

The four booklets that Christians call “Gospels”, were written in the ancient common Greek of the first Century & are trying to copy Jesus in telling “the gospel of God”. Part of that “telling”, was an **oral announcement** (see [Epilogue](#) below for other parts). ..

Please add any more ways of announcing this news in different contexts, that you find out...

Mark announces something like:

- **God is taking up his reign as Emperor (even over Caesar, who might look like the top-dog), & God has chosen to rule through a man whom he has designated “The Anointed One”– Jesus.**
(Mark 1:1, understood in the light of 1stC Roman Heraldry)

In Mark's account, Jesus heralds the Gospel, the Good News from God as:

- **"The right time has come, and the Kingdom of God is near! Turn away from your sins and believe the Good News!" (Mar 1:14,15),**
[b) after proving able to obey the word of God more than his own (or others') desires.
c) in the power of the Spirit of God, d) in the wake of John's murder, &... etc.]

When Paul stood in the Aeropagus in Athens (Acts17:), he said something like:

- **The God who made the world & everything in it... now commands everyone to stop the pretence (that they it, & made them-selves), & to get real; & invites them to really live, for he has appointed a man (by raising him from the dead) to judge the whole world, and his name is Jesus...**

When Jesus stood up in the Synagogue, he said something like:

- **The Spirit of the Lord is upon me--sending me to preach the euangelion (this message of GOD reigning) to the poor, sight to the blind, freedom to the captives and to announce that the time has come when the Lord will save his people --This has come true in your hearing.
(Jesus also pretty much echoed this again when he talked to John's disciples (Luke 7?) about the ‘coming one’, telling them to tell John what they had seen and heard.**

When John the Baptist stood up in the river Jordan he said something like (Matt3):

- **Repent, for the Kingdom of God is near! I am not the Messiah, but he is coming after me, I'm washing you with water, but he will wash you with the Holy Spirit!**

Context

- **Announcement**

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Epilogue:

“methods” employed by Jesus as God’s “herald”. They could be summarized as:

1. Oral Announcing/ Informing e.g. [Jesus’ Announcement as recorded by Mark](#)
2. Actional communication/ enactments
 - Healing people, & throwing out demons, etc. as “signs” of the KOG's presence, & that he rightfully re-presented it.
 - They seemed to especially remember about Jesus things like the way he **looked** - in love, or rebuke, or fierceness, or to help drive home a point:

Mark records (Chapter 3), during a trap staged to catch Jesus surreptitiously healing (the work of a doctor) on the sabbath:

³ Jesus said to the man, “Come up here to the front.” ⁴ Then he asked the people, “What does our Law allow us to do on the Sabbath? To help or to harm? To save someone's life or to destroy it?”

But they did not say a thing.⁵ Jesus was angry as he looked around at them, but at the same time he felt sorry for them, because they were so stubborn and wrong. Then he said to the man, ...

Mark records (Chapter 10), during a story about Jesus' interchange with an enquiring rich young man (v21ff):

... Jesus looked straight at him with love and said, "You need only one thing. Go and sell all you have and give the money to the poor, and you will have riches in heaven; then come and follow me." When the man heard this, gloom spread over his face, and he went away sad, because he was very rich. Jesus looked around at his disciples and said to them, "How hard it will be for rich people to enter the Kingdom of God!" The disciples were shocked at these words, but Jesus went on to say, "My children, how hard it is to enter the Kingdom of God! It is much harder for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of God than for a camel to go through the eye of a needle." At this the disciples were completely amazed and asked one another, "Who, then, can be saved?" Jesus looked straight at them and answered, "This is impossible for human beings but not for God; everything is possible for God."

“He looked at him and loved him” maybe they learned from him how to communicate love by personal welcoming & open-ness of life. John does say in one of his letters “I have so much to tell you, but I would rather not do it with paper and ink; instead, I hope to visit you and talk with you personally, so that we shall be completely happy.”
 - Bearing witness (Gk:martureo, from which we have our English word “martyr”) to the TRUTH, through all these points (above & below), his life-choices, (and even his death), & more..
3. Other Oral communication
 - Stories,
 - Questions,
 - Proverbial maxims,
 - Explanations, or at least debunking false explanations, and then wooing (or even shaming) people into thinking things through further.
 - Commands, with opportunities to obey/disobey.
4. Being willing, where it would help, to write it down - or have a student/learner write it down for him.

(Don't jump too quickly to this, because all that is written about Jesus' writing was that one time he wrote in the dust. As for his followers, they may have made notes, but it looks like their written “Gospels” were only made after it has been orally told for years; so the flip side may be : “Do NOT hide behind writing, while you can communicate “face to face””. [another related link/ ways, means plans & devices...](#)

from an email to Matt Walker 20may2013:

Hello Matt.,

2 things..

1) I think it must have been Paul Roe who had a "Preaching" elective for 2nd years. Do you have his email address? I'll CC this to him so you can get his email & ask him more if you want.

2) I do have many ideas & things that have been helpful for me... (in heralding the gospel)...

Here's a beginning...

"methods" employed by Jesus as God's "herald=preacher". They could be summarized as:

- Announcing/ Informing
- Stories, (This kingdom (=rule) of God is like this... A man went out to sow... etc")
- **Questions** ("What has your study taught you?", or "Which one was the neighbour?" or "Why do the teachers of the Law say...?" or "Is it with a kiss that you betray the Son of Adam?"),
- **Proverbial maxims** (e.g. "To whom much is given, much will be required", & "Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works & glorify your Father in Heaven", etc),
- **Explanations**, or at least debunking false explanations, and then wooing (or even shaming) people into thinking things through further.
- **Commands**, with opportunities to obey/disobey (This is my command: "Love one another", or "Go into the village ahead of you & you will find....", "Stretch out your hand!").
- **Healing people, & throwing out demons, etc. as "signs" of the KOG's presence, &** that he rightfully re-presented it (..But that you may know that the Son of Adam has authority on Earth to forgive sins.., here he said to the paralytic "Get up, take up your mat, & walk!")
- **Bearing witness** (Gk:martureo, from which we have our English word "martyr") to the TRUTH, through all the above, & his life-choices, (and even death), &more..

The Announcing/Informing bit seems to me to be the "preaching" (/ or better for us to think of "heralding") (proper), but it was not divorced from the other aspects. It has been fun for me learning to grow in all these aspects and more... The word for gospel in Greek is "euangelion" (it has different endings depending on it's function in the sentence e.g. euangelion etc.). You might be interested in a blog I keep throwing my ideas onto every now and then about preaching the gospel... <http://the-euangelion.blogspot.com.au/>,

God give you his love, & courage. Amen.