

A Modest Proposal about the E-Word

by Jelani Greenidge, p. 45

The word “evangelical” seems to have been redefined by mainstream media. Columnist Jelani Greenidge makes a case for changing our denominational association to the word.

1. Jelani Greenidge opens with a comparison of iPhone users to evangelists. What product, sports team or entertainment are you passionate enough about to be considered a fan of?
2. What do you think the difference is between “evangelist” and “evangelical?”
3. How do you think American Christians are perceived by today’s culture? Have you encountered judgment or criticism from friends or co-workers because of your evangelical faith?
4. How do you think evangelicals should respond to the misperceptions addressed by Greenidge?
5. Greenidge suggests we stop calling ourselves evangelicals, even so far as to take it out of our denominational name. Do you agree? What word could be an appropriate substitute?