

13 REASONS WHY

YOU NEED TO SHARE JESUS

JOHN 3 *17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.*

As we closed out this series, Pastor Jon took us to the Apostle Paul's letter, 2 Corinthians 5:9-6:1. In his sermon, Pastor gave us some insight as to how sharing Jesus and making disciples are the ultimate "good works" every Christian is called to pursue. In the mind of the Apostle Paul, a Christian's calling is to bring others to Jesus and build the church. We also learned that one day, when we come to stand face to face with Jesus, we will give an account to how what we did with the life we have been given, the Gospel that we received and our calling in Christ.

Pastor's compelling challenge in relation to 2 Corinthians 5:9-10 is: What are you doing with God's marvelous gifts to you—Your salvation, your life, your purpose, your vision, your treasures, your relationships (family, friends, acquaintances) and your calling? When your life on earth is over and when you come face to face with Jesus, how will you account for your life? Have the hustle and bustle of life distracted you from your true goal in life? Have you forgotten your true purpose in life? Have other things inserted themselves so that you have lost your direction and focus?

In 2 Corinthians 5:15-21, the Apostle Paul enumerates the "marvelous gifts" of God to us. While in 2 Corinthians 6:1, he gives us a challenge and a plead. We owe our life and salvation to Jesus! Without Jesus, we will spend eternity in a place of condemnation. The Bible calls that place hell. Jesus made heaven possible for us through His sacrifice, and He wants more people to experience heaven! As recipients of God's saving grace, Paul says in verses 19-20 that we God has given us the ministry of reconciliation, and through us God is making his appeal to the world through us. As Christ's representatives, we speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!" That is our calling as people who have been saved—to be Christ's ambassadors. An ambassador is someone who represents a sovereign leader or nation. Imagine that! You represent Jesus wherever you go, and your primary role is to invite people to "Come back to God" because life is so much better with God! So, after telling us what God has called us to be, Paul challenges us (6:1): *As God's partners, we beg you not to accept this marvelous gift of God's kindness and then ignore it.* Now that you know what God's gifts are, you must do everything in your power to use them to honor God and point people to Jesus, that is your calling.

Reasons 11-13 (we need to share Jesus because):

11. IT BRINGS GLORY TO THE GOD WHO SAVED ME. As a way to honor the God who changed my destiny, from hell to heaven, I will share Christ and point people to Him so they too can have a change of destiny.

12. IT RECONCILES THE PEOPLE I LOVE BACK TO GOD. There are people in my life who do not know Jesus, and without Jesus they are destined to destruction; but if I share the Jesus with them, they can be part of God's eternal family.

13. IT IS MY CALLING. Wherever I go, whatever I do, I represent Jesus. I am His ambassador, and my goal is to tell as many people as I can that Jesus is all they need and in Him there is life, liberty and hope.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEXT STEPS:

- Arrows (Parenting Seminar in August)
- Prayer and Fasting Week (August 27-September 2)
- New York Mission Trip (November 8-16)

PRAY TOGETHER FOR

- Courage and wisdom as you make disciples.
- The first time guests last Sunday.
- Boldness in sharing the Good News.

GOAL FOR THIS STUDY: As Christians, we are called to *incarnate and propagate* the Gospel. To incarnate means to live out; to propagate means to proclaim. We need to do both. It's not our job to change people (God does that!), but it is our role to live it out with our lives and share it with our lips! We must make it our goal to take risks in sharing the Gospel and inviting people to Jesus. It's If we can take risks about things that don't matter—new fashion, new food items, or even do something dangerous, we can and should "risk" our friendships and relationships by sharing Christ with them! Take the risk! Plant the seed! Water it with grace! Lead them to Jesus! The Mosaic Prayer is: "God, give me today an opportunity to speak with someone about Jesus, the wisdom to see it when it comes, and the courage to take it."

Connection and Action

Questions to promote conversation and connection

Question:

What has been your experience in trying to share Jesus with others? What is most difficult for you?

Question:

What encouraged you or challenged you most about evangelism in our series?

Question:

Based on 2 Corinthians 5:17, what became “new” in your life when you came to know Christ? What changes have you experienced?

Question:

Have you prayed the Mosaic Prayer this morning? (*The Mosaic Evangelist’s Prayer: “God, give me today an opportunity to speak with someone about Jesus, the wisdom to see it when it comes, and the courage to take it.”*)

Did God opened any doors of opportunity?

Bible and Belief

Questions to help believers develop a biblical point of view.

Question:

While Jesus tells us that believers will “not be condemned through Him” (John 3:17), Paul tells us that, “we must all appear before Christ and give an account for what we’ve done whether good or worthless.” (2 Corinthians 5:10). How do you balance the two verses? What did Pastor teach us regarding the latter verse?

Question:

Because we will all give an account of how we spent our life before Christ one day, Paul shares why he made it his life’s desire to “persuade others” (verse 11). As a believer, what has been your life’s foremost desire and pursuit? Do you think what you spend most of your time with now will make eternal significance or are they weightless?

Question:

In 2 Corinthians 6:1, Paul says we should not receive the gifts of God (2 Corinthians 5:18) and ignore it. According to Pastor’s sermon, when do we “ignore” God’s marvelous gifts?

Question:

In verse 14, Paul says “Christ’s love compels us.” What does he mean by that? 4. Do you feel like Christ’s love controls your life? Why or why not?

Question:

What is the role of an ambassador (verse 20)? If we are ambassadors of Christ, what is primary role according to that verse?

Growing in Leadership

Questions to help people grow as leaders.

Question:

What are some practical steps we can take to remind ourselves of the urgency of our task to share the Good News about Jesus?

Question:

Which do you think is more biblical and effective, creating big evangelism events or sharing Jesus personally with the people you already know? What do you think works better for you?

Question:

Do you think most believers actually think about someday standing before the Lord? Why or why not?

Question:

If you evaluate your life and how you spend it, can you name any weightless pursuits or worthless activities that take much of your time? How can you spend your life more wisely and pursue more eternally significant activities?

Take some time to reflect on what it will be like to stand before Jesus one day. What do you think does He want us to do now to prepare for that day? (Not just in the area of evangelism, but looking at your whole life.)