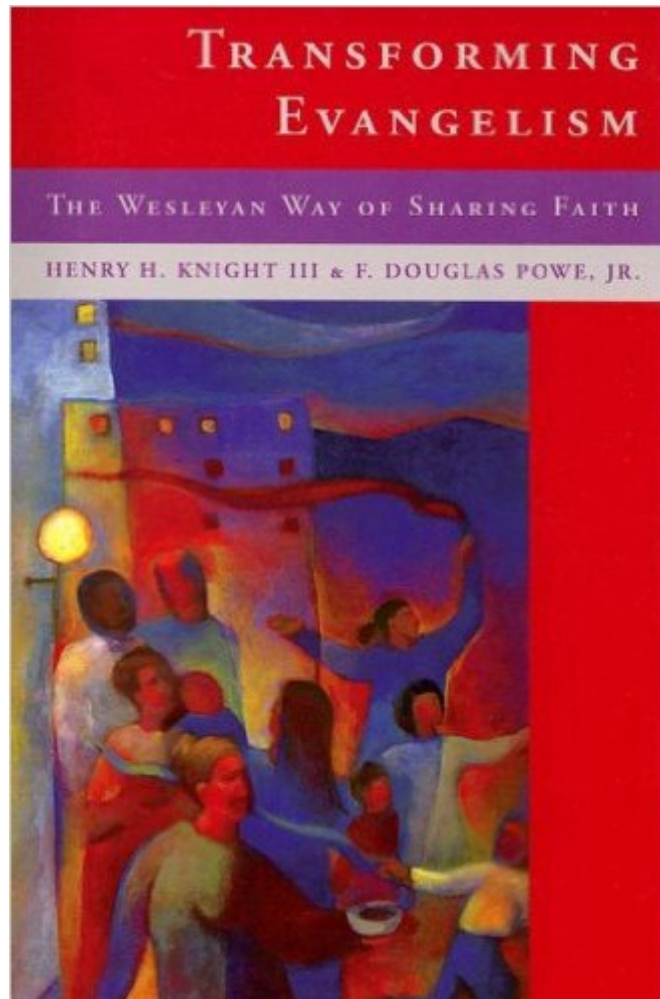


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# Transforming Evangelism: The Wesleyan Way Of Sharing Faith



## Synopsis

Because of the more aggressive and confrontational tactics we hear about, evangelism has developed a bad connotation. Doors are shut hurriedly, phone calls end abruptly and emails left unanswered. After all, isn't this a task better handled by the pastor? Perhaps it's time to re-examine John Wesley's model of evangelism as a full, natural circle - where it's a communal beginning point rather than an solitary end. The central motive of authentic evangelism is: Having received a message that's made all the difference in our lives, we desire to share that message with others in the hope it will transform their lives as well. Wesley models an evangelism that reaches out and welcomes, invites and nurtures, and speaks to both head and heart. "Evangelism is about relationship," the authors write. "How we are in relationship to God, who is able to transform us into new beings. How we are in relationship to our neighbor, whom we must love like ourselves." As one reviewer says, "Knight and Powe have given us a relational book. They describe the deep connection between John Wesley's thoughts, Charles Wesley's hymns, scholarly thinking about evangelism and biblical understandings of the gospel - all in relation to the needs, concerns and hopes of everyday people." Learn on your own or as a congregational group from this practical study on living an evangelistic life that demonstrates the transforming power of loving God and neighbor.

## Book Information

Perfect Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: Discipleship Resources (October 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0881774855

ISBN-13: 978-0881774856

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.3 x 7.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars See all reviews (20 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #244,854 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #349 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Ministry & Evangelism > Missions & Missionary Work #445 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Ministry & Evangelism > Evangelism #680 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Churches & Church Leadership > Pastoral Resources

## Customer Reviews

Knight & Powe remind us of the importance of evangelism for the one who witnesses, as well as for

the one who receives. Their approach does not depend on formulas or canned speeches. The authors demonstrate and invite others to demonstrate the transforming power of God's love in their lives. Knight & Powe ground their book in the Bible and in the tradition of John Wesley, blending a sense of tradition with an openness to the movement of God's Spirit. George Morris is right when he described Transforming Evangelism: "This remarkable book is a 'must read' for all who comprise the World Methodist Family."

I was asked to teach a short term study on evangelism at another church. Until I found this resource, I was very hesitant to lead it because evangelism is something that has always bothered me because my experiences with it were confrontational and more about numbers than ongoing spiritual growth. Love the John Wesley perspective that evangelism is relational. It's all about bringing people into the community of faith and nurturing them as they start and continue their faith journey. I will definitely be using this book, again and again, for more studies.

I enjoyed this book greatly. Highly Recommend. I bought it for a class, but this is one of those books that I would have enjoyed reading regardless. Very informative on how we think about evangelism. It says "the wesleyan way" but truly for any denomination.

What is evangelism? Preaching to stadiums? Screaming through a bull-horn on street corners? Handing out pamphlets? Knocking on doors? These were some of my preconceptions, and I was not interested in trying any of them! Knight and Powe open a new world of understanding and practicing evangelism. Evangelism is ultimately two things: it is about relationships more than decisions and it is done out of immense gratitude for the good work God is doing in one's life. Knight and Powe do not hold evangelism out on a island, but link it to its theological foundation where it belongs. Furthermore, they ground evangelism in the necessity to build relationships of true caring. I used this book for personal study, then to lead a small group. Indeed, it is designed for small group use. It is extremely readable for those who are not professionally trained theologians, while not skimping on the meat of the subject. Knight and Powe organize the chapters wherein the main points are clearly visible and conclude each chapter with recommended group discussion questions. When I used this book for the small group, about half bought the book and read along and the other half simply participated in discussion after a brief review. Everyone who bought the book found it well worth their time, especially since chapters are short and easy to read and navigate. Other groups have used this book and all have been very happy with the choice. If you have ever been

afraid of evangelism, or cringe at hearing the word. Try this book; it just might open a new world to you just as it did for me. If you lead a small group and are looking for curriculum, look no further.

The book was extremely helpful for my assignment. It strengthened my faith journey and I was very happy to have my friend recommend me to purchase it. I am pleased, too, that I can now place orders for other resource materials from .com as a first time buyer vis-a-vis Barnes and Noble. Thanks for the speedy delivery service.

The author presents John Wesley's timeless method of reflecting God's goodness towards others, thereby becoming that inviting resource that compels souls to taste and see that the Lord is good. Get your highlighter ready.

This is a wonderful read..easy to understand, basics presented thoughtfully and practically, an insightful treatise on John Wesley's position on early Christian evangelism and how to evangelism today through relationships.

I have never assigned a more accessible textbook. The authors have made their point in a relatively short number of pages, and have included discussion questions. I am using the book as a text for this year's Lenten Study in congregational ministry.

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