the opportunities available today.

**Church building as the center for all evangelistic efforts.** While there is nothing wrong with inviting people to come to the building to hear the gospel preached, this is only one tool we can use and it will often not be as effective as going to where the lost are to teach them.

**Other things considered to be more important than reaching the lost.** While evangelism is not the only work local churches and Christians have been given, it is certainly not the least important and it must not be neglected for less important things (i.e. churches that become overly focused on the upkeep of the meeting places).

**One size fits all approaches.** While organized evangelistic programs may have their place, they miss many other opportunities to teach and should be viewed as part of a larger "be everywhere" strategy that utilizes as many opportunities as possible rather than as the entire strategy.

**Every Christian not preaching.** While a local church can utilize a local evangelist working with them, every member should be equipped to preached God's word [Ephesians 4:11-16) and should be actively involved in helping the gospel spread however he/she can!

## How To Be Everywhere Today

**Utilize as many doors for the word as possible.** The first century model shows us how the gospel was spread throughout the known world about 30 years (Mark 16:15; Colossians 1:23). This involved disciples and