



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

# Evangelism

*The simple act of sharing the good news of God's love in Jesus.*

## Evangelical Leaders

Evangelical leaders bring a variety of gifts and temperaments and can be found in all corners of the church. They are young and old, from all races and ethnicities, and are as diverse as those who live in and long for the Reign of God.

But they also share much in common about how they live out their faith in Christ, share that faith with others, and help others do the same.

**Conviction:** Sara knows what she believes but also knows her faith is limited and fragile. She confesses Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior but also admits to falling short of living a life worthy of the one she calls Savior. She knows that the grace offered by Jesus is real and lifegiving. She is a child of God, and her life bears witness to the power that comes with it. This grace is the basis for her ability to witness in ways that are both bold and humble and she is glad to not only know this grace herself, but to tell others about it too.

**Compassion:** Darnell has the ability to authentically love people – to know him is to be cared for and to feel worthy of being heard. He makes time to listen. He remembers to call. When he does these things, it is easy to receive his words and acts of grace because they seem to come from his heart. This isn't forced. It is because he genuinely cares. As he has experienced the love of Christ, he willingly extends that love to others in both word and deed.

**Mobilizing others:** Sara and Darnell are not evangelical leaders just because they each possess the characteristics of conviction and compassion. They both know that all Christians are called to grow and develop these characteristics. What makes them evangelical leaders is they know that it is not enough to have the gifts to do something yourself. To be a leader is to equip and mobilize others to share in the work too. So, each has found ways to help others grow and see themselves as witnesses to the love of God in Christ as well.

Evangelical leaders use their ability to live out faith in Christ with a message of grace and with authentic love. But they also mobilize others who are growing in their faith in Christ and their ability to share it too.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

What are your convictions about the God we meet in Jesus?

How do you show compassion in genuine ways?

How are you helping others grow in authentic faith and share it with others?