



A Global Movement of Evangelical Presbyterian Churches

The EPC Perspective on Evangelism

EPC Distinctives

Mission of the Church

“The EPC Constitution declares the “first duty” of the church is “to evangelize by extending the gospel both at home and abroad, leading others to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. ... the Church must never confuse its primary task of evangelism (the gospel).”

www.epc.org/about/distinctives

EPC Values

“... We express this priority on evangelism by stating it in our governing documents as the first “duty” of the church. This priority is evidenced by our emphasis on church planting, church revitalization, and world missions.”

www.epc.org/about/values

Missional

“In the EPC, we have always been committed to global missions with a particular focus on unreached people groups in Islamic countries. ... we believe God has strategically placed our churches for the purpose of effectively reaching out to those around them with the good news of Jesus Christ.”

www.epc.org/about/values

The Book of Government

4-3. The Local Church

It is the primary mission of the local church to evangelize, making disciples by extending the gospel both at home and abroad, leading others to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, providing for the nurture of that faith that all might worship the true God and grow in grace and in sanctification. It is to be remembered that good deeds in ministry and service to others, offering relief to those in need, is the fruit of the gospel. Without the clear evidence of such fruit, all else is brought into question. However, the Church must never confuse its primary mission of evangelism (the gospel) with the fruit of faith (good works).



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18-3.C. Authority and Responsibilities of the Session

To initiate the ministry of evangelism as the first business of the Church, and to seek to lead persons to an acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

19-4.A.1. Authority and Responsibilities of the Presbytery, with respect to local churches

To encourage evangelism, church planting, and renewal within its bounds as a first priority.

20-4.B.2. Authority and Responsibilities of the General Assembly, with regard to Presbyteries and local churches:

To support the Presbyteries and churches in making evangelism and discipleship their priorities. This may include establishing committees, boards, agencies, training events, networks, and/or staff positions.

The Book of Discipline

2-1. The Duty to Evangelize

In terms of its work, the first duty of the church is to evangelize by extending the gospel both at home and abroad, leading others to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and to provide for the nurture of that faith that all might grow in grace and in sanctification.

The Book of Worship

7-2. The Service of Evangelism

The primary mission of the Church is to share the gospel of salvation with all the nations of the world. This is the mission of every Christian, every local church, and the whole Church. Each court of the Church should encourage, train, and lead those under its jurisdiction in the service of evangelism.

Book of Government, Book of Discipline, and Book of Worship quotes are from the EPC Book of Order, 2022-23 edition.