



Got Style?®

Personality Based Evangelism



Steps To Styles Based Outreach & Implementation

The assessment of styles among the membership within a congregation is actually just one component, be that as it may, the crucial and critical component, to Styles based evangelism. People will want to jump right into the styles, but there needs to be a structure around which the styles are presented and implemented. Evangelism occurs best in the framework of church health and spiritual vitality, individually and congregationally.

The First Step, **DISCOVERY** through prayer, done by leadership pastor(s) and key leaders who spend quantitative time in seeking the Lord for discernment regarding what the church should be doing specifically in their local area to reach their context. This can and usually does take months of intentionality. Involved in this step is some type of church health assessment to discover the strengths and weaknesses of the church so that the leadership, clergy and lay, know where to invest their limited time, energy, and resources in helping the church move forward and be at a place for evangelism to occur normatively out of the church's health.

The Second Step, **VISION CASTING** is then done by the pastor(s) and leaders to convey to the congregation what God has revealed to them to be doing. No church can do everything, so this step is for the leadership to share what their niche' or focus will be. They spread the word through whatever means of communication there is available to them, pulpit, podium (Sunday School), newsletter, website, etc...

The Third Step, **PRAYER & HOSPITALITY TRAINING** is done for the benefit all the church. Though not everyone will get on board with doing the actual and eventual outreach, everyone needs to be aware that the church is intentional in reaching out and that new folks will be coming in ("The Lord added to their numbers daily") and the church folks need to be ready to receive them. This is best done from the Pulpit through a series of Sunday morning messages on Christian Hospitality and exemplified with intentional, dare I say, lengthy times of prayer throughout the church throughout the week. You will never have more people in church probably throughout the week than on Sunday morning so you will hit the most folks at this opportune time.

The Fourth Step, **STYLES ASSESSMENT** includes actually walking your people through an assessment instrument, utilizing a grid for calculation of results. This is followed by extensive teaching on the six Biblical styles we advocate with a couple styles broken down into sub-styles. This can be done during a worship service in a series of messages, or as a specially convened event over a weekend. The teaching(s) focus on the lay perspective (various Bible characters) as well as from Jesus' life. The results of the assessment are then plotted, sharing the outcomes with the leadership, and then deciding, depending upon the numbers under each column whether or not to do six separate trainings specific to each style or a reduced number if individuals can be consolidated in less columns. The assessment can be done on a Sunday morning or through the mail, even online. You decide which is best for your folks and which method will garner the most responses.

The Fifth Step, **STYLES SPECIFIC TRAINING** is self-explanatory. You simply decide how many styles you will train your folks in. Most churches have done two trainings of 3 hours each in two columns with the largest number of congregants, showing people's primary and secondary strengths. You want to couple the in-class training with some on-hand experience, preferably the same day/weekend to reinforce what has been taught. I have provided an actual sample of an ABC church plotting using assessment outcomes.

The Sixth Step, **STYLE ORGANIC OUTREACH** will come naturally as people discover their style(s) and then are put together with either like minded congregants (same style - homogenous team) or mixed styles (eclectic team) and allow them to dream up what they will do. For the training portion, the leadership should come up with the experiential learning (curriculum) for each specific style training. The people should then be allowed to come up with their own outreach either as a small group or for the whole of the church. No buy-in is required since the participants are empowered to birth their own outreach. Obviously this depends upon the size of the church and the size group from within a larger church who are committed to participating.

The Seventh Step, **FOLLOW UP/DISCIPLESHIP** is also self-explanatory. You should have in place the means to accommodate new comers to the church and assimilate new believers in Christ. A seeker Sunday School class might be a good place to start. Also, a new home-based small group Bible Study may be another idea. What you need here is the means to incorporate the folks with whom your outreach causes you to contact and connect with. This stage is to provide both a sense of belonging as well as believing before becoming.

You should not feel bad about sharing the Good News!

What can Got Style?® do for your church?

Simply put, *Got Style?®* :

- Relieves **guilt and apprehension** about evangelism
- Helps people overcome feelings of **inadequacy and incapacity**, by providing **confidence and competence**
- Leads people from maintenance-mode to missional-mode **thinking and working**
- Seeks to **involve** the whole (local church) body
- Allows the **Holy Spirit** to work in our lives in normal, natural and non-threatening ways

Our whole emphasis is to have churches see evangelism as part of their inherent structural and spiritual DNA with the mandate to engage the community/ culture outside their doors, in ways that compliment and do not compete with the composition of personalities within any given congregation.

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**We have nearly 100 National
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