

Small Group Discussion Questions

SENT: Heralds

(Romans 10:9–17)

Big Idea: The gospel is not good advice about what we must do, but good news about what God has done through Jesus. As heralds, we are called to announce that Jesus is Lord and invite others to place their trust in him.

Opening: Read Romans 10:9–17 together.

The Good News Is About Jesus (vv. 9–10)

- 1. Good News or Good Advice? In the sermon, we heard that “The gospel is not good advice about what we must do. It is good news about what God has done through Jesus.”**
 - a. What is the difference between these two approaches, and why does that distinction matter when sharing our faith?

- 2. Jesus Is Lord. Paul connects salvation with confessing that Jesus is Lord and believing that God raised him from the dead.**
 - a. Why are these two declarations central to the gospel?
 - b. What does it mean practically to acknowledge Jesus as Lord rather than simply believing certain things about him?

The Good News Is for Everyone (vv. 11–13)

- 3. An Invitation Without Boundaries. Paul declares that there is no difference between Jew and Gentile and that “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”**
 - a. How does this challenge our assumptions about who might be interested in Jesus or open to the gospel?

4. Grace Without Qualifications. The sermon emphasized that nobody has to become good enough to deserve the invitation.

- a. How can we communicate God's grace without giving the impression that following Jesus makes no demands on our lives?

The Good News Is Shared Through Words (vv. 14–17)

5. The Importance of Hearing. Paul asks, “How can they hear without someone preaching to them?”

- a. Why are words necessary in communicating the gospel?
- b. What are the strengths and limitations of relying primarily on our actions to demonstrate our faith?

6. Becoming a Herald. An ancient herald announced important news on behalf of a king rather than creating or negotiating the message.

- a. How might this picture change the way we think about evangelism?
- b. What makes us hesitant to speak openly about Jesus, and how might we overcome those barriers without becoming pushy or manipulative?

Living Under the Reign of Jesus

7. A Different Kind of Political Announcement. The sermon described the gospel as a political announcement—not about supporting a particular party, but about declaring who ultimately reigns.

- a. How should our confession that “Jesus is Lord” shape our relationship with our country, political commitments, economic interests, and personal ambitions?
- b. How can we demonstrate allegiance to Jesus while respecting those who see the world differently?

8. Putting It into Practice. Throughout the SENT series, we've explored being witnesses, ambassadors, salt and light, and now heralds.

- a. Which of these images comes most naturally to you, and which challenges you the most?
- b. Think of someone in your life who may be open to a conversation about faith.
- c. What is one practical, respectful step you could take this week to share the good news of Jesus?

Closing Reflection: Our lives should demonstrate the gospel. Our relationships should create opportunities for the gospel. Our words should help people understand the gospel.

As a group, pray for courage, wisdom, and genuine love as you seek to share Jesus with others—trusting the Holy Spirit with the results.