

November 2, 2025 Series: Week 1 Pastor Ken www.lebefree.org (NS-1)

# **Sharing the Heart of Jesus**

Saying yes to Jesus' invitation to follow Him is just the beginning of our Gospel experience. We are saying yes to -> Spending time with Jesus – Becoming like Jesus – Doing what Jesus does.

• We don't deeply connect to Jesus until we make ourselves available and join Him on His Mission. **Consider:** Is your life meeting the expectations Jesus had for you when He asked you to follow Him? (NS-2)

#### #1 - The Burden

"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save those who are lost." Luke 19:10 Jesus was clear about His mission and He made sure that the Main Thing remained the Main Thing.

• Consider what's on the line: It's about Heaven or Hell–Forever – Who do you know that needs Jesus? We must eliminate "Burden Busters" that compete with our passion to join Jesus in reaching the lost.

Consider: To what degree are your emotions connecting to Jesus' passion to save the lost?

• Ask God to grow your burden – "Jesus, stir my heart over those things You're passionate about."

### #2 - Building Bridges

...Levi invited Jesus and His disciples to his home as dinner guests, along with many tax collectors and other disreputable sinners. (There were many people of this kind among Jesus' followers.) Mark 2:15 Good News -> People, more than ever before in our lifetime, are looking for what only Jesus can deliver.

• Barna Research: 72% of Americans believe in a higher power. 90% believe there's more to life than what they can experience with their five senses. There are bridges to be built.

**Be a good Bridge-Builder right where God has planted you: (1.)** As you meet new people, start a "Good Neighbor" list. **(2.)** Pray for your Bridge-Building relationships to grow. **(3.)** Determine to be a *Blesser* not just a *Converter* (Find ways to Bless). **(4.)** Become a student of what's important to them. **Consider:** Ask God to lead you to an individual that you can begin Building a Bridge to. **(NS-3)** 

## #3 - Productive Conversations (NS-4)

Barna Research: Adults and youth in America indicate the leading factors driving their spiritual journeys are the desire for: (1.) Inner Peace (2.) Hope (3.) Forgiveness. Only Jesus can meet these needs!

• Though open to spiritual conversations, due to seeing hypocrisy among professing followers of Jesus, many are closed to Biblical Christianity. This makes having Productive Conversations very tricky.

**Building Productive Conversations:** (1.) Learn all you can about a person's back-story by asking a lot of questions. (Jesus often did this) (2.) Resist giving a quick right answer. Instead, ask more questions that help you to better understand their past and how it impacts their present. (3.) Let them know you understand how they have arrived at their conclusions – "I get you." (4.) By respecting them and their story you will gradually gain trust. (5.) Be authentic about your back-story and ways you have and do struggle. (6.) When the time seems right (Holy Spirit promptings), ask if it's OK to share your story.

Consider: Are you willing to be available to invest in deepening relationships that point people to Jesus?

## #4 - Unleashing the Gospel

But how can they call on Him to save them unless they believe in Him? And how can they believe in Him if they have never heard about Him? And how can they hear about Him unless someone tells them? Romans 10:14

Though being a nice person is a beautiful part of unleashing the Gospel, it's definitely not enough.

#### **Essential Gospel Truths – What a person must know to be saved:**

- 1. God made you in His image and He desires a relationship with you Genesis 1:27; Revelation 3:20
- 2. Sin broke your relationship with God Romans 3:23
- 3. The result of your sin is spiritual death and eternal separation from God Romans 6:23
- 4. God never stopped loving you. He sent His Son Jesus to die on a Cross for your sin Rom. 5:8; John 3:16
- 5. Jesus rose from the dead victorious over satan, sin, and death so you can have a whole new life Romans 6:1-14; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; Hebrews 2:14-15
- 6. If you place your faith in Jesus, and declare your belief in Him, you will be saved Rom.10:9-10; Eph. 2:8-9

**Consider:** Take the time to learn these Essential Gospel Truths so you're able to comfortably share them.

#### #5 – A Jesus Presence

May the Lord lead your hearts into a full understanding and expression of the love of God... 2 Thess. 3:5 Who needs the Gospel? We do! The Gospel must be transforming us before it can effectively spill out of us.

• Only when we understand and receive God's love can we truly bring His presence to others.

So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making His appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!" 2 Corinthians 5:20

When we live transformed lives, we bring the presence of Jesus into all the spaces we inhabit.

### Ways our everyday lives can bring the presence of Jesus to our world: (NS-5,6)

- (1.) As you learn a person's back-story, listen for what their heart is crying out for (things like peace, forgiveness, hope). (2.) Ask for permission to share ways that God met those very needs in your life.
- (3.) Live a life that shouts -> This is what I love about Jesus! People will be curious to know why.
- (4.) Model the very things people around you long for -> Be willing to forgive people who have wronged you Never lose hope Rest in Jesus even during tumultuous times Live with passion and purpose.

Consider: Wake up every morning asking Jesus to fill you with His presence and to spill out of you. (NS-7)

## Next Steps -

- 1. Watch any sermon series and work through our helpful sermon guides by going to www.lebefree.org
- 2. Wrestle with the six **Consider** statements. What next steps are they calling for you to take?
- 3. Share stories of your adventures in Building Bridges to people who need Jesus.
- 4. Discuss the six **Building Productive Conversation** points Please try to add to this list.
- 5. Discuss the four Ways our everyday lives can bring the presence of Jesus to our world points.
- 6. What would your closet friends (better yet, Jesus) say is the message your everyday life is shouting loudest to your world? Fill in the blank -> \_\_\_\_\_ is what I love most about Jesus! Have at it.
- 7. Consider attending the five-week Connection Class entitled **Sharing the Heart of Jesus** beginning next week (November 9<sup>th</sup>) during 2<sup>nd</sup> service in Room A8. We will be taking a deep dive into how we can bring the Presence of Jesus into all the spaces we inhabit. Make yourself available. It will help connect you to what saying yes to following Jesus is all about. Direct any questions to Pastor Ken.

Our Lives Should Shout – This is What I Love About Jesus!