

***What is a Healthy Church Member***  
**Week 5 Study Guide**  
A Healthy Church Member is a Biblical Evangelist

**Goal: To increase our confidence in the power of the Gospel, and thus to make each of us a more faithful biblical evangelist.**

1. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-21.

a) Define reconciliation. In this passage, who needs to be reconciled? Why? Who does the reconciling? How?

b) Read verse 21 carefully. Replace all the second person pronouns (“he”, “him”) with their antecedents. What did God do? What did Christ become? What does it mean to say that we become the righteousness of God?

c) Summarize the Gospel using the terms of this passage. Use first person pronouns in your summary, and thus speak the Gospel to yourself. Be sure to include the language of verse 17.

d) Explain how these verses elaborate on the idea of Romans 1:16, that the Gospel is “the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.”

e) What does an ambassador do? What phrases in this passage elaborate on our responsibilities as ambassadors? What must we do to live out these responsibilities, according to the passage?

f) How does salvation being the work of God have an impact on our role as His ambassadors?

2. Now read *What is a Healthy Church Member* chapter 5.

a) Have you experienced (or even used) unbiblical methods of evangelism? How did they differ from biblical evangelism?

b) On p.60, Thabiti quotes with approval Michael Andrus' statement that a biblical evangelist should focus on deeds rather than words. How is this different from making salvation dependent on our works?

c) Summarize Thabiti's explanation of the role of the local church in evangelism (p. 60-61). What is "spiritual individualism," and why is it a danger?

d) Suppose a friend said to you, "In our church, the pastors exhort us to bring our friends to church to hear the Gospel. That's our task. We're not expected to share the Gospel ourselves." Is what Thabiti says consistent with what this friend says?

e) In light of this lesson, how will you live out your role as Christ's ambassador, to whom God has entrusted His message of reconciliation?