

SUNDAY SCHOOL

MAY 15, 2022



Perfectly Imperfect

GRACE AND TRUTH

REVIEW



WE ARE AN IMPERFECT PEOPLE AND IT HAS BEEN SO SINCE ADAM AND EVE WHEN SIN ENTERED THE WORLD. WE ARE BORN WITH AN IMPERFECTION, A SINFUL NATURE. THE BIBLE SPELLS IT OUT.

ROMANS 5:12- Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned.....

GALATIANS 5:19-21- Now the deeds of the **flesh** are evident, which are: **immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outburst of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these**, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS (THE LAW)- 1) I am the Lord your God, you shall have no other gods before Me. 2) You shall not take the Lord's Name in vain. 3) Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day. 4) Honor your father and your mother. 5) You shall not kill. 6) You shall not commit adultery. 7) You shall not steal. 8) You shall not bear false witness (no lying). 9) You shall not covet your neighbor's wife. 10) You shall not covet your neighbor's goods. **(they are like a mirror to show us we need help)**

We saw in the examples last week that God always deals with us with GRACE and Truth. When He reaches out to us, he does it with love, showing us our fault and speaking truth to us to overcome our shortcomings. We see throughout the bible that even when God has grown angry at people and nations for their sins, He still gives the opportunity to them to repent and be restored in relationship with Him. **Since God's ways are perfect and His Word is true, don't you think we ought to try to mirror how He reaches the fallen?**

EXAMPLE of GOD'S GRACE and TRUTH

“For God so loved the world that he gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him. Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.” JOHN 3:16-18

GRACE

TRUTH

GRACE AND TRUTH

“.....to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of satan to buffet me-to keep me from exalting myself! Concerning this I entreated the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He has said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you for power is perfected in weakness.' Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.”

2Corinthians 12:7-10

GOD'S POWER IS SHOWN TO BE PERFECT IN OUR WEAKNESSES! HOW IS THAT SO?

Quick review of the last lesson

- We are ALL imperfect people
- God deals with us with GRACE AND TRUTH because He loves us so much
- We are the reflection of God's image, so we should respond to others and ourselves in the same fashion
- We are all God's creation and we should treat the fallen and lost as such with GRACE AND TRUTH
- We, as believers, are forgiven!!!

How can we be filled with the power of GRACE AND TRUTH to help others who may have made a mistake **OR to forgive ourselves when we have made a mistake? STAY TUNED FOR NEXT WEEK'S LESSON!! I think it will be powerful!**

LOVED AND LOVING

What to do with the GRACE and TRUTH that GOD has given us

A study of God's Word , not to strategize evangelism, but to examine and change our hearts to effectively accomplish His great commission- with a 'heart set' (not mind set) that all might be saved (which is His desire)!

Lesson Outline

I) About us and our role and responsibilities in sharing the gospel

II) Developing an eagerness to share

III) Developing a boldness to share

IV) Clear definition of what the Gospel is

V) Your testimony

VI) Sharing in relationship

VII)VI) God's responsibility and role in you sharing

BUT First:

THE Foundation of our study:

**Do you believe that God's Word is true, perfect,
and unerring?**

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and unerring?**

**If your answer is yes, then would you agree that if
God said it in His Word, that we can bank on it and
count it as true?**

“Yahweh’s Commands challenge us to keep close to His heart. The revelation-light of His Word makes my spirit shine radiant. Yahweh’s decrees are trustworthy. The fear of Yahweh is pure, enduring forever. The rarest treasures of life are found in His truth. That’s why God’s Word is prized like others prize the finest gold. Sweeter than honey are His living Words -sweet words dripping from the honeycomb!”

Psalm 19:7-10

FIRST, our part in sharing the Gospel

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

The act of loving and reaching others starts within ourselves

Ezekiel is given a Word from God to take to the people of Israel, just as we are given the gospel to share with those in our reach: God is speaking to Ezekiel below.

“When I say to a wicked person, ‘You will surely die’, and you do not warn them or speak out to dissuade them from their evil ways in order to save their life, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood”

Ezekiel 3:18

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

The act of loving and reaching others starts within ourselves

“For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. As Scripture says, ‘Anyone who believes in Him will never be put to shame’.

For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile- the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on Him, for, ‘Everyone who calls on the name of he Lord will be saved’.

Romans 10:10-13

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How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’”

Romans 10:10-15

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

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“Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word about Christ.”

Romans 10:17

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

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So recapping, faith comes by hearing (Romans 10:17) and if we do not tell them, how will they know the Truth(Romans 10:10-15)? And if we do not tell them , their blood may be on our hands (Ezekiel 3:18).

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

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“But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you: yet do it with gentleness and respect, “

1 Peter 3:15

What stands out to you in this scripture?

What really is the hope that is in you- do you really know , believe ,and understand it? REFLECT ON THIS A MOMENT

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

The act of loving and reaching others starts within ourselves

So based on these scriptures (Ezekiel 3:18, Romans 10:10-15, 1 Peter 3:15), do you think we have a responsibility to share the gospel with others?

Should we approach this responsibility with the mindset that we should share the gospel when we feel like it or it is convenient or should sharing have some meaning and importance to it? WHY?

Also, Read Luke 12:8-9- if we declare Jesus, He will declare us to the angels. If we don't, we will be disowned.

Good Enough

We often do not feel good enough to share the gospel because we are not perfect, not schooled, not a preacher, not eloquent in speech.....

So how do we get to be “good enough” to share the gospel with others?

- ❖ **Deal with our own faults** - Get the log out of our eye Matthew 7:5
 - Repentance and confession 1 John 1:9
 - TRUE repentance is of the heart, not just a light sorry. We see the sin the way God does and have a true deep hearted sorrow and turn from it in the Spirit! Getting right with God.

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- we are restored to the holy place of God through the blood of Jesus
Psalm 24:1-6

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Psalm 24:1-6
- ❖ **WE will never be perfect and can not wait until we feel good enough- Moses felt he could not speak well enough, Peter was like a bull in a china shop, Paul murdered and persecuted Christians, the Apostles all had their doubts, even Billy Graham had his doubts at one point. We will never be perfect, we have to jump in and do as God has instructed us! Through Jesus we are made good enough! WHAT CAN HAPPEN IF WE WAIT?**

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- ❖ We are the salt and light of the world- where does that salt and light come from? How do we maintain and increase our salt and brightness?

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- ❖ We are the salt and light of the world- where does that come from?
- ❖ Remember who you are in Christ and the power and confidence that can bring to us

Excerpt from Sunday School Study March 20 on what defines us

FIRMING UP OUR CONVICTIONS BY KNOWING WHO WE ARE (just some of many promises God's Word says about who we are)

1. We are loved
~God created you and nothing can separate His love for you
(Rom 8:38-39)
2. Why we were created **BY GOD**
~God chose to
~to reflect God's countenance to each other (Eph 4:24 / 2Cor 3:18 / Gen 1:27)
3. We are forgiven and have **no condemnation** through Christ (Rom 8:1)
4. How God sees us
~justified, sanctified, righteous
~His children (Rom 8:17 / 1 John 3:2)
~heirs
5. **JESUS is in us. (Gal 2:20)READ**

***REMEMBER:** God's Word is PERFECT AND TRUE!!!! And if God says it, we can bank on it and believe it with conviction!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

How does knowing the above make you feel about being good enough to share the gospel?

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- ❖ We are the salt and light of the world- where does that come from?
- ❖ Remember who you are in Christ and the power that brings
- ❖ **Be Prepared**

Good Enough

BEING PREPARED: 1 Peter 3:15, 2 Timothy 4:2 prepared to defend the gospel

How can we be prepared to share the gospel? What can we do to prepare?

Does God's Word say he will help you with what to say? (Luke 12:11-12)

Do 1 Peter 3:15 and 2 Timothy 4:2 contradict Luke 12:11-12 ?

Developing an eagerness to share

Remember this scripture from earlier:

“For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. As Scripture says, ‘Anyone who believes in Him will never be put to shame.’ For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile- the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, ‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved’. **How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’”**

Romans 10:10-15

Developing an eagerness to share

Qualities of an eagerness to share exemplified by Paul

- ❖ Obligated, eager, not ashamed- Romans 1:14-17
- ❖ All called -Romans 1:5
- ❖ Entrusted with the gospel- Galatians 2:7
- ❖ Defender of the gospel - Philippians 1:16
- ❖ Compelled passionately- 1 Corinthians 9:13-23
- ❖ Disciplined to share - 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 (Paul compares it to an athlete in training- study God's Word as your DAILY training)

Developing an eagerness to share

- ❖ **Should we have the same eagerness to share the Gospel as Paul does? Why or why not?**
- ❖ **How can we develop an eagerness like Paul's?**

Developing an eagerness to share

What would happen to us if we disciplined ourselves to see imperfect people the way God sees them/us, knowing the truth of the gospel and God's will for every person?

(See John 6:39)

Developing a boldness to share

- ❖ In 2 Timothy 1: 6-14 what do you hear that strengthens your boldness to share?
- ❖ The prophet Jeremiah relayed God's Word to Israel, that God is giving them over to the Babylonians because of their wickedness as a punishment. Jeremiah is mocked, ridiculed, and abused by the Israelites when he delivers these messages. READ Jeremiah 20:7-13.
What in this passage gives you courage and boldness to share the Gospel with others? Did God give him the message? Is it a true message?

Developing a boldness to share

Questions to think about to develop boldness

- ❖ Is God's Word True?
- ❖ Does God call you to share the Gospel?
- ❖ Do non-believers know more than you about God and the Bible?
- ❖ Are you prepared? Do you have a go to verse(s)?
- ❖ Do you have a testimony? (if not or you feel it is not good, stay tuned)
- ❖ Can man or satan cast you into hell?
- ❖ So what if people are not receptive to you sharing the Gospel? Did you do what God called you to do? Paul just kept sharing!
- ❖ People are hungering for something but they do not know what it is- BUT YOU DO!!!
- ❖ What does God's Word say if you do not follow the Holy Spirit's prodding to share with somebody? Ezekiel 3:18

THE GOSPEL

WHAT IS THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST and WHY IS IT GOOD NEWS?

THE GOSPEL

WHAT IS THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST and WHY IS IT GOOD NEWS?

- ❖ **1 Corinthians 15:1-4**
- ❖ **John 3:16-18**
- ❖ **John 14:6**

SALVATION = FAITH + REPENTANCE

Your Testimony

- ◆ **There is power in your testimony- Revelation 11:12, Matthew 5:16, Mark 5:19**

Your Testimony

QUESTIONS TO HELP DEVELOP A TESTIMONY

- ❖ Are you saved? How? What happened ?
- ❖ Does God's Word give you something when you read it?
- ❖ Do you have a changed heart? (now vs. before)
- ❖ Do you have peace?
- ❖ Do you have hope? (for heaven, forgiveness, God's love)
- ❖ Does God love you? Can anything separate you from it?
- ❖ Are you now perfect?
- ❖ How has God helped you? How?
- ❖ What is the Gospel?

***Ask yourself some questions, write down the answers and wallah, you have a testimony!**

Reaching out to others

With GRACE and TRUTH

Reach people where they are: 1 Corinthians 9:22

- ❖ Show an interest in them
- ❖ Take notice of a person's demeanor and comment on it- " You have a radiant personality that is contagious", "How did you hurt your arm", "Nice car, does it ride smoothly?"
- ❖ Ask questions about them-"Are you having a tough day?", "Is your accent English? Where are you from? What is it like there?"
- ❖ Relate to their situation if you have experience with it or just show compassion
- ❖ Ask permission to pray for them
- ❖ Ask permission to share the gospel with them
- ❖ Have your 'antennas' up
- ❖ Ask about their beliefs? What is the Truth? Why?

Reaching out to others

With GRACE and TRUTH

Just and FYI: When you ask most people what they really believe and why they believe so, they can not answer the question. Most people can't tell you why they believe what they do. So asking questions can lead them through the thought process and to the truth!

WHO'S RESPONSIBILITY IS IT
TO SAVE SOMEBODY?

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GOD'S!

How does God save somebody?

- ❖ John 6:44
- ❖ Ephesians 2:8
- ❖ Romans 1:16

**God saves people and He uses us as a conduit to share with others
His responsibility is to save, ours is to just share
about Him and what Jesus did for ALL of us!**

Go and tell somebody
the good news about

JESUS

godstruthrevealed.org