

SMALL GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

Must I Tell Others?

November 4, 2018



This week's sermon centered on evangelism, starting with II Corinthians 5:18-21. Read this together.

Questions:

1. **What thoughts and reactions do you have from hearing this week's message?**
2. **What are the barriers and fears that keep us from sharing, even in situations that lend themselves to evangelism? How can we overcome those?**
3. **What experiences have you had sharing the Gospel with unbelievers that you can share with your Group? Let's help each other learn from our good (and bad!) attempts at obedience.**



Sermon Outline:

Intro: C.S. Lewis quote – "The Church exists for nothing else but to draw men into Christ...If they are not doing that, all the cathedrals, clergy, missions, sermons, even the Bible itself, are simply a waste of time. God became Man for no other purpose."

What do we mean by "Intentional Evangelism"? To intentionally communicate the Good News of Jesus Christ in word and deed at home and throughout the world.

1. Evangelism is done with Christ's power and authority. We are so sure of the truth of the Gospel that we stand on its certainty.
 - a. Christ's Power: Acts 1:8 – Witnesses = *Martures* = One who bears witness to the truth, even at personal expense. Do we have a willingness to suffer?
 - b. Christ's Authority: Matthew 10:1 and 10:7.
 - c. We are Christ's ambassadors (**Read II Corinthians 5:18-21 again**). God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. It's not given to angels, but for us to share it. We are speaking on behalf of Christ. He makes his appeal through us.
2. Evangelism communicates the Good News.
 - a. **What is the ultimate message that evangelism communicates?** I Corinthians 15:1-4.
 - b. Four-Part Story:
 - i. Creation – God/Creation/Harmony
 - ii. Fall – Disobedience/Consequence/Need
 - iii. Rescue – Commitment Made/Vows Kept/The Resurrection
 - iv. Restoration – All Things New / Forever With God
 - c. Other Considerations:
 - i. LISTEN to their story and their concerns.
 - ii. Share your story – What was your life like before Christ? Why did you come to Christ? How has he changed your life?
3. Evangelism happens with words and deeds.
 - a. Words: Read Colossians 4:2-4
 - b. Deeds: Read Matthew 5:16 / James 1:27 – Deeds are not a substitute for our words. They should be an affirmation of our words.
4. We are to evangelize everywhere. Read Mark 16:15 and Acts 1:8. Local/Nearby/Global



The Question:

You might stumble over a word, a verse, a connection to another part of the Bible, or something the pastor says and this is a good time to talk about these things. With every question you ask, try and answer it yourself before bringing it to the group. The deepest and most lasting learning we do sometimes comes when we challenge ourselves to search for an answer to our own question. Stop, pray, ask, and do your best. Then turn to others for the answer or to share how you've grown. **Do you have any questions about this week's topic to bring up with the group?**



The Cross:

We should be constantly thinking about Christ when we read our Bibles and in Small Groups we should be Christ-focused.

Evangelism is obviously pointless without Christ – He is the one that we are telling about!

Read I Peter 3:18, and remember what the “reconciliation” is all about – what Christ has already done for us. Does this stir your heart toward gratitude and love? Our obedience and willingness to evangelize should be motivated by this same gratitude and love.

The Application:



As we read the Bible and sit under solid biblical teaching our goal is to be transformed into Christ's likeness and become doers of the Word. This happens through applying what we are learning to our daily lives.

Pastor Doug included a two-part “challenge” at the end of this week's message.

- 1) Imagine that someone asked you an open-ended question like:
 - a. “You're a Christian, right? What's that all about?” ...or...
 - b. “Why are you a Christian?”

Question: What would you say and do in this situation?

Practice: Encountering a situation like this can be uncomfortable! That's understandable, and you can get past the “uncomfortableness” by being ready. If this is something that is hard for you, use the safety of your Small Group to practice (out loud) telling this to other people.

Group Leaders: Ask your members one-at-a-time who would like to practice sharing this. This is the friendliest audience you will ever have, so use this chance! 😊

- 2) Write down a name of someone that you can pray for, care for, and share God with them. Begin to do all of those things this week!



The Conversation:

Let's become outwardly focused in our faith. As we experience transformation we want to be sharing with those people God has placed around us. There is something from every week we can bring to a conversation. Identify a specific person you might connect with in the next week, and think about a time you could bring this particular truth up with them. It can be a believer or not, the important thing is to be sharing with someone outside of LOC. Write their name down in the Notes section.