

SHARING THE GOSPEL

week 12



NOTES

When we receive good news, we are very quick to share it with others. Salvation is the greatest news in the entire world. True salvation is found in the “Gospel” - Jesus died for our sins, was buried, and rose again for the forgiveness to all who will trust Him as their Savior. The word “Gospel” actually means “good news.”

1 Corinthians 15:1, 3-4

Conversation Starter: What is an example of some “good news” that you could not hardly wait to tell? How did it make you feel when you had to keep it to yourself? How much more should we be excited about sharing the good news of the Gospel with someone who is lost?

As we go over this lesson, consider how quick we are to share good news in life and then evaluate how quick you are to share the good news of the Gospel. If the Gospel is truly the greatest news we can share, why do we not share it more often? In this lesson, we will show God’s plan for getting the good news of the Gospel to everyone and how you can be a part of that wonderful plan

SHARING THE GOSPEL IS COMMANDED.

JESUS EXEMPLIFIED THE SPREADING OF THE GOSPEL.

Jesus came to earth to seek and to save the lost.

Luke 19:10

When Jesus saw lost people, His heart was moved with compassion for them.

Matthew 9:36

Jesus gave His life for the mission of the Gospel.

Matthew 20:28

SPREADING THE GOSPEL IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CHURCH.

Several times during this course we have referenced the verses known as the Great Commission. These verses were some of the last words Jesus shared with His disciples. As we saw in our lesson on the church, the disciples were the foundation of the church (Ephesians 2:20). The responsibility of sharing the Gospel has been given to the church

Matthew 28:18-20

According to the Great Commission, it is the job of the local church to get the Gospel to the world, but also to baptize and teach new believers. These are the primary responsibilities of the church. Every aspect of the local church should be assisting in the accomplishment of these purposes.

SPREADING THE GOSPEL IS ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH SOULWINNING AND MISSIONS.

God has given us a plan and methods to get the Gospel out to our community and around the world at the same time.

Acts 1:8

You will hear the term “soulwinning” used often in our church. This term is often used to refer to using our witness to personally share with others about how their souls can be saved.

Proverbs 14:25

Proverbs 11:30

Throughout the year and at our annual Missions Conference, missionaries will come to present their work and burden for a specific part of the world. Many times, we will take these missionaries on for financial support through our Faith Promise Missions Giving. This is often called “missions” and it is God’s plan to reach the entire world.

Acts 13:1-3

As you read through the book of Acts, you will find the model of missionaries being sent by local churches to preach the Gospel and plant local churches in new areas. This is still God’s plan to get the Gospel to the entire world. It is our privilege to partner with missionaries through prayer and financial support who are reaching souls and planting churches. It is through this method and plan of missions that we have a part in getting the Gospel to places that we may never go.

WE ARE RESPONSIBLE TO SHARE THE GOSPEL.

The church has been given the responsibility of getting the Gospel to the entire world. What a large task! The Gospel only goes out as the people of the church see the need to share it. The local church is comprised of individual people. God has entrusted us with the message of the Gospel; it is our job to be faithful in sharing it with others!

1 Timothy 1:11

So, how can we do this?

KNOW THE GOSPEL AND HOW TO SHARE IT.

God made the Gospel simple to understand and simple to share. In fact, it can be broken down into five simple points that you can share with anyone:



God loves you.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Everyone is a sinner.

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

Sin has a price that must be paid.

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus Christ died to pay for your sin.

Romans 5:8

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

You can pray and ask Jesus Christ to be your Savior.

Romans 10:13

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

These simple points are the main truths of the Gospel for salvation. Take the time to learn these main points and corresponding verses to be able to share with others when the opportunity to arises.

ALWAYS BE PREPARED TO SHARE YOUR FAITH.

We are ambassadors of the Gospel message.

II Corinthians 5:20

Because we are ambassadors of the Gospel and a representation of Jesus Christ, we should be able to share the Gospel with anyone at any given time. Whether an unexpected opportunity arises or a scheduled appointment creates an opportunity, we should be able to share the Gospel and answer for our faith in Christ.

I Peter 3:15

Here are some practical tips:

Carry Gospel tracts with you wherever you go.

Our church provides free Gospel tracts and church invitations. They easily fit into your pocket, backpack, or purse for you to keep with you at all times. Many of these tracts and invite cards have the same five points we referenced earlier for you to use as a guide. You can leave these with people who only have a short time or use them as a conversation starter with a friend or co-worker.

See every relationship in your life as an opportunity to be God's ambassador.

God has placed you in relationships with lost people that no one else can minister to. In some cases, you will be in more relationships with unsaved people than you



are with saved people. See those relationships as opportunities to be a witness of what God has done in your life.

Schedule a regular time to go soulwinning.

Each week this church has guests from our weekly soulwinning times. People were given an invitation by someone who knocked on their door and decided to come for a visit. Talk to your discipler about our weekly soulwinning opportunities and finding an experienced partner.

These are some practical ways to be prepared to share your faith. Not everyone will receive Christ, but we can all do our part in planting the seed and sharing the Gospel with those that we can. Listen for special outreach events and church activities that you can invite people to so they can hear the Gospel, as well.

WE ARE ENABLED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Sometimes sharing the Gospel can scare us! We may feel unqualified or incapable to share the such an awesome story. If this is how you feel, there is good news! God goes with us through the power of His Spirit and His presence.

THE HOLY SPIRIT EMPOWERS US.

Christ gave this good news to the disciples in the Great Commission as He assured them of His presence.

Matthew 28:20

Jesus promised His disciples that the Holy Spirit would enable them to witness for Him.

Acts 1:8

THE HOLY SPIRIT WORKS IN HEARTS.

Sometimes we fear sharing the Gospel because of who we are sharing it with. Not only does God promise to work through us, but He promises to work in the hearts of those who are hearing the Gospel, as well.

As we are sensitive and obedient to the leading of the Holy Spirit, it is actually the Holy Spirit who works in the hearts of the hearers to convict them of their sin and bring them to salvation in Christ.

Once again, Jesus assured the disciples of His Spirit's work in their lives:

John 16:7-9

We could say that the Holy Spirit does the work, but we are the tool that He often uses to see people accept Christ as their Savior. What an exciting work to be a part of!

APPLICATION

Because sharing the Gospel is commanded, commit to being obedient with the message of the Gospel. Obedience in sharing the Gospel with others is crucial to



the church accomplishing the Great Commission. Would you commit to being a part of sharing the Gospel through your local church? Would you commit to being involved in the missions work of your local church?

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Because the Gospel is the responsibility of individual Christians, commit to making a regular habit of sharing the Gospel. Would you commit to learning the five main points of the Gospel? Would you commit to living a life that is prepared to share the Gospel? Would you commit to a regular time of personal soulwinning? Would you determine to see the relationships you have been given as opportunities to share the Gospel? You can use the space below to list people that may be unsaved that you can share the Gospel:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Because the Holy Spirit does the work, commit to being filled with His power and following His leading. We understand that we are not the one who saves anyone; we are simply a tool. Would you commit to being filled with the power of the Holy Spirit? Would you commit to asking for His help as you share the Gospel? Would you begin asking Him to do a work in those you will talk to?

