

# Fulfilling God's Will For His Church

[Part 7]

## How Jesus Attracted Crowds to Hear His Message of Salvation

**Matthew 4:25** [NIV] *“Large crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea and the region across the Jordan followed him.”*

**Jesus' ministry had a magnetic quality about it.**

**Mark 12:37** [NIV] *“David himself calls him ‘Lord’. How then can he be his son?” The large crowd listened to him with delight.”*

**Note “with delight” – to hear Christ was a joy-filled experience.**

**A Christ-like ministry will still attract crowds**

You **don't** have to use gimmicks or compromise or water down the message; you **don't** even need a specialised church building **but** you do have to minister to people the way Jesus did.

**Jesus attracted large crowds in various ways:**

**Jesus attracted crowds by loving unbelievers**

**Matthew 9:36** [NIV] *“When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.”*

**Note the context which is directly pointing to us.** v37 *“Harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.”*

**Jesus loved lost people and loved spending time with them.**

When reading the gospels one thing is clear, Jesus enjoyed being with unbelieving seekers far more than with religious leaders.

**Jesus went to the parties of the “unchurched” and was called the “friend of sinners”**

**Luke 7:34** [NIV] *“The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and you say, ‘Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and “sinners”.’”*

**How many people would call you and I by that name?**

People could feel that Jesus loved being with them. **Little children wanted to be around him, and that speaks volumes about the type of person He was; children instinctively seem to gravitate towards loving, accepting people.**

**Without Jesus' passion for the lost, we will not be willing to make the sacrifice necessary to reach them for Christ.**

**The command to love is the most repeated command in the New Testament.**

**1 John 4:8** [NIV] *“Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.”*

Really knowing God is **only** expressed in loving others.

**The most overlooked key to growth in the church is the need to love unbelievers as Jesus did.**

Great strong churches are built on three pillars:

- a) love for God;
- b) love for each other;
- c) love for unbelievers.

**For unbelievers to sense this love we have for them, it has to be expressed in simple and practical terms.**

**Create an atmosphere of acceptance**

Plants need a right atmosphere to grow, so do churches.

**Long before the pastor preaches, the visitors are already deciding whether or not they will come back.**

They are asking themselves, *“do I feel welcome here?”*

**First impressions are most important**

**Love is more than a feeling; it is a behaviour.**

**Loving means being sensitive to someone else’s needs and putting them ahead of our own.**

**The pastor must be loving**

The pastor of a church sets the tone and the atmosphere of the congregation.

**To know the warmth of a church the pastor must put the thermometer in his own mouth.**

Some pastors by their cold demeanour and lack of personal warmth, virtually guarantee people will **not** visit again.

**A pastor must love the people he preaches to, not just love preaching.**

**1 Corinthians 13:1** [NIV] *“If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.”*

**God’s view of preaching without love is just a loud noise.**

The most influential factor in public speaking is for the speaker to be *“likeable”*.

If the people like the speaker they will listen to them, if they don’t like the speaker they will ignore him or discount the message.

Practical ways in which pastor can demonstrate love to the crowd:

- a) **Memorise names** – remembering names shows that you are interested in people.

Nothing sounds sweeter to a second-time visitor than hearing you use his or her name.

To work hard at remembering names pays great relational dividends.

- b) **Personally greet people** – before and after meetings.

Try to greet every person as they arrive and leave the meeting.

**One way to warm up the crowd towards the pastor is to meet with as many as possible before the meeting starts.**

**c) Touch people**

If we study the ministry of Jesus we will see the powerful effect of giving people a look [eyeball to eyeball], a word, and a touch [lots of hugs, handshakes and pats on the back]

**Our world is filled with lonely people who are starving for the affirmation of a loving touch.**

You never know how much a tender word and a caring touch will make a difference to their world.

**d) Use a warm, personal style in writing to visitors**

Send personal letters to all first, second and third time visitors, written the way you speak, **not** in a formal style.

**A pastor has to decide if he wants to impress or influence the crowd.**

**You can impress people from a distance, but you have to get close to people to love and influence them.**

**Proximity determines impact.**

**Accepting without approving**

**To be able to love unbelievers unconditionally, as God does, we need to understand the difference between “acceptance” and “approval”.**

**John 4:7-15, 39-42** [NIV] *“When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, “Will you give me a drink?” (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, “You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?” (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.” “Sir,” the woman said, “you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his flocks and herds?” Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water so that I won’t get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.” ... “Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I ever did.” So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. And because of his words many more became believers. They said to the woman, “We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Saviour of the world.”*

**Jesus showed acceptance and love to the Samaritan woman without approving of her licentious lifestyle.**

**John 8:3-11** [NIV] *“The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group and said to Jesus, “Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?” They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him. But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, “If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.” Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground. At this, those who heard began to go*

away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. Jesus straightened up and asked her, **“Woman, where are they? Has no-one condemned you?”** “No-one, sir,” she said. **“Then neither do I condemn you,”** Jesus declared. **“Go now and leave your life of sin.”**

**Jesus publicly defended the dignity of the woman caught in adultery without minimising her sin.**

**Luke 19:2-10** [NIV] **“A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man he could not, because of the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.” So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. All the people saw this and began to mutter, “He has gone to be the guest of a ‘sinner’.” But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.” Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. **For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.**”**

**Jesus ate with Zacchaeus without approving of his dishonesty.**

Note His comment in v10 indicating why this approach, to those who were lost in Satan’s society, blinded to the purpose for human life.

**Any good fisherman knows that sometimes, in order to reel in an active fish, you have to give some slack.**

If you pulled hard after it takes the bait, it may break your line and get away.

The same is true when “*fishing for people*”.

**You do not hit them over the head with everything that is wrong in their lives at once.**

A lot of sins can be dealt with after they accept Christ.

**We cannot expect unbelievers to act like believers until they are believers.**

The crowds Jesus drew were a mixture of believers and unbelievers, dedicated followers, sincere seekers, and insincere sceptics; but Jesus loved them all.

**1 Corinthians 5:9-12** [NIV] **“I have written to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people, not at all meaning the people of this world who are immoral, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters. In that case you would have to leave this world. But now I am writing to you that you must not associate with anyone who calls himself a brother but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or a slanderer, a drunkard or a swindler. With such a man do not even eat. **What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside?”****

The church should apply different standards of conduct to members and attenders.

Members are subject to church discipline when they don’t abide by guidelines of membership covenant.

Unbelievers in the crowd are **not** subject to church discipline because they are **not** actually part of the church.

**The church is a hospital for sinners – sanctification comes after salvation.**

**It was love not nails that kept Jesus on the cross.**

He stretched out His arms and said, *“I love lost people this much.”*

**Jesus attracted crowds by meeting people’s needs**

Emotional, spiritual, relational and financial.

**Jesus did not make people feel guilty because of their needs.**

God uses all kinds of human needs to get people’s attention.

**Who are we to judge whether a person’s interest in Christ is for a right or wrong reason?**

It doesn’t matter why people initially come to Jesus: what matters is that they come.

**We should not expect unbelievers to have Christlike motives and values.**

**Anyone can be won for Christ if you discover the key to his or her heart.**

**The best place to find that key is in their needs.**

**James 2:15-16** [NIV] *“Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, “Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,” but **does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it?”***

James rebukes those who feel they can answer a person’s needs with a scripture or sermon, without giving them their physical and mental needs.

**The church must minister to the total person all their spiritual, physical, emotional, intellectual and social needs.**

**A church will never grow beyond its capacity to meet the needs of the people.**

If the church is genuinely meeting needs through its various ministries, then it will have to lock the doors to keep people out, for so many will want to come.

**The only way to find out their needs is to talk with the unchurched in our community.**

Many needs are specific and can **only** be met in small mutual support groups.

Some needs are universal and can be met by the church fellowship as a whole.

For example the need to be loved, accepted, forgiven, self-expression and a purpose for living can be met by right preaching and church fellowship.

**All people are looking for freedom from fear, guilt, worry, resentment, discouragement and loneliness.**

If we are meeting these needs, we won’t have to worry about advertising our meetings.

**Changed lives are the churches greatest advertisement.**

**Jesus attracted crowds by teaching in a practical, interesting way.**

The scriptures tell us much about the reactions of the crowd to Jesus’ teaching.

**Matthew 7:28** [NIV] *“When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were **amazed at his teaching,**”*

*“Amazed at His teaching.”*

**Matthew 22:33** [NIV] *“When the crowds heard this, they were **astonished at his teaching.**”*

*“Astonished”*; [Living Bible] *“profoundly impressed.”*

**Mark 11:18** [NIV] *“The chief priests and the teachers of the law heard this and began looking for a way to kill him, for they feared him, because the whole crowd was **amazed at his teaching.**”*

[Living Bible] *“Enthusiastic.”*

**Mark 12:37** [NIV] *“David himself calls him ‘Lord’. How then can he be his son?” **The large crowd listened to him with delight.**”*

*“Delighted.”*

**There has never been a greater communicator than Jesus Christ.**

To capture the attention of unbelievers like Jesus did, we must communicate spiritual truth in the way He did.

Jesus began with people’s needs, hurts and interests.

**Jesus usually taught in response to a question or a pressing problem.**

**He scratched where people itched.**

**Luke 4:18-19** [NIV] *“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has **anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.**”*

Here we see the announced agenda for Christ’s ministry and teaching.

**The emphasis is totally on meeting needs.**

**John 8:31-32** [NIV] *“To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. **Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.**”*

Jesus’ message offered practical benefits to those who listened to Him.

His truth *“set people free”* from their problems and brought all sorts of blessings to their lives.

**We don’t have to make the Bible relevant, it already is!**

But we do have to show its relevance by applying it to a person’s problems in a practical way.

We must learn to share the gospel in ways that show it is *“good”* and it is *“news”*.

If what we say isn’t good news it is **not** the gospel.

**The gospel is about what God has done for us that is impossible for us to do for ourselves.**

**The gospel is about a personal relationship with Christ being the answer to our deepest needs.**

This Good News offers lost people what they are frantically searching for; forgiveness, freedom, security, purpose, love, acceptance and strength to face life’s trials.

**This Good News settles our past, assures our future and gives meaning to today.**

This Good News is the best there is in the world today.

**We have this Good News to give.**

How did Christ get the attention of the crowd?

**What gets your attention?**

What you consider valuable, unique or threatening.

Presenting the Good News in a unique or in a threatening way will get the attention of people for a time, but I believe to have a lasting impact on the lives of people, **we have to present the Good News as something that is so valuable it is priceless.**

**Matthew 13:44-46** [NIV] *“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field. “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.”*

**To become part of the Kingdom [family grown big] of God is worth sacrificing all.**

**Matthew 16:24-26** [NIV] *“Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it. What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?”*

What is the use of anything this world can offer if you forfeit your life with which you can enjoy such things [“soul” the Greek for “breath” and “spirit” which cause the material organism of the body to have “life”].

How do we sacrifice our “soul”?

**Ezekiel 18:4, 20** [NIV] *“For every living soul belongs to me, the father as well as the son, both alike belong to me. The soul who sins is the one who will die.” ... “The soul who sins is the one who will die. The son will not share the guilt of the father, nor will the father share the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous man will be credited to him, and the wickedness of the wicked will be charged against him.”*

Unrepented sin brings death to the soul [life force] Hebrew “nephesh”.

**Because we are as preachers commanded to communicate the truth, we often mistakenly believe that unbelievers are eager to hear it.**

**Today, due to moral relativism, the vast majority of people reject the idea of absolute truth.**

**John 17:17** [NIV] *“Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.”*

**If we proclaim “we have the truth” the reaction will be “so what, so does everybody else.”**

**Proclaimers of the truth don’t get much attention in a society that believes truth is relative.**

**What most people are looking for is relief.**

When we teach that God’s Word shows how to find relief from pain and solutions to their problems, unbelievers say *“Thanks! What else is in this book?”*

**Sharing Biblical principles that meet a need creates a hunger for more that’s in the book.**

**Ephesians 4:29** [NIV] *“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up **according to their needs**, that it may benefit those who listen.”*

**Note “according to their needs.”**

**It is no good telling the unchurched that “Christ is the answer” unless we show how this is true.**

What people need today are fewer “ought-to” sermons and more “how-to” sermons.

**John 10:10** [NIV] *“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; **I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.**”*

**Jesus said He came that we might have “life” not “religion.”**

**Life is something we have now as well as something we hope for in the future.**

When we preach to the unchurched or unbelievers we are trying to attract the attention of a people who are mainly interested in “the now”.

The truth we teach must relate to their lives now.

**Can something be true but irrelevant?**

Yes.

If you were in a car accident and when the paramedic arrived he began to tell you about the meaning of his title in the Greek language or the history of the stethoscope he had around his neck, how would you feel?

All that he said may be true, but it would be irrelevant because it doesn't stop your hurt.

You would want the doctor to begin with your pain and do something to relieve it.

When we are speaking to the unchurched we need to **begin with the personal application and not the background.**

**Christ's teaching was always clear, relevant and applicable.**

Christ aimed for application because His Goal was to transform people, **not** merely to inform them.

**Consider the Sermon on the Mount, the greatest sermon ever preached [Matthew 5:1-11]**

**Christ started with something everybody desires yet often finds elusive: happiness.**

**Christ shared eight secrets** of experiencing genuine happiness, **all of which were “how to” statements.**

Christ then talked about living an exemplary lifestyle, controlling anger, restoring relationships and avoiding adultery and divorce.

Next Christ spoke on keeping promises and returning good for evil.

Christ then continued speaking about other practical life issues such as: how to give with the right attitude; how to pray; how to store up treasure that is eternal and how to overcome worry.

Christ concluded His Message by telling us not to fall into the trap of judging others, and to be persistent in prayer when asking God for our needs, and to be wary of false teachers, finishing with a simple “take away” story to emphasise the importance of acting on what He had just taught.

**This kind of preaching not only proclaims that “*Christ is the answer*” but in simple terms shows “*how Christ is the answer*” to all of our needs.**

**This kind of preaching exhorts people to change and gives them practical steps of how to accomplish the change.**

The Bible was **not** given to increase our knowledge but to change our lives.

**Christianity is a lifestyle not a religion.**

Christ was a “*life-application preacher*”.

**Christ-like preaching doesn’t just inform, it transforms.**

We don’t have to transform the message of the Bible but we do have to translate it into terms that the unchurched/unbeliever can understand.

**Preaching should be entertaining.**

If we look up the word entertaining in the dictionary we find “*capturing and holding the attention for an extended period of time*” ... “*making staying with us agreeable to others*” ... “*something that is welcomed and considered*”.

**To the unchurched dull preaching is unforgiveable.**

**Truth poorly delivered is ignored.**

**When God’s Word is taught in an uninteresting way, people don’t just think the pastor is boring, they think God is boring!**

**Jesus was a master story teller.**

It was His favourite technique when speaking to the crowd.

**Matthew 13:34 [NIV] “*Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable.*”**

**The Bible itself is essentially a book full of stories.**

This is how God has chosen to communicate His Word to human beings.

**Benefits of using stories**

**a) Stories hold our attention**

The reason television is so popular is because it is essentially a story telling device.

Comedies, dramas, the news, talk shows, even commercials are stories.

**b) Stories stir up emotions**

They impact us in ways that precepts and propositions never do.

**If we want to change lives we must craft the message for impact not for information.**

c) **Stories help us to remember**

**Long after the speakers clever outline is forgotten, people will remember the stories used to illustrate the message.**

**Jesus used simple language.**

Most people communicate with a vocabulary of less than 2,000 words and rely on about 900 words in daily use.

**Jesus did not use the classical Greek language of the scholar.**

**He spoke in Aramaic, the street language of the day.**

**He did not use technical or theological jargon.**

Jesus talked about birds, flowers, lost coins and sheep and other everyday objects that anyone could relate to.

**2 Corinthians 11:2 [New King James]** *“But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from **the simplicity that is in Christ.**”*

**Satan would love us to complicate the gospel message.**

Paul was concerned that would happen.

Einstein once said, *“you don’t really understand something unless you can communicate with it in a simple way.”*

We can be brilliant intellectuals, but if we cannot share our thoughts in a simple way, our insights are **not** worth much to others.

Preaching to the crowds in this way is controversial in the eyes of some church goers.

**God’s Word tells us to “go and tell” and “come and see”.**

**Matthew 28:19 [NIV]** *“Therefore **go and make disciples** of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,”*

The great commission tells us to go and when we do, for impact and effectiveness we have to go with a message our unchurched crowd will understand.

**John 1:39 [NIV]** *“**Come,**” he replied, **“and you will see.”** So they went and saw where he was staying, and spent that day with him. It was about the tenth hour.”*

*“**Come and you will see.**”*

**Matthew 11:28 [NIV]** *“**Come to me,** all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”*

*“**Come to me.**”*

**Luke 14:16-23 [NIV]** *“Jesus replied: “A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests. At the time of the banquet he sent his servant to tell those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’ “**But they all alike began to make excuses.** The first said, ‘I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.’ “Another said, ‘I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I’m on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.’ “Still another said, ‘I have just got married, so I can’t come.’ “The servant came back and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, ‘Go out quickly into the streets and alleys*

*of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.’ “‘Sir,’ the servant said, ‘what you ordered has been done, but there is still room.’ “Then the master told his servant, ‘Go out to the roads and country lanes and make them come in, so that my house will be full.”*

Go out and invite those who are hungry in to eat with us.

**We don’t have to choose between “go” and “come”, both are valid forms of evangelism.**

Some people will be reached by attraction; others by confrontation.

**How do we respond to the culture in which we evangelise?**

Three possible ways.

### **1 Imitation.**

**Such church strategy argues that to attract the unchurched we have to become more like them.**

They are willing to sacrifice the Biblical message and mission in order to blend with the culture.

They are likely to endorse current cultural values, such as the worship of success, wealth, radical individualism, radical feminism, liberal sex standards, even homosexuality.

**The call for repentance and commitment is compromised in order to attract the crowd.**

### **2 Isolationism.**

Such churches insist we avoid any adaptation to culture in order to preserve the purity of the church.

**Such people fail to see the difference between sinful values of a culture and non-sinful customs, styles and preferences each generation develops.**

Such churches reject: new translations of scripture, current musical styles, dress codes, and have lists of what is and is not permissible regarding issues the Bible is silent on and gives **no guidelines**.

**It is human nature to erect theological walls to defend personal preferences.**

Such people forget that what they feel comfortable with was “*modern, worldly and heretical*” to previous generations of believers.

### **3 Infiltration.**

**The strategy that Jesus chose, an antidote to both unproductive extremes described above.**

**John 1:14** [NIV] “*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*”

**Jesus ministered in the world without being of the world.**

**Hebrews 4:15** [NIV] “*For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathise with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are, yet was without sin.*”

Tempted in every way without sinning.

**Jesus walked among people, spoke their language, observed their customs, sang their songs, attended their parties and used their current events, to capture their attention when He taught.**

**But Jesus did all this without compromising His message or mission.**

Jesus' "*sinner sensitive*" ministry made the religious establishment nervous, and they criticised Him ruthlessly.

Even attributed His ministry to Satan [Mark 3:22].

**Jesus placed the sinners' needs above religious traditions.**

Why?

**Mark 2:17** [NIV] "*On hearing this, Jesus said to them, "It is **not** the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. **I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.**"*

This was in response to the criticism of the Pharisees.

In Jesus' day the religious people [Pharisees] used the excuse of "*purity*" to avoid all contact with non-believers.

**We still have Pharisees in the church today who are more concerned with purity than people.**

If we are really concerned with fulfilling the great commission we will never have a completely "*pure*" church because we will always be attracting unbelievers with their questionable lifestyles to our "*seeker sensitive fellowship meetings*".

**Evangelism is sometimes messy, just as professional fishing is messy.**

When we fish with a big net we catch all kinds of fish. That's okay.

**Matthew 13:29-30** [NIV] "*'No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.'*"

Jesus in this parable is telling us **not** to worry about the tares being mixed in with the wheat we are harvesting, one day **He will** separate them.

**We leave the weeding to Christ because only He knows who the real tares are.**

**When we become a "*seeker sensitive church*" and evangelise the way Jesus did, we also will be criticised by the religious establishment.**

Trailblazers always get arrows shot at them.

**Translating truth into contemporary terms is dangerous business.**

Remember they burnt Wycliffe at the stake for doing it.

**But Jesus must be the ultimate model for our ministry, not anyone else.**