

Elijah project school of ministry

Module 3: Biblical worldview

Reminder of essay!

Slide 1

Week 4: Does a Christian have a responsibility to share his or her faith in Christ with other people?

last week we covered in our lesson the process of salvation and how for it come about there must be a conveying of the gospel message. This is necessary for the holy spirit to pierce through the hard heart of those who do not believe. To impart or enlighten them to the revelation of who Jesus is as the son of God. Without the gospel being spread how would anyone know of what Jesus did? Weve said previously that we by default are taught in American Christianity to believe in the historical figure of Jesus but not place faith in the son of God. How would we know that he was the son of God unless these words were conveyed to us so lets take a short recap on last weeks lesson

Acts 2:36-39

New American Standard Bible

36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified.”

37 Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what are we to do?”

38 Peter said to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

39 For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far away, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.”

Let me break this down for you

- 1. Peter preached the gospel of Jesus and the crucifixion**
- 2. The gospel is said to have “pierced” the heart of those who heard**
- 3. They responded with men and brethren what do we do now. Why? Because they now knew the truth that without Jesus’ hell was their destination. They knew that everything before this moment didn’t matter**
- 4. Peter answers, repent and be baptized.**
- 5. They upon repentance and baptism receive the promised holy spirit**

We see through this breakdown that the gospel must be conveyed for the piercing of the heart to take place which is necessary for salvation.

Slide 2

But the question is this. Are we as believers obligated to share our faith with others? Lets look at what Apostle Paul tells us about the importance of sharing our faith.

Romans 10:13-15

New American Standard Bible

¹³ **for “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”**

¹⁴ **How then are they to call on Him in whom they have not believed? How are they to believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how are they to hear without a preacher?**

¹⁵ **But how are they to preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who ^[a]bring good news of good things!”**

Slide 3

- Those who call on his name will be saved
- How can they call on who they’ve not believed in?
- How can they believe in something they’ve never heard or seen
- How can they hear without a preacher
- How can they preach unless they are sent?

Paul gives us the understanding in this scripture that calling on Jesus saves me but without believing in him how would I know to call on his name? if no one told me who Jesus was

how would I even know that he existed or believe in him. How would I hear of this without a preacher. And how could someone preach if they were not sent?

Slide 4

- If I didn't go to work and preach the gospel those in my workplace may not hear the gospel

The root of evangelism is being sent. First a preacher must be sent to go and proclaim to those who are uninformed the victory of the gospel that was attained. The word gospel In the New Testament, is derived from the Greek word "euaggelion," meaning "good news." This term was used by heralds as they would go out and declare the birth of a new king/emperor or a great military victory had been won. In this case Jesus established the kingdom of God and won the battle over the kingdom of darkness. This was the great military victory that was achieved through the death, burial, and resurrection.

How are we sent? Apostles were sent out to proclaim the gospel of the kingdom to those who were uninformed. Christ commissioned them to do so he "Sent" them.

Let's look at the scriptures to see this commissioning and how it took place we have four instances in the gospels that we'll cover briefly.

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1.

Matthew 28:18-20

New American Standard Bible

¹⁸ And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me.

¹⁹ ^[a]Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,

²⁰ teaching them to ^[b]follow all that I commanded you; and behold, I am with you ^[c]always, to the end of the age.

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2.

Mark 16:14-18

New American Standard Bible

The Disciples Commissioned

¹⁴ Later He appeared to the eleven *disciples* themselves as they were reclining *at the table*; and He reprimanded them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who had seen Him after He had risen *from the dead*.

¹⁵ And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.

¹⁶ The one who has believed and has been baptized will be saved; but the one who has not believed will be condemned.

¹⁷ These signs will accompany those who have believed: in My name they will cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues;

¹⁸ they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly *poison*, it will not harm them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

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3.

John 20:19-23

New American Standard Bible

Jesus among His Disciples

¹⁹ Now when it was evening on that day, the first *day* of the week, and when the doors were ^[a]shut where the disciples were *together* due to fear of the ^[b]Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst, and *said to them, “Peace *be* to you.”

²⁰ And when He had said this, He showed them both His hands and His side. The disciples then rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

²¹ So Jesus said to them again, “Peace *be* to you; just as the Father has sent Me, I also send you.”

²² And when He had said this, He breathed on them and *said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.

²³ If you forgive the sins of any, *their sins* ^[c] have been forgiven them; if you retain the *sins* of any, they have been retained.”

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4.

Luke 24:44-49

New American Standard Bible

⁴⁴ Now He said to them, “These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all the things that are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵ Then He opened their ^[a] minds to understand the Scriptures,

⁴⁶ and He said to them, “So it is written, that the ^[b] Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day,

⁴⁷ and that repentance ^[c] for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed ^[d] in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.

⁴⁹ And behold, I am sending the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

We see that Jesus commissioned the disciples to go out and make disciples. This process comes through sharing the victory of the kingdom of God how could we make disciples if we never shared our faith with other people. how would they know who to believe in if we didn't not speak to them regarding our salvation and savior

Slide 9

Acts 1:8 but you will receive power when the holy spirit has come upon you and you shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and as far as the remotest part of the earth

- **Context here is Judea and Samaria are the northern and southern kingdoms because the nation of israel was still split in two. Jesus said I came for the lost**

sheep of the house of israel. He commissioned the disciples to go there first and then to the rest of the world

- **We are sealed with the spirit by faith and empowered by the spirit for witnessing this witnessing isn't just words its also witnessing in demonstration of the power of the spirit**

1 Thessalonians 1:5

New American Standard Bible

5 for our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sakes.

Our job is not only to go out and proclaim the gospel victory but to demonstrate the power of the gospel

What does that look like? Well let me share a short story with you.

I was at work the other day going to the vending machine and a lady asked me about my preaching engagement last Sunday at Kingdom Purpose church. I told her it went well and shared a testimony of a girl's foot being healed so she could walk on it previously it was hard to walk on due to the pain. She began to express that she wished her acl tendon would quit hurting that she had surgery 10 years ago and it didn't work. I asked her if I could pray for her acl and she agreed we began to pray and I laid hands on her lower leg and prayed the lord would heal her. We finished praying and to her surprise she took a step and the pain was gone. I encouraged another few steps and she took them with no pain. Her pain had dissipated. This is because the holy spirit in demonstration of power healed her acl.

We are called to go into the "remotest" part of the earth and spread the good news of the kingdom doing all that christ has called us to do.

Another testimony is this

I was headed to the gym one evening when suddenly the lord gave me a prophetic vision of a guy I had seen in passing at the gym arguing with his father and I could tell that his father wasn't there for him as he needed him to be. This had built tension and resentment in their relationship. I approached him the next time I saw him and began to ask him what he believed in. he told me he was a Christian so I asked if I could release what the lord had showed me about him to him. He agreed and we talked about it for quite a bit all coming to find the vision was accurate to his circumstances I was able to pray with him and

encourage him that the lord was with him and heard his prayers and wanted to help him. Shortly after this he wanted to know more. He wanted to know about the gifts of the holy spirit and how to pursue them again, we had a long discussion on the topic and went our ways. A month or so later he approached me with enthusiasm and excitement asking if he could share a testimony with me. I agreed and listened to his testimony. He told me he had went with his friends to this party and he knew he didn't need to be there, but he only went because of his friends. They got there and it was what he expected which brought him relief. Before they left, he prayed that the lord would open the door for a divine encounter. Shortly after they arrived at the party because it wasn't what was expected they just hung out outside. It was outside that his friend began to dump his garbage on him about his home life and depression. He asked him if he knew about Jesus to which he responded that he wasn't sure. My buddy said he asked him if he could pray with him and he prayed for him and conveyed the gospel message to him he then stepped back and prayed "receive the holy spirit" and as he did his friend felt as if a lightning bolt hit him and he received the holy spirit

I share these with you to testify that in both instances had the gospel and its power not been spoken or proven these people would have never witnessed the power of jesus in their life. The common denominator of this is faith. I asked if I could pray for her leg. He asked if he could lead him in prayer and to the lord. We must as we go out to make disciples walk in faith readily available to share and extend our hands in love to those who need it.

I have traveled across the south working in various states and places with people I've not known or just met and won them to the lord by walking faithfully in faith preaching and demonstrating the gospel. The world needs people to walk in the same light of the commission that christ gave us. This is how we expand the kingdom of God. This is how we effectively take back what the enemy stole. We instead of being monuments, we must embrace allowing the holy spirit to facilitate movements through us.

Another testimony ide like to share is this

My buddy from the gym was talking to me about his hobbies and he felt as if in the season of life he was in, he was prioritizing his sport over his relationship with God. The holy spirit

quicken me to respond with the question. Have you ever considered using your hobbies as your mission field.

We're called to be Christians on every other day including Sunday and our lives should reflect Christ in all we do. I encouraged him to start a prayer meeting before practice to get a few involved to grab his buddies and get it started so that the door of evangelism would be opened. And this is the truth; our jobs and gyms are our mission fields. I've always said if your coworkers don't know you're a Christian you're not a disciple

The answer if yes, we are all called and obligated as followers of Christ to share our faith because without sharing our faith how would they hear and if they never hear how they will believe and how can they hear if we were never sent.

It's important to note there are always two different outcomes that could arise when sharing our faith and we must be ready for both

The first being the Apostle Peter outcome. People receive the gospel feel conviction repent of their sins and receive the Holy Spirit. To this we rejoice and praise the Lord for His work of salvation in the lives of those who've received Him

Then there is the Evangelist Stephen outcome that instead of salvation taking place in their lives we become persecuted in ours. People aren't always going to want to hear the gospel message that you're obligated to share but the truth is it's better to offend to heaven than to comfort to hell and if you never tell them they may never hear about it.

The Bible says the gospel is foolish to those who perish but unto us who are saved it is the power of God (1st Cor 1:18) Paul also declares in Romans 1:16 that he is not ashamed of the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation to first the Jew and also the Gentile. We shouldn't be ashamed either but instead rejoicing that we can go out and expand the Kingdom proclaiming and demonstrating its victory.