

Summary

This sermon focuses on aligning our hearts with God's heart for the lost, using Romans 9-10 as the foundation. The speaker emphasizes that to see a movement of God, we must capture God's heart for those who don't know Christ. Using the Apostle Paul as an example, the message demonstrates three key aspects: being broken for the lost (experiencing great sorrow and unceasing anguish), being burdened for the lost (willing to sacrifice everything for their salvation), and begging God for the lost through persistent prayer. The speaker shares his personal testimony of how students prayed for him when he was running from God, ultimately leading to his surrender to Christ. The sermon concludes with a powerful altar call encouraging the congregation to pray specifically for people in their lives who don't know Christ or are running from God.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, we come before You this morning with grateful hearts for the privilege of gathering together in Your name. We thank You for Your love, Your mercy, and Your grace that brings us into Your presence. Lord, we ask that You would open our hearts and minds to what You want to teach us today. Help us to be receptive to Your Holy Spirit's leading and to hear clearly what You desire for each of us to receive from our time together. May we not leave unchanged, but may You transform us through Your Word and Your presence. We pray this in the precious name of Jesus. Amen.

Ice Breaker

What's one thing that happened this week that made you smile or brought you joy?

Key Verses

- Romans 9:1-3
- Romans 10:1
- Luke 19:10

Questions

- When was the last time your heart truly hurt for someone who doesn't know Christ or is running from God?
- What's the difference between being 'bothered' by someone's spiritual condition versus being 'burdened' for them?
- Paul said he would give up his salvation if it meant his people could be saved. What does this level of burden look like in practical terms for us today?
- Who is that 'impossible' person in your life that you feel could never come to faith in Christ?
- How can we move from just knowing what we're supposed to do (share the gospel) to actually being broken and burdened enough to act?
- What role did prayer play in the speaker's own salvation story, and how does that encourage you about praying for others?
- Charles Spurgeon said, 'If sinners will be damned, at least let them leap to hell over our bodies.' What do you think he meant by this, and how does it challenge you?
- How can we as a group support each other in praying for and reaching out to the lost people in our lives?

Life Application

This week, identify one specific person in your life who doesn't know Christ or is running from God. Commit to praying for them daily, asking God to break your heart for their spiritual condition and to burden you with their need for salvation. Consider writing their name down and placing it somewhere you'll see it regularly as a reminder to pray. Also, look for opportunities to show Christ's love to them through your actions and words.

Key Takeaways

- To see a movement of God, we must align our hearts with God's heart for the lost
- We must be broken for the lost - experiencing genuine sorrow and anguish for those who don't know Christ
- We must be burdened for the lost - moving beyond being merely bothered to being compelled to action
- We must beg God and believe God for the salvation of those we love through persistent prayer

- God can do the impossible in the lives of people we think will never come to faith

Ending Prayer

Father God, we thank You for this time together and for the truth You've spoken to our hearts. We confess that too often we've taken time off from our calling to be Your ambassadors to the lost. Lord, break our hearts for what breaks Yours. Burden us with the spiritual condition of those in our lives who don't know You. Help us to be people who won't stay silent, who have a genuine burden to tell others about the good news of Jesus because we know what it's like to experience You. Give us courage to pray boldly and persistently for the salvation of our family members, friends, neighbors, and coworkers. May we never give up believing that You can do the impossible in their lives. Use us as instruments of Your grace and love. We pray all of this in the powerful name of Jesus. Amen.