

Series: Types of Evangelism
Lesson 1: Confrontational Evangelist

Adapted from Kelli Mahoney's Handout [Types of Evangelism](#)¹

Matthew 16:1-17 Darrin Woods, Facilitator

Key Verse: “He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” (Matthew 16:15)²

- Passage Discussion:
 - Consider the following questions after reading the description of The Confrontational Evangelist on the [Types of Evangelism](#) Handout (see back page) and Matthew 16:1-17
 - Matthew 16:1-4; How did the Pharisees and Sadducees view Jesus based on their conversation? In what ways were Jesus’ words confrontational?
 - Matthew 16:5-12; How did Jesus view His disciples’ faith and understanding of the Pharisees and Sadducees’ false doctrine? In what ways were Jesus’ words confrontational?
 - Matthew 16:13-17; How did people and Jesus’ disciples view His ministry and deity? In what ways was Jesus’ words confrontational?
 - List three words that you feel best summarize challenges Jesus faced as The Confrontational Evangelist.
- Practical Application:
 - The Confrontational Evangelist as Evidenced in Matthew 16:15
 - How did Jesus fulfill characteristics of the Confrontational Evangelist?
 - How can Christians be effective Confrontational Evangelists?
 - NLCC Project: Evangelism, I Believe

¹ <http://christianteens.about.com/od/christianliving/tp/EvangelismStyle.htm>

² *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Ac 17:31). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

Types of Evangelism

Every Christian teen has a certain style when it comes to evangelism. Every Christian has a comfortable tone for discussing their faith with others. Some Christian teens are more confrontational while others are intellectuals. Still, even others are interpersonal. While there is no "one right way" to evangelize, you should still know your own witnessing style:

1. The Confrontational Evangelist

Do you tend to confront people's fears or objections directly when you evangelize? Do many people tend to tell you that you are blunt when you discuss your faith? If so, then you are more like Peter in that your style is confrontational. Even Jesus was confrontational at times, asking direct questions and expecting direct responses:

Matthew 16:15 - "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" (NIV)

2. The Intellectual Evangelist

Many teens have an intellectual viewpoint, often because they are in school and have that "learning" focus. Paul was an apostle that also had that type of view on the world and he used it in his approach to evangelism. He had a way of using logic to evangelize. A good example is in Acts 17:16-31 where he offers logical reasons to believe in the "invisible" God.

Acts 17:31 - "For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead." (NIV)

3. The Testimonial Evangelist

Do you have a great testimony about how you became a Christian or how God helped you through some tough times? If so, then you are more like the blind man in John 9 that told the Pharisees he believed because Jesus healed him. His testimony helped others see that Jesus was the Way.

John 9:30-33 - "The man answered, "Now that is remarkable! You don't know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly man who does his will. Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." (NIV)

4. The Interpersonal Evangelist

Some Christian teens prefer to witness individually. They like to get to know the people they speak with about their faith, and they tailor their approach to the individual person's needs. Jesus was often interpersonal in both small groups and individually. For instance, in Matthew 15 Jesus speaks to the Canaanite woman then goes and feeds the four thousand.

Matthew 15:28 - "Then Jesus answered, 'Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.' And her daughter was healed from that very hour." (NIV)

5. The Invitational Evangelist

Both the Samaritan woman and Levi were examples of those that invited people to meet Christ. Some Christian teens take this approach by inviting friends and others to church services or youth group activities hoping that they will be able to see faith in action.

Luke 5:29 - "Then Levi held a great banquet for Jesus at his house, and a large crowd of tax collectors and others were eating with them." (NIV)

6. The Service Evangelist

While some Christian teens take a more direct evangelistic approach, others prefer to be examples of Christ through service. Dorcas was a good example of someone who did a lot of good things for the poor and leading by example. Many missionaries often evangelize through service rather than through words alone.

Acts 9:36 - "In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which, when translated, is Dorcas), who was always doing good and helping the poor." (NIV)