

Guest Opinion Article First Published in Loveland Reporter-Herald 10/29/2025

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Proclaim what really matters

"No Kings" protest took place on October 18, 2025, with estimates of 2,700 locations drawing millions. From reading signs and listening to people speak of their rage and commitment to protest, one can surmise that there was no clearly stated singular reason for the protests, other than a strong disliking of the President.

On October 15, 2025, the Reporter-Herald published my guest opinion article titled, Rage or love, does it matter? The article suggested agape love as a motivating force instead of rage. "Agape" represents one of the distinct terms in the Greek language referring to love. In the Bible, "agape" means selfless, unconditional love aimed at helping others. Agape love is a sacrificial love that unites and heals. We see this love from God through the cross of Jesus. This highest form of love saves and restores humanity in the face of sin and death. Agape love brings unity and healing, as described in 1 Corinthians 13.

The directives given by Jesus—to make disciples of all nations and to function as salt and light in the world—are considered foundational for those who identify as Christians. Compared with evangelism, everything else happening in the church is like re-arranging the furniture when the house is on fire. Nonetheless, research and anecdotal evidence suggest that Christians are reluctant to fully engage with and implement these commandments as data indicates that a sizable proportion of Christians do not regularly share their faith, with some reports estimating that more than 60% have not done so within the previous six months. Additionally, a Barna Group survey revealed that only 39% of 511 Protestant pastors perceive their church as at least somewhat effective in reaching individuals who do not regularly attend services.

I read in a book first published in 1976 where a Communist once threw out this challenge to a Christian:
How can anybody believe in the supreme value of this gospel if you do not practice it, if you do not spread it, and if you sacrifice neither time nor money for it...? We believe in our Communist message, and we are ready to sacrifice everything, even our life... But you people are afraid even to soil your hands.

Reluctance among Christians to share the Gospel is often attributed to factors including societal pressures, personal insecurities, misconceptions, indifference, and apprehension. Individuals frequently focus on outcomes rather than actions, though only their efforts are within their control. In the context of evangelism, the responsibilities of Christians to evangelize are often neglected due to concerns about results, which are determined by the power of the Holy Spirit in eliciting responses to the Gospel. Many Christians, therefore, cite assorted reasons for their inconsistency in participating in evangelistic activities. When Christians believe evangelism is a highly regarded activity, they will utilize and strengthen their skills toward that purpose. Notably, the observation made by a Communist inadvertently highlights the principle that human motivation is driven by one's belief system. People naturally dedicate themselves to pursuits they deem important and valuable.

When we read scripture people throughout the ages felt compelled to testify about God's agape nature and what God has done for them and others. When God sent His only Son, we read in the New

Testament of people who personally encountered the presence and power of Jesus and these followers of Jesus could not be stopped from speaking of what Jesus meant to them, even at very real threat of death. Even in this day daily news sources speak of people who testify and even give up their lives for the truth of the Gospel.

The partial lyrics of a contemporary song 'Look What You've Done' by Tasha Layton speaks to the truth and power of the Gospel.

“On the cross, in a grave
With a stone, rolled away
All my debt, it was paid
Look what You've done...

Look what You've done
Look what You've done in me
You spoke Your truth into the lies I let my heart believe
Look at me now
Look how You made me new
The enemy did everything that he could do
Oh, but look what You've done

Today might be time to proclaim what really matters.