Beth-El Baptist Church 06/01/2014 Pastor Greg Tomlinson

What are some suggestions for evangelizing those in the cults?

The world is filled with many different religiously cultic groups. Some try to align themselves with the Christian faith (Mormon, Jehovah Witness, Church of Christ, etc.), while others seek to demonize the Christian faith (Islam, atheism, etc.).

1. How can a cult group be recognized?

Deuteronomy **18:18-22**John **8:23-24**; 20:28
1 Timothy **1:3-4**

Mark **9:38-40** 1 John **2:21-23**

Most of the cult organizations will have one or more prophets to guide them. The words of the prophet are to be verified to make sure that they are actually the Words of God and not just the man's own ideas. It is quite common for the cults to use peer pressure and the fear of being ostracized by family and friends that are in the cult in order to apply pressure to the people to not leave the cult. The cult often denies the divine nature of Jesus Christ (rejecting the idea that He is God) or they identify Jesus as just one more god among many other gods. John 8:23-24 make it clear that understanding Jesus to be the one and only true God is crucial to salvation. The cult minimizes or eliminates the person and work of Jesus Christ. He may be a prophet to them but He cannot be the savior of our souls, which is the job of the Christ. The cult will always have a different gospel than the gospel of Jesus Christ. They will rely upon your own effort or their organization in order for salvation to come to being.

2. What are some of the most important principles for the Christian to remember when evangelizing?

2 Timothy **4:2-4** Romans **4:3-5**

1 Corinthians **1:22-25**

2 Corinthians **10:3-6**

As Christians we need to be sure and continue to "preach" or proclaim the very words of God. We are not to be overly concerned about how our words are received, more often than not, they will be rejected. The Christian needs to remember that the unbeliever (including the cult follower) thinks that the event of the cross of Christ is foolish. There is nothing we can do but proclaim the consistent word of God and wait to see what God will do. Most cult followers are in some fashion relying upon their own effort in order to see God and be saved. As Christians we must rely upon the very Words of God and not the depend upon our rhetoric, argumentation, nor passion.

3. What do we need to tell those in the cults?

Exodus 34:7 John 7:24 1 Corinthians **6:9-11** Romans 4:3-5 Numbers 14:18 Romans 2:3-7 Galatians 5:19-21 Romans 10:2-5

It is important to remind those in the cults that every man was and is a sinner against God. As a result of his own sins against God, God must judge sin, by death, in order to function as a legitimate and true judge. The only hope of escaping God's wrath is through faith in Jesus Christ.