

EVANGELISM Discussion Guide



Insights from Hispanic pastors about what encourages and discourages evangelism & outreach

SOURCE

Lifeway Research conducted an online discussion in July 2022 among 62 pastors of Hispanic churches and pastors of Spanish-speaking services in non-Hispanic churches. The 3-day discussion sought to understand how these churches are evangelizing and discipling believers, building community among members, and reaching next generations of children, youth, and young adults.

NOTE

This study was designed to report on the **CURRENT** practices of Hispanic congregations with the hope that additional research can validate which ones are **BEST** practices.

This research anticipates that insights gleaned from these pastors will be beneficial and insightful as you think about your church's ministry, but please remember that these findings should be considered **DESCRIPTIVE** rather than **PRESCRIPTIVE**.

EVANGELISM METHODS

Through ministries (food, clothing, necessities)

- Church programs
 - Local ministries
 - Community programs
- Sharing the Gospel in homes with individuals and families

Street & neighborhood evangelism

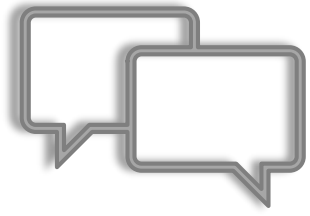
Through church programs

- Follow-up with visitors
- Small groups
- Training members to share with family and friends
- Special programs for children & youth

Address cultural and ethical concerns

Imitate Christ in service to others

Celebrate birthdays, father's day, mother's day, children's day, etc.



What specific evangelism strategies have been the most effective for your current church?



In Neighborhoods?



Through Service Ministries?



During Special Events?

Making an Impact

What do pastors say they have to promote for evangelistic results?



Training

Equipping members to share the gospel with others



Planning

Scheduling opportunities for members to go out and share the gospel



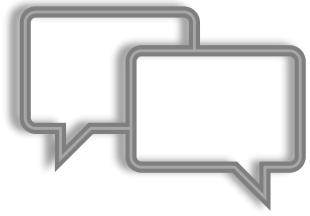
Reminding

Encouraging members to nurture and care for new believers

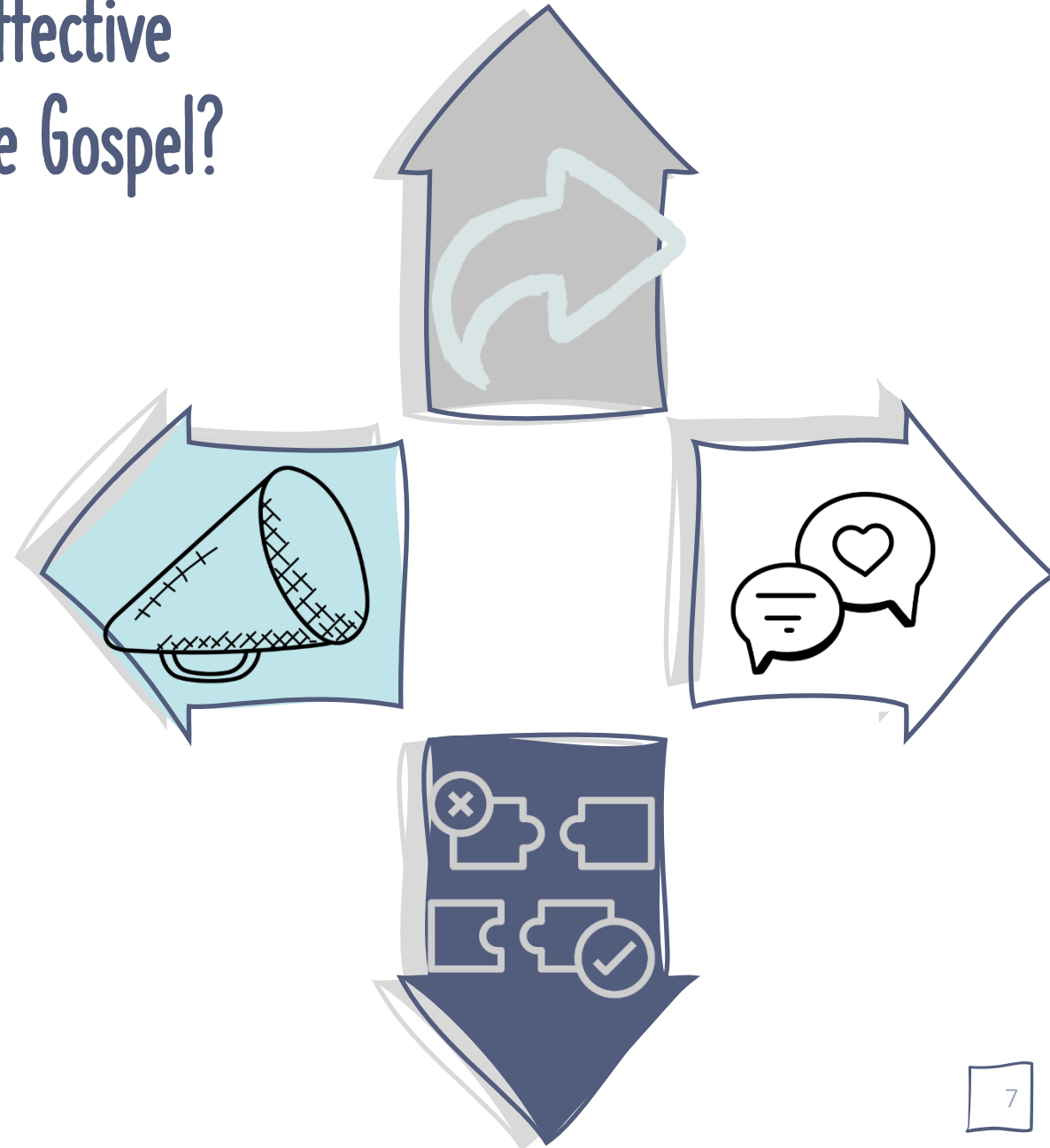


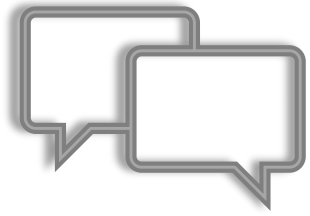
Prioritizing

Emphasizing evangelism as the way to grow the church



What have been the 1 or 2 most effective ways you were trained to share the Gospel?





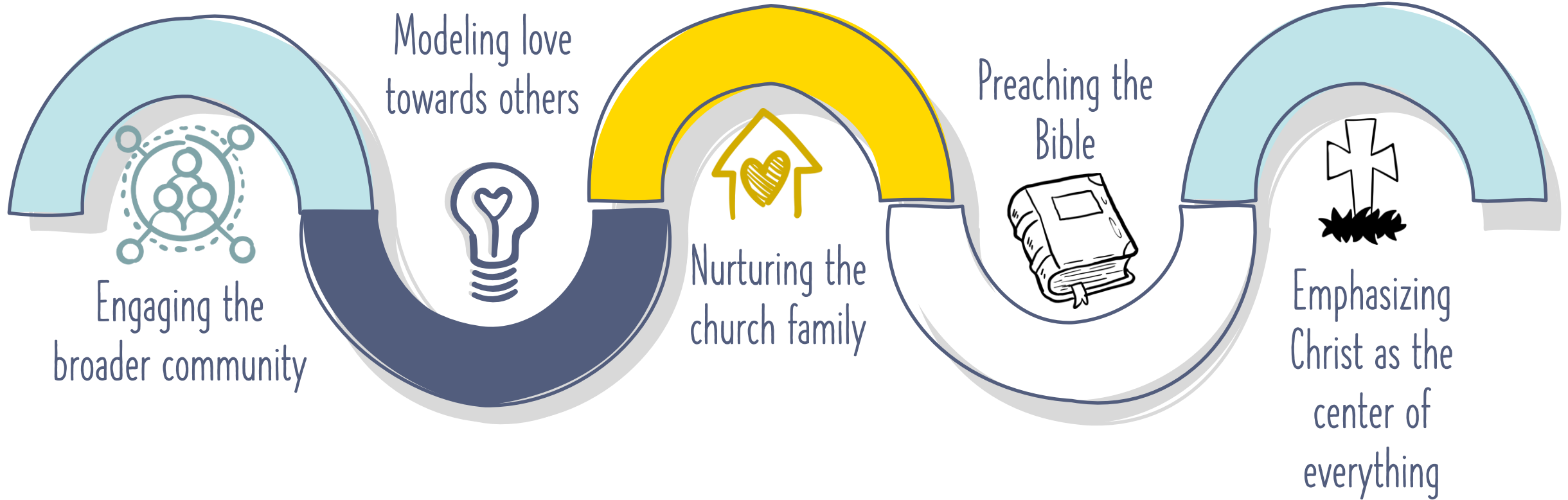
Of the methods you learned, which one has been the best tool for training others? In your opinion, what is it about that method that makes it so helpful for others?

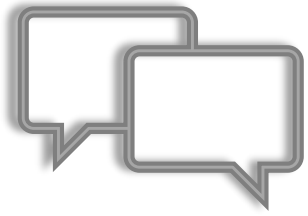
Five horizontal dashed lines for writing a response.








Making an Impact

Actions pastors say are necessary for evangelistic results





What recent examples can you think of where members of your congregation were able to make an evangelistic impact in your community?

 <p>Engaging the broader community</p>	<p>Modeling love towards others</p> 	 <p>Nurturing the church family</p>	<p>Preaching the Bible</p> 	 <p>Emphasizing Christ as the center of everything</p>
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Challenges to evangelism



Lack of unity among leaders in their church, other churches in their community, and even among denominations is confusing to new believers and nonbelievers

What do Hispanic pastors say are obstacles to evangelism?



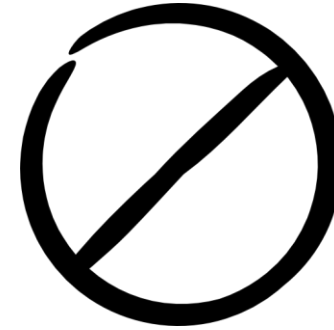
Lack of time, finances and resources - when churches lack these things, it hinders all they may want to accomplish

Challenges to evangelism

What do Hispanic pastors say are obstacles to evangelism?



Lack of humility and little willingness to serve others. The emphasis on self (e.g., egoism, materialism, individualism) shifts the focus away from sharing the gospel.



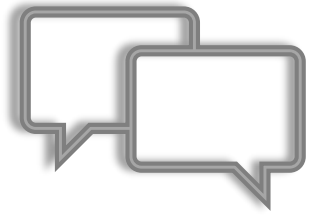
Lack of an awareness of the needs and circumstances of those outside of the church.

Prayer for evangelism

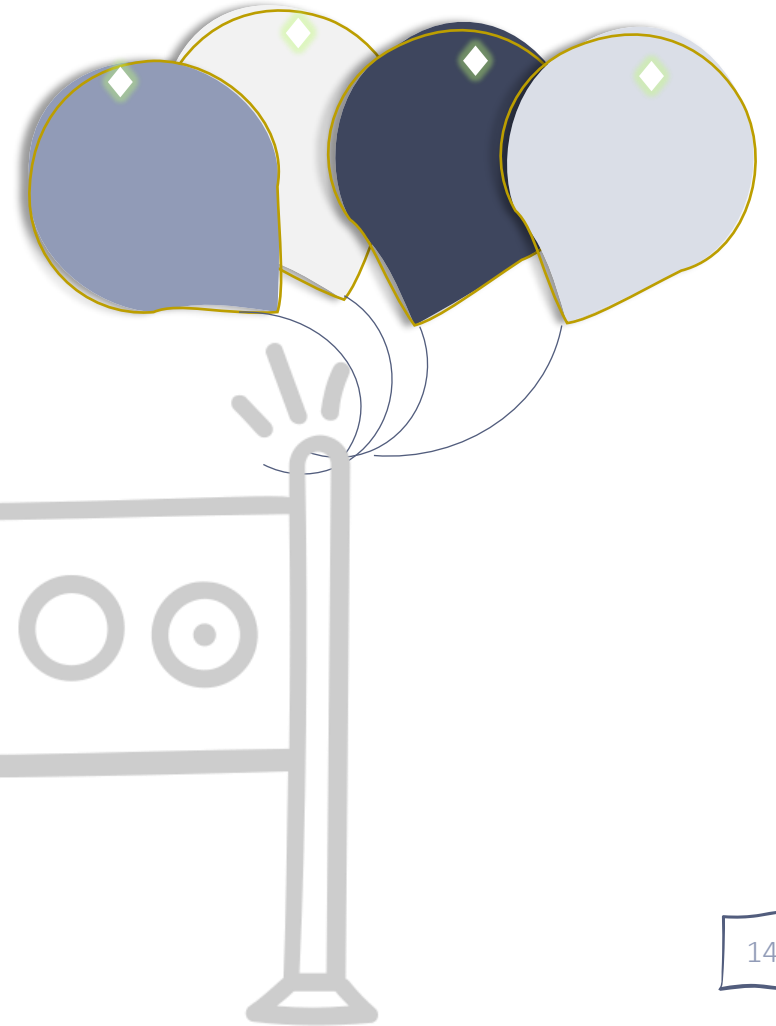
Pray together

Take time to pray for these specific priorities:

- That our leadership would be united in love for each other and our community
- That our congregation would prioritize time for outreach
- That God would provide financially for ministries, resources, and events
- That our focus would shift from ourselves to those without Jesus Christ
- That God would open our eyes to see the needs outside our church



What encouragement can you give from your own recent experience in which someone in your church shared the Gospel?



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