

# Automobile Evangelism

by William Booth

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*William Booth's use of motor cars for evangelism marked a new era in the Salvation Army's campaigning methods and demonstrated his courage and determination to reach more people with the gospel message.*

**Duration:** 2:25

**Scripture:** Joshua 1:9, Psalm 31:24, Proverbs 16:9, 1 Corinthians 16:13, Philippians 4:13, 2 Timothy 1:7

**Topics:** "Innovative Evangelism", "Faith In Action"

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## Description

This sermon reflects on the inspiring courage and determination of William Booth, a 75-year-old man who embraced innovative methods like using a motor car for campaigning in 1904, covering 1250 miles despite the challenges of primitive cars. Despite some disapproval, Booth's adoption of modern technology at an advanced age garnered worldwide sympathy and approval, drawing large crowds to hear his message of love and humanity. His work, marked by genuine inspiration, led to widespread recognition and established motor car campaigning as one of his successful methods despite occasional mishaps.

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## Transcript

William Booth, an old man in his 75th year, yet had the courage and determination to inaugurate an entirely new method of campaigning. In the autumn of 1904, he used a motor car to tour from one end of the kingdom to the other. During this first motor campaign, a distance of 1250 miles was covered.

Imagine what this meant in these primitive cars for a man in his 70s. There were some people who disapproved of these methods, but on the whole, the imagination of the world was struck with sympathy and approval that this very old man should adopt the latest invention of science at the end of his life's work. Large numbers gathered to listen to him, for by now, William Booth, who had faced great opposition for so long, had in his old age achieved worldwide popularity.

His work was recognised as the work of one honestly inspired by love of humanity. Campaigning by motor car soon became one of the general's established methods. In vehicles like these, he journeyed throughout England, Scotland and Wales.

The going was not always without mishaps. A puncture in those days was apparently not very easy to deal with.

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Video: <https://sermonindex2.b-cdn.net/mwOoopCWqus.mp4>  
Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/william-booth/automobile-evangelism/>

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