

# DISCUSSION GUIDE

## *Avoiding Evangelistic Discouragement* The Gospel of Mark — Week 29

**ICEBREAKER:** What's your favorite board game? Do you usually win?

**OVERVIEW:** Leading someone to Christ is one of the most exciting and rewarding experiences in life. But when we don't see any fruit, evangelism can get discouraging. In this discussion we will go deeper and discuss how we can avoid evangelism discouragement so that we can keep serving Christ, year after year, until the day God takes us home.

1. Read Mark 6:6-13. What insight, principle, or observation from this week-end's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. Define evangelism in your own words. How passionate are you about evangelism right now? Explain.
3. Have you ever been discouraged because of continued failed attempts at evangelism? Explain. How did it affect your attitude toward evangelism?
4. In Mark 6, Jesus instructed the disciples to shake the dust from their feet if people rejected them. In other words, if people reject the Gospel, it's on them, not the apostles. God has sent us to share the Gospel, but we cannot control the results. The primary cause of evangelism discouragement is results-centered evangelism. How have you seen results-centered evangelism negatively impact yourself or others?

5. How would it benefit you if you focused all your attention on the task of evangelism rather than the results?
6. The solution to evangelism discouragement is to focus on input, not outcome. What are some ways that you can do this?
7. How equipped do you feel to share the Gospel clearly and briefly?
8. 1 Peter 3:15-16 says, "15 Always be ready to give a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you. 16 However, do this with gentleness and respect." How can you get better at sharing the Gospel "with gentleness and respect?"
9. How can you be more active at sharing your faith? What are the names of the lost people whom God has strategically placed in your path? What can you do to be more active in sharing the Gospel with them?
10. Read Titus 2:9-10. How do you need to grow so that your character and lifestyle better adorn the Gospel?

**The Last Word:** God has sent you to share the Gospel, but you cannot control the results. Focus on input, not outcome.