

Evangelism: 30 Best Ideas to Try
Know how to share the gospel in 30 different ways
(in no particular order)

1. **Daily Prayer Phone Reminders** – set your phone to give you a daily reminder at 9:38am to “Pray for laborers” (Matthew 9:38) and at 2:10pm to “Pray their knees bow on this side” (Philippians 2:10) – it helps and gets us praying for these things a whole lot more, and God has been answering
2. **Soularium Cards** – inviting people to share with you their spiritual journey using a set of 60 image cards. This has been a *fantastic* tool that’s been very positively received by strangers or friends! Training videos: www.cru.org/us/en/train-and-grow/share-the-gospel/outreach-strategies/soularium.html
3. **Big Story** – compelling gospel illustration: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kCVcSiUUMhY>
4. **The 21-Day Challenge** – read the 21 chapters of John with a pre-believing friend over a 21-day period. Ask your friend to meet up once a week (can be more, or less) for 3 weeks to discuss both your insights. YouVersion Bible app also created a 21-Day Challenge John commentary that could provide extra context. Penn State Collegiate Navs have organized other campus groups and churches to distribute 30,000 copies of John through the Pocket Testament League in 2014 in State College, PA! The beauty is you can do it anytime with one person, or on this large scale.
5. **We’ll Clean Your Bathroom for Free** – flyers around campus, appointments made, services rendered, leading to questions about why anyone would want to do this and opportunities to tell them about the Jesus who served us. They won’t forget that you did this.
6. **Prayer Chair** – at your next campus retreat, set up a chair in the middle of the room and ask students to take off their masks and share what we can pray for them in this safe space and room of grace. Watch as authentic and vulnerable community tears down walls and lets people see the Kingdom! Brokenness that is shared should be followed up well by staff. This has been transformative for us, allowing students to belong before they believe.
7. **Five Community Questions** – based on the top felt need at NYU, these questions were created to engage NYU students in a conversation about community on campus and why we need it in the first place. Contact nycnavsassist@gmail.com for the questions.
8. **Make Gospel Invitations at Your First Two Large Group Meetings** – InterVarsity has been surprised to find that it’s been very effective to have all of their campuses do an invitation at the close of their *first two* large groups of the semester! They’ve found that students are the most open and have the highest felt need for spiritual help in their first weeks on campus, so they invite them to trust Christ in their fear, loneliness and struggles. It proves the harvest is indeed plentiful! We at NYU Navs have found invitations at NavNite to be fruitful, at those first ones and here and there throughout the year (sometimes planned, sometimes following the Spirit, always done respectfully, but intentionally).
9. **Text for Bagels** in NYC: Students on campus could text a spiritual question and their location and within a short time, they would get a free bagel hand-delivered by someone from the fellowship to try to answer their question!
10. **Break the “Fourth Wall” and Just Talk to Somebody About the Very Act of Evangelism** (friend or stranger – you’d be surprised the real walls this breaks down when you say something like, “Can you help us learn how to best talk about our love for Jesus with people without being weird?” You’ll most likely get some real help!)
11. **Treasure Hunt!** – go out in pairs or teams to pray for the Holy Spirit to lead you to people or places in need of prayer, care, a prophetic word, or a gospel conversation.
12. **Money for the Kingdom** – give out envelopes to each student at your large group with various amounts of money in them (50 cents up to \$20?) and ask them to use that money in the next week to do something to help others enter or receive the Kingdom, “and next week we’ll come back and share stories as to what God did!”
13. **Be the Source of the Party** – show Christians are FUN, the MOST fun!
14. **Read the Bible with a Friend** – ask students and staff to invite a friend to read a book of the Bible together. Perhaps with the invitation “You have been so respectful of my beliefs as a Christian, and I so appreciate that! But I am bummed none of my friends understand why I believe this way, what I love about it. Would you be willing to read a book of the Bible with me?”
15. **Spiritual Interest Questionnaires Tabling** - Guess the candies in the jar and enter to win two Broadway tickets or ten free pizza (“and we’d love your thoughts on this brief spiritual interest questionnaire” – contact me for a copy). Some ministries walk up to students and do 30-second (or 1 or 3 minute) questionnaires, just trying to go broad to find the “people of peace”!

16. **Spiritual Mosaic Art Outreach** – asking students to paint their spiritual journey to create a large mosaic that the university allowed us to display – see <https://vimeo.com/104871948> - led to great and deep conversations
17. **How Can We Help You?** - Have your students ask administrators and faculty – how can we help you with your goals and serve the campus?
18. **Alpha Course** – alphausa.org – great intro for seekers to the Christian faith through a relational, communal approach – it does take commitment to do well
19. **Let's Make Sure** - Have students and staff share the Bridge with every member of all your Bible studies who haven't seen it – even the ones who you're "sure" are Christians (surprise!)
20. **Bring non-believing friends on Spring Break Service Trips**
21. **Reel Spirituality** – a weekly faith and film gathering at NYU that invited non-believing friends to view and explore the spirituality displayed in popular films and to talk about subsequent faith questions in a non-threatening community
22. **Spirituality and Acting Group – “Group F”** in Stella Adler Acting Studio was started by an NYU Nav acting student trained in how to do an IBD – he took what they learned that week in studio and created spiritual discussions around that (“How does ‘surrendering to the character’ relate to sacrifices we make for others in life? That’s what I feel like Jesus was doing on the Cross...”)
23. **Free slice of pizza if you ask a question** you’ve always wondered about Jesus (at a table or just knock on dorm doors)
24. **Question Nights/Open Forums/Veritas Forums/Doubt Night** – large group mtgs for seekers and the friends who brought them!
25. **Co-sponsor events with the LGBTQ** campus org, or Atheists and Freethinkers, or other groups that will flip the script and cause real, intriguing conversations to take place that open eyes and hearts on both sides.
26. **Drunk Cards** – Tom Nelson at Cal Poly would give these out so that after drinking on a weekend night, he would come pick them up and drive them home – building trust and having conversations.
27. **A Hug** - Gary Bradley’s favorite evangelistic method: he puts his arm around his friend, and says, “I just want you to know how much I appreciate you; I’m grateful you’re in my life; you’re really special to me.”
28. **Invite people into living a better story by serving the disadvantaged together** (In *A Million Miles in a Thousand Years*, Donald Miller said to his friend with a wayward teenager, “It doesn’t sound like your daughter is living a very good story.” – His friend then committed the family to building an orphanage in Honduras and everything changed. My 9-year-old son Noah just gave his \$25 to buy chickens for children in Africa after reading World Vision catalog. This stuff sticks.
29. **Set Number Prayer Goals** for evangelism to pray for and work toward for the year. Still reading? The heart and *reality* behind the numbered prayer goals is that we just pray and share the gospel more when we have them. This was the impulse in us after we set them: “How can we be the answer to this prayer? How could we help more people hear and respond to the gospel?” Having a goal like seeing 10 new believers this calendar year led us to pray and share the gospel a lot more. People hit what they aim at (if anything). If we really care about something, we need to measure it. Are you really reaching the lost? Are you really producing lifelong laborers? *Measure it if you care about it!* Then do something about it and become the answer to your prayers.
30. **Build it and They Will Come** - Start an intramural sports team yourself (or even the whole league, like they did at IUPUI!), or put on the play yourself, to involve and reach people who are disconnected or on a campus with very little community. People gather around projects. Start and lead the community and you will have great trust and opportunities to influence those who are on the team.

Remember Daws’ words...

Emotion is no substitute for action.
Action is no substitute for production.
Production is no substitute for reproduction.

You can feel good about it, but have to ask:

Is my evangelism ultimately leading to disciplemakers who will last a lifetime?

Would love to hear your ideas! Hit me up at peter.trautmann@navigator.org - Help us expand this list!