

Sharing The Gospel / Sharing The Faith Sunday AM 10/10/21

Introduction:

Matthew, Mark, and Luke record what is commonly called "The Great Commission." The Book of Acts records for us the spread of the Gospel from Jerusalem to Judah, to Samaria, and to the end of the earth, Acts 1.8.

I) Teaching Passages

A) The apostles went out preaching the Gospel

1. Jerusalem being the first place where the Gospel was preached.
2. Judea and Samaria,

¹ Now Saul was consenting to his death. At that time a great persecution arose against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. Acts 8:1

3. Then outward to places such as Antioch, Ephesus, Philippi, Corinth, Thessalonica, Rome, and a host of other places.

B) The Apostles were not the only ones preaching the Gospel

1. Stephen preached to the crowd at Jerusalem, Acts 7.
2. Phillip taught the Ethiopian Eunuch, Acts 8.
3. Timothy and Titus preached at various places.
4. Brethren, as they learned the truth, went and taught their neighbors.
5. Congregations were diligent in preaching the Gospel of Christ,

⁸ For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith

toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything. *1 Thessalonians 1:8*

C) There are many teaching passages

1. Timothy was to teach others who would be able to teach others who would teach others, etc.

² *And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. 2 Timothy 2:2*

2. We are to be ready to give an answer for the hope that is within us.

¹⁵ *But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; 1 Peter 3:15*

3. *Jude 3* we are to contend earnestly for the faith.

4. Important point:

- a. There are no apostles around today to preach the word of God.
- b. Those taught by the apostles in the 1st century are also dead.
- c. The only ones left to teach the Gospel today are today's Christians.

II) Why?

- A) Because it is commanded.

1. True but is that the only reason?
2. Doing what is commanded without thinking about why, leaves us being pretty superficial. Examples: Lord's Supper, singing, praying, giving, etc.

- B) Because people are lost without it.
1. The power of the Gospel is for our salvation, *Romans 1.16*.
 2. The Gospel is the "Good News". Have you ever shared some "good news" with someone?
 - a. Wedding announcements
 - b. Birth announcements
 - c. Tell people about being selected as employee of the month, etc.
 3. When we have really good news, we tend to share it.
 4. Salvation being available to all who will "call upon the name of the Lord" (*Acts 2.21*) is Good News.

C) God tells me to be concerned about the salvation of our fellow man.

*²⁰ The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not bear the guilt of the father, nor the father bear the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself. ²¹ "But if a wicked man turns from all his sins which he has committed, keeps all My statutes, and does what is lawful and right, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ²² None of the transgressions which he has committed shall be remembered against him; because of the righteousness which he has done, he shall live. ²³ Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die?" says the Lord GOD, "and not that he should turn from his ways and live? *Ezekiel 18:20-23**

1. Four possible outcomes
 - a. The righteous warns the wicked and the wicked repent, resulting the both being saved.
 - b. The righteous does not warn the wicked, both will be lost.

- c. The righteous warns the wicked, the wicked does not repent, the righteous is still saved.
- d. The righteous does not warn the wicked, but the wicked repents, the wicked will be saved, the righteous will be lost.

III) Sharing Is A Blessing

A) We share what we have.

- 1. How was Thessalonica able to share the Gospel? They had heard it before, *Acts 17*.
- 2. Sharing the faith requires us to have "The faith",

⁸ I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?" Luke 18:8

B) We share what brings us joy, what interest us.

- 1. Does the Gospel bring joy to you?
- 2. The song "I Love To Tell The Story".
 - a. Of unseen things above, of Jesus and His glory, Of Jesus and His love. I love to tell the story, Because I know tis true; It satisfies my longings, As nothing else can do.
 - b. 'Tis pleasant to repeat, What seems each time I tell it, More wonderfully sweet; I love to tell the story, For some have never heard, The message of salvation, From God's own holy word.
 - c. For those who know it best, Seem hungering and thirsting, To hear it like the rest; And When, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song, Twill be the old, old story, That I have loved so long.

2. Sharing is a blessing

IV) Who Needs The Gospel/The Faith?

A) Those who are lost in sin.

1. Unfortunately this means everyone who has not obeyed the Gospel of Christ.
2. We need to share the Gospel with our children. *Ephesians 6.4*
3. We need to share the Gospel with our spouse, our parents, our neighbors, fellow workers, the person on the street.

*¹ Wives, likewise, be submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives, ² when they observe your chaste conduct accompanied by fear. ³ Do not let your adornment be merely outward—arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel— ⁴ rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God. *1 Peter 3:1-4.**

B) Disciples went out preaching the Gospel, sharing the faith, *Acts 8.1-5, 12*

1. Some of the sharing was public preaching and some private, *Acts 20.20.*
2. We need to have Gospel Meetings but let us be honest about this. When we have a Gospel meeting we can count on two hands the number of visitors we have.
3. The most effective means of sharing the Gospel today is by individuals talking to those around them.

Conclusion:

One of the first lessons parents teach their children is to share. One of the first

lessons Jesus taught the Apostles was to share. One of the first lessons the Apostles taught the disciples was to share. We need not keep the Gospel to ourselves but share it.