

# Six Evangelistic Styles

## Direct Style

**Biblical Example:** Peter in Acts 2

**Traits:** Confident, Skips small talk, Bold, Has strong opinions, Direct

**Cautions:**

- Seek God's wisdom so you will be sensitive and tactful
- Allow the Holy Spirit to restrain your desire to come on strong in every situation

**Suggestions:**

- Ask a friend if you are equally bold and gentle
- Prepare yourself for situations where you will stand alone and have others feeling uncomfortable
- Practice listening to what they say before telling them what you think they need to hear

## Invitational Style

**Biblical Example:** The woman at the well in John 4

**Traits:** Hospitable, Committed, Persuasive, Enjoys meeting new people, Sees outreach events as unique opportunities

**Cautions:**

- Do not let others do all the talking for you--your friends need to hear how Christ has influenced your own life
- Carefully consider which events and church services you take people to
- Do not discouraged if people refuse your invitation

**Suggestions:**

- Try to get written information into people's hands that you invite
- Offer positive and constructive feedback to event sponsors to improve event and make it more compelling

## Serving Style

**Biblical Example:** Tabitha (Dorcas) in Acts 9

**Traits:** Patient, Shows love through action, Attaches value to even menial tasks

**Cautions:**

- You still have to verbally tell people about Christ
- Do not underestimate the value of your service
- Be realistic about how much you really can do

**Suggestions:**

- Find creative ways to communicate your spiritual motivation behind the physical acts of service
- Seek God for opportunities to serve--He will open your eyes to possibilities you would not have seen
- Be careful not to impose your acts on others

## Testimonial Style

**Biblical Example:** The blind man in John 9

**Traits:** Clear communicator, Overwhelmed with how God reached them, Good Listener, Vulnerable about personal life, Sees links between their experience and others

**Cautions:**

- Be sure to relate your experience to the life of the listener
- Do not stop with just your story – challenge them to apply what you learned to their life
- Do not down play your story as ordinary

**Suggestions:**

- Practice so you will be able to tell your story without hesitation
- Keep your story fresh by adding new and current illustrations
- Keep Christ and the Gospel at the center of your story

## Interpersonal Style

**Biblical Example:** Matthew in Luke 5:29

**Traits:** Conversational, Friendship-oriented, Compassionate, Sensitive, Focuses on people/their needs

**Cautions:**

- Beware of valuing friendship over truth--we are all sinners and need Jesus
- Do not get overwhelmed with the amount of needs your friend might have
- Do not get so involved in building the friendship that you forget the goal of leading them to Jesus

**Suggestions:**

- Be patient--this style works gradually
- Continually create and plan opportunities to interact with new people through social events
- Practice telling the gospel message so that when the opportunity arises, you will be prepared

## Intellectual Style

**Biblical Example:** Paul in Acts 17

**Traits:** Analytical, Likes to debate, Logical, Inquisitive

**Cautions:**

- Avoid getting stuck on academic points, arguments and evidence
- Remember attitude is as important as information
- Avoid becoming argumentative

**Suggestions:**

- Set time aside to study and prepare
- Develop your relational side – talk to people about everyday events