

# SOUL WINNING ACTS 13:42-52

Every Christian must wrestle with soul winning and will in one way or the other!

Soul winning as a technique	Soul winning+	No soul winning
Decisions &/ Numbers	Conversions &/ Fruit that remains	Miracle

## 1. No soul winning

- Rarely is this theoretical Hyper-Calvinism
- Usually this come from more practical causes

**Things such as:**

Isolated	Self-preoccupied	Extreme fear of conflict
Need to be liked	Need to fit in	Need to go under the radar
Shame	Fear	Age
Failure	Disappointment	Conflict
Pressure		

- **This is quite common for many / most Christians!**

## 2. Soul winning as a technique

- **This is the most common practice in the USA**
- **This come from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Great Awakening & Arminianism**
- **This view has the numbers & decisions to prove it!**
- **This view is dominated by numbers, decisions & excitement**
- **This view is always looking for never& better techniques!**

Sales:

Christian lite:

Positive message only:

Cultural compromise:

Music for the masses:

➤ **This view redefines success!**

**If at first you don't succeed, redefine success!!!**

**John 15:16** Ye have **not** chosen me, **but** I have chosen you, and ordained you, **that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain:** that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

**Acts 2:41** Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and **the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.** **Acts 2:42** And they **continued stedfastly** in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

**Acts 4:4** Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; **and the number of the men (τῶν ἀνδρῶν) was about five thousand.**

### **3. Soul winning<sup>+</sup>**

This is, to me, obviously Biblical but also quite difficult!

**Characteristics of Biblical soul winning:**

#### **A. The necessity of sharing / preaching / proclaiming the gospel!**

This can and should be done in many different ways: special services, special meetings, Bible studies, relationships. . .

**What ways are you involved in?**

**Acts 13:42** And when the **Jews** were gone out of the synagogue, the **Gentiles** besought that these words might be preached to them the next sabbath. **Acts 13:43** Now when the congregation was broken up, many of the Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God. **Acts 13:44** And the next sabbath day **came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God.** **Acts 13:45** But when the Jews saw **the multitudes**, they were filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming. **Acts 13:46** Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, **It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you:** but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles. **Acts 13:47** For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth. **Acts 13:48** And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed. **Acts 13:49** **And the word of the Lord was published throughout all the region.** **Acts 13:50** But the Jews stirred up the devout and honourable women, and the chief men of the city, and raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them out of their coats. **Acts 13:51** But they shook off the dust of their feet against them, and came unto Iconium. **Acts 13:52** And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost.

**Do we need to repeat the obvious?**

**Matthew 28:19** Go ye therefore, and teach **all** nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: **Matthew 28:20** Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

**Mark 16:15** And he said unto them, **Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.**

**Luke 24:44** And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. **Luke 24:45** Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, **Luke 24:46** And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved

Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: **Luke 24:47** **And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. Luke 24:48** And ye are witnesses of these things.

**John 17:18** As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.

**John 20:21** Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: **as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.**

**Acts 1:8** But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, **and unto the uttermost part of the earth.**

## **B. A variety of responses**

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Such as:

- **Wait**
- **Conversion**
- **Fruit that remains**
- **Interest**
- **Persecution**
- **Opposition**
- **Confusion**

**Acts 17:32** And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, **some mocked: and others said, We will hear thee again of this matter. Acts 17:33** So Paul departed from among them. **Acts 17:34** **Howbeit certain men clave unto him, and believed:** among the which was Dionysius the Areopagite, and a woman named Damaris, **and others with them.**

## **C. An intensity of emotion / emotional responses**

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It is impossible to discuss eternal matters and not stir up extreme emotions.

Is this why most Christians stop witnessing?

## **D. The sovereignty of God (grace) in salvation**

**Acts 13:48** And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: **and as many as were ordained (τεταγμένοι) to eternal life believed.**

**[Matthew 28:16** Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus **had appointed (ἐτάξατο)** them.

**Acts 15:2** When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation with them, **they determined (ἔταξαν)** that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question.

**Acts 22:10** And I said, What shall I do, Lord? And the Lord said unto me, Arise, and go into Damascus; and there it shall be told thee of all things which **are appointed (τέτακται)** for thee to do.

**Acts 28:23** And **when they had appointed (Ταξόμενοι)** him a day, there came many to him into his lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening.

**Romans 13:1** Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers **that be are ordained (ὕπὸ τοῦ θεοῦ τεταγμένοι εἰσίν)** of God.]

