Evangelism: Adult Sunday School Series

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Lesson 3

Evangelism and the Confession of Faith

- I. What has evangelism to do with the Westminster Confession of Faith?
 - A. Theological Resource
 - 1. Evangelism as Apologetics.
 - 2. How do you defend a faith you do not understand?
 - 3. We seek to evangelize not with a truncated faith, but a full faith.
 - B. Examples
 - 1. Excuses will come! What about God and evil?
 - 2. See sections on God, creation, the fall, and providence.
 - 3. Am I sinner? See sections on the Ten Commandments.
 - a. WSC.
 - b. Heidelberg Catechism.
- II. Where do we "put" the Confession in the church? Two options:
 - A. In the "basement."
 - 1. The confessions says some hard things.
 - 2. Unbelievers do not like hard things.
 - 3. We want to attract unbelievers to evangelize them.
 - 4. Therefore, don't let them know about the confession up-front, save for later.
 - B. At the "front door."
 - 1. The block house approach to evangelism.
 - 2. Begin with a foundation of mere Christianity, put heavy blocks on later (see II.A.d).
 - 3. From the beginning, we presuppose the system of doctrine known as "reformed."
 - 4. Up-front from the beginning, no bait-and-switch.
 - 5. Qualifier: Does not mean we dump it all on at once, or begin with difficult doctrines.