



## Evangelism report of 2024 (Recorded 11/18/2024)

**Group dynamic - Team leaders:** 4 months of prep classes, 9 months of 1 monthly evangelism gym events (or other door knocking, campus work). The group has members from various backgrounds and from different faithful local COC congregations in Tampa Bay Florida. We began with two team leaders: **JP Flores** and **Joseph Sullivan**.

**Team members:** Our group ranges from 4-6 active members. We've gotten Bible studies, and our team members have brought people to the Lord this year. Some churches have 100, 200, or 300 members who have not brought any people (this year) from the community to Christ. Let alone have gotten Bible studies from those in this lost world. I commend each of you who have given up your days, energy, and conveniences, to help in this effort. You have made the Great Commission a part of your life by faithfully following His command to share Jesus. God has worked in you for His purpose. And in this, He's been glorified.

Many of our team members did not grow up in the church. They were saved through evangelism. Other members have had a powerful salvation experience that deeply moved them, such an example, a parent coming to Jesus and being saved. Evangelists and preachers have told me it's hard to get most Christians interested in evangelism, (when they try at their church). It takes as much work getting a saint involved in soul saving as it takes to bring a lost person to the Cross. I can say these team members are the exception to this rule. And have been eager, passionate, and invested in faithfully following God's Word to share our Savior's message. I will name each of you who have actively helped in this report. You made this group what it is. You helped make this spiritual movement of believers work for God's glory in the support you gave to one another and to the cause of sharing Jesus with the lost. The above picture is of one of our meetings. This picture has all active members except Jared Levine, who joined later, and Jeanne Sullivan who took the picture. And Daniel Lookadoo who could not make it to this meeting.



**JP Flores** worked as our team leader: he helped our group in training classes to teach friendship evangelism. He shared success stories and detailed effective church strategies for growth. JP had our group learn teaching formats that taught straight from the Bible soul-saving lessons. JP hosted classes at his house and lead classes at Panera Bread and headed up our gym evangelism event work at different locations through the months. And helped with our Bible studies. He's worth learning from.

JP helped create a culture of evangelism at the University church, where 60 souls were added to the kingdom within a year. JP is a busy evangelist. He has many Bible studies each week with non-Christians.

I've never seen a young father work with his children in evangelism example-ship, mentorship and training then JP. He'll have his kids invite folks to church when they are out to eat. And give them opportunities to share Jesus. He'll have his children with him at Bible studies. This above picture is of JP mentoring young men in doing gym outreach work.



*Daniel Lookadoo* joined our group as a team leader, later on. He generated many Bible discussions and got studies doing friendship evangelism. One of his contacts (from friendship evangelism) I'm still studying with. Daniel helped head up our evangelism gym work each month at different locations. And has gotten his sister involved. This is mentorship. He helped with our contact Bible study and actively supported our training work. Before our group, Daniel brought some of his family to the Lord. He actively does social media and has gotten positive results from that. Daniel is an example of the power of the Word. Someone brought Daniel to Christ and in turn this man of faith has brought others to the gospel. Evangelism is about cause and effect. One action can bring about a domino effect. Daniel's love for God and zeal for the lost has blessed many.

*Daniel* is newly married. He took time from spending his evenings with his new wife to help us out in sharing Jesus and in supporting others in spiritual growth within this group. Daniel is frank and will discuss Bible themes and verses right off the bat, (after beginning a friendly discussion). This has led to productive interactions with others this year. Daniel moved out of state to start work as a preacher. He continues to train people in evangelism as a mentor.



**Gustave Looper** joined our group at the beginning and has been attending almost every week despite having a college schedule of classes and academic athletic activities. We went to USF College to do friendship evangelism together; I enjoyed the 2 hours we spent talking with people and giving invites. His work in sharing Jesus has helped lead someone in Germany to Christ. Gustav's story is a testament to the power of the gospel and the need for evangelism. His mother came to the Lord, he and his sister then were brought to the Cross. Ripples are what you see when a seed is planted and bears fruit. You can see that in this person's life of devotion and purpose.

He's started heading up one of our gym locations and has brought his FC college friends to join him. This is mentorship. When others are made part of a learning process that they can use for a lifetime and are developed in evangelism work as they do that process, they are being mentored. Gustav also taught his first class this last week. Gustav will be leaving us soon to go back to Germany. He's also looking into becoming a preacher down the road. I admire his goals. He wants to do evangelism in Germany and is hungry to serve our Savior in that focus.



**Jared Levine** is new to our group. He hit the ground running. Jared has headed up our evangelism vendor gym event work. He's contacted those who signed up for Bible studies. He's actively helping as a team leader in outreach. If asked to help with something there is no hesitation, he says yes. At his first gym event, he was bold and engaged many people. He blew me away. I learned from him.

That is what this group is about, we are all here to learn from each other. We are a tribe of mentors. I appreciate Jared stepping up as a team leader. Jared has faithfully attended our meetings and has been proactive in engaging with me on needed issues and activities of this work. His drive and earnestness in wanting to do more and help encourages me. He has gone bike riding at a forest park and has shared Jesus in giving card invites. People like Jared, who have a spiritual hunger for God's work, are those who spiritually feed others who have no hope that is found in Jesus Christ.



**Derek Carley** gets up at 3 AM and works long hours. He's busy with Florida College activities that mentor young teens and college-age people. He's a mentor of the young. And has influence in his work I know has helped many through the years. Derek is one of the first people you will see at the Livingston church of Christ, he's always there to greet and encourage visitors, non-Christians, and fellow Christian members.

Derek is a modern-day Barnabas. His heart for others has been shown in this work. Derek has come to our meetings. His positive attitude and friendliness has uplifted our team members. Derek has gone door-knocking with our group, done gym evangelism, and has actively shared Jesus. He's talked to others at vendor booths at our gym locations and assertively engages with others (in his positive way) during our outreach gym events. Derek has many fires going. Yet he's been a strong support to me and to our team. He embodies what Jesus says, in Mark 9:35 "Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all." Derek truly has a heart for Christ.



**Kim Carley** is Derek's wife. She's been one of the people who have been helping me the longest. She works at a job each week and has many responsibilities and personal investments. Yet when door-knocking events took place, she was there. When we did flea market evangelism work, she was there. When gym evangelism activity was being done, she was there.

Our group has always been small. Sometimes it's just 2-4 people helping. Kim's helped keep this work going through the years and has been essential. When I or our team needed help, she'd be there for us. A few years ago, Kim helped me do a door-knocking event, that led to a hr. conversation and an invitation to church for Francis Batista. He was later baptized and is still faithful to this day. She invited me to study with one of her patients. An elderly man. Kim is always seeking to share Jesus. I've taken pauses due to moving to CA to preach, or due to extreme health issues for a few years. But God has blessed me to have Kim support this work, each time we begin it. Kim's love for God is shown in her life. Her commitment to the Great Commission is shown in the story of her life. Derek and Kim have gotten people to meet Christians, hear the gospel, and learn about NT worship by inviting people to church. Seeds were planted.

**The above picture is of us going door-knocking this year. It was on an afternoon near the 4<sup>th</sup> in July in 94-degree weather. I commend those who came despite the heat. We walked and interacted with people at an apt complex and some others at homes. One of those we interacted with led to a Bible study. Kim and Derek are living stories like that of Priscilla and Aquila. They give of themselves for Jesus. And are sharing their faith.**



**Susan Stoa** lives far away, yet she drives a long distance from Brandon in traffic to go to our group training classes. Her interest in sharing Jesus is shown in her questions she asks in Bible classes and in our meetings. She deeply cares about the lost. In matters of Christian influence and the gospel, she also cares about those she watches over as a nanny. In sharing Jesus with others, Susan often posts Bible truths on social media. Her passion for Christ is strong. She's driven long distances to support campus work and gym vendor work.

What I admire about this godly lady is her interest to learn and grow in outreach work. For example: she's come to our class that teaches how to make church cards. If there is a new theme being taught Susan is interested. When she faces struggles, evangelism still is a focus. Many stop doing outreach when secular issues come up that make life harder. Susan has not. Her zeal runs over into the church she attends. This woman of faith has invited her COC friends to join our group. Her roots of wanting to share Jesus comes from a deep faith. Her past experiences (that Susans shared) of God's providence shown in her life and her families has inspired me. The world needs more people like this dedicated woman.





**Sara Delgado** is one of the people who have been helping me the longest. Sara has helped in working for long hours in the hot sun during the summer months doing Flea market work and door knocking. She's been indispensable in helping our group greet and talk to Spanish speaking members in our community. People I could not reach, Sara could, due to her bilingual ability to communicate with the Latino community.

Her zeal and creative approaches for sharing Jesus has gotten Bible studies sign ups in hard areas where I could not get any. And has inspired discussions. Each team member has taught me in this work. Sara has definitely been one of them. Sara has helped in prep work for evangelism meetings. She has shown up at our meeting home early to support our team classes. Her love for God has caused Sara to share her faith with family. When it comes to our events and classes through the years Sara's faithfulness to this work has helped keep this group alive. Evangelism is a commitment, and Sara has shown this commitment in making this activity a part of her life. Friendship evangelism is something this woman of faith has focused on in reaching others for Jesus. She has been a goldy influence on her grandchild for our Lord. God has blessed our group in having her support in this work.



***Jeanne Sullivan** is my mom. She taught me by her example and life's activities how to do evangelism. She's supported this work the longest. But has also been doing soul saving work in bringing others to the Lord through the years I've known her. Jeanne has had bad heart issues and a bad knee. Despite this mom has helped at USF college events, flea market work and gym vendor evangelism activities. These activities took much from her. She's worked outside doing door knocking using a walker. She's hosted our groups in her home while struggling with weakness, pain and heart problems.*

*The pain and struggles mom went through could have been used as justification to stop sharing Jesus but mom has always sought to hold up our Lord's work and cause in her life. There are many people who have youth, health and energy who are mute and willfully blind to those around them going to Hell. Compassion in the kingdom is rare. Mom exemplifies someone who has a heart for Christ and for those who need His mercy.*



**Jesse Lester** is one of the first people to help me with evangelism. Our group has always been small. We've ranged from 4-6 active people. Jesse has been one of the constants of this group dynamic. His love for God is shown in always going to a gospel meeting in the area we live in. He's always visiting out of state for lectureships, singings and Bible training events. If I need something I know I can depend on Jesse to help me in matters of outreach. He's come to my very first class I put together and is still coming to our meetings. Jesse has helped with all the types of evangelism events and Bible study training classes. Jesse has shown faithfulness in doing this work. This is a gift of encouragement to those who see such an example of integrity.

In all our actives this man of God has given himself whole heartily to the work. There are no self-serving purposes or ambitions for the years he's sacrificed in helping others in our Father's kingdom. He embodies what the Bible says in Phil 2:3 "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus..."



### ***Evangelism events/friendship evangelism/training classes/Bible studies:***

*We've done 9 months of evangelism event work. Seeds were spread, we had Bible discussions, led prayers, shared materials on salvation, Bible teachings on worship, Bible authority, creationism, etc. were given.*

*Our team members learned how to do gym evangelism, in setting up an event, heading up an event, and interacting with people, (giving invites, sharing materials, discussing Bible truths, getting Bible study signatures, and engaging others for spiritual interactions). They learned how to contact those who signed up for Bible studies. What they learn can be applied to all types of vendor events, like flea markets, fairgrounds, downtown outdoor Saturday markets, colleges etc. They also have done an evangelism event at USF College.*

*The workers have gotten used to doing such activities... which has helped acclimate our team in sharing Jesus in other ways in social and work life. Event evangelism helps develop others in friendship evangelism. They go hand in hand, each format complements the other.*

*During our gym evangelism, our team met Brayan Munoz at Hillsborough Crunch gym. A 3 hr. Bible discussion took place. Later Brayan was baptized by JP Flores after having a Bible study with him. Brayan has continued to have Bible studies with JP for many months. And has placed membership at the University church of Christ.*

*A vendor at Crunch Gym is doing work Mom (Jeanne Sullivan) needs, I got his card, and he visited mom. She invited him to church. He's come 2 times to date...from last Sunday. Our evangelism gym team members have passed the red line of where most vendors are at. Most business vendors, even religious vendors at Crunch and other places stand and wait for things to happen. Our team makes things happen. They are proactive and assertive. They interact with those who pass by. They generate conversations, they pass out materials, and they get signatures. Many other gym vendors never even get one signature at an event. We are not passive, we engage. I commend our group for doing this work with passion, energy, and assertiveness. And most importantly with friendliness and love.*

*Others have done friendship evangelism and have gotten people to visit their church. Some studies have been set up through this. I invited a new Christian to our group (Marcus Brewer) and he came to our classes, learning grounding principles he did not know.*

*Our members have done door knocking which led to a 2 hr. Bible study at the apartment home. This led to 4 more Bible studies at Panera Bread where salvation, Bible authority and New Testament worship was taught. The contact Janner was texted by our team member Daniel Lookadoo who arranged and led the studies. Joseph Sullivan helped.*

*When first doing our training classes on gym evangelism, Karl Whitehead, the preacher at Riverview church of Christ came. He was interested in learning more. He started a work in this location in doing gym evangelism with his local congregation members.*

*Our classes have trained our group in gym vendor evangelism work. We have looked over various formats for setting up Bible studies and in doing Bible studies. Our group has taught soul saving/new convert principles in our classes. We have had people who have never taught teach and our members have become more experienced in teaching. This is a steppingstone to being able to begin teaching non-Christians and new converts. The goal is to have people head up our training classes. Including our teaching classes. We have people who can do this now. The purpose of this is to keep this work going. If I die, move, etc. this work can keep going. Those who head up these classes can also train new members in such groups. And help spread the responsibility of this work. Churches that have evangelism on the shoulders of one person tend to have the work fade out when that person moves, retires, etc. Evangelism is discipleship and mentorship.*

*I'm proud of you guys. You've stepped up in different ways to support this ideal. You make this work a unit of leadership workers. Our group has become comfortable with vendor work and there are those who are able to set up a vendor event at a specific gym location.*

*For the same reason of having people head up classes, it's important to have leaders heading up locations. And we do.*

*We have people who are helping in various ways in supporting this group. I believe we have members who can head up or training classes now. The goal is to make this a tribe of leaders and mentors, I see that in our group Besides these mentioned things members are helping one another and supporting one another. I see our team members inviting others to church and Bible studies. I see them posting spiritual themes on social media. I see their fire. These examples are mentorship to the aware person seeing these things.*

*In our coffees shop evangelism at Panera Bread, people listened nearby. I see one of the staff leaving the back register on Tuesdays and Thursdays when we come and begin cleaning near our table the whole time we have classes. I see people sitting nearby paying attention. One older man sat next to us, watching/listening for an hr. while we taught themes on the importance of solely following Bible authority. We had a guy sit in named Joseph for 30 minutes, when JP taught our class at Panera Bread. He thought we were another group, but he still heard the truth. I came two times when no one else could make it, (during our Sunday evening meetings) and Jaek Redding came. He signed up online. We had a 2 hr. Bible study the first time and a 6 hr. Bible study the second time. Jake agreed and accepted many things. He just would not acknowledge baptism.*

*Currently from one of Daniel Lookadoo contacts, I am studying with Josh Coleman. I am meeting each week online to do Bible studies. His girlfriend Karen, and sister Alana, as well as an army buddy Jasmine, have joined our studies. In 9 months of work: We've had 10 Bible studies with different people. One evangelism event led to a baptism. One of our members did friendship evangelism that led to a baptism. There may be other things that have happened from friendship evangelism that I am not aware of or other formats that are being done. But these are the things I am aware of.*

***Our work has been recorded on pages of our group training evangelism website and is training people across the US and around the world. If I had no one come to our classes and events, I would not have been able to teach classes and have the various multi events that have been recorded for others to learn from. You made this possible. Your work has taught others. Your support has made this group possible. You have not only supported me as a teacher, but JP and Daniel. For all you do I thank God for you. You can see all you did at our website. This content can serve a continual source for study and growth.***

***[www.evangelismworkersoftampabay.com](http://www.evangelismworkersoftampabay.com)***

***I want to share a deep gratitude and message of thanks for all the hard work our group has done. You all have faithfully served God in honoring the Great Commission. Your light has been as a city on a hill in the darkness. Matthew 5:14 "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid."***

- Joseph Sullivan