

Discussion Questions

May 28, 2023

Blessed to Be a Blessing



1. Discuss your experiences with Evangelism. In what ways has it been positive or negative? Guilt inducing or exciting? What kind of negative or positive emotions does a sermon series on the topic draw out?
2. Did anyone in your group did not grow up in a Christian home? Have them share the largest influences that drew them to Christ. How did God use the followers of Jesus around them to draw them to Jesus?
3. Read Romans 10:9-15 - Summarize Paul's main point in this passage.
4. Read Genesis 12:1-3 - Abraham was Blessed by God in order for him to be a blessing to the world. How does this idea of "blessed to be a blessing" relate to us today?
5. Read Matthew 22:35-40 - Jesus says the 2nd command is equally important as the first. If that is true, how should that impact us today?
6. Discuss your greatest struggle with obeying Scripture's commands to share the hope of Christ with those who don't know him.
7. Share one person you are focusing on loving towards Christ in this season and what you are doing to love them as Christ has loved you.

Psalms 67 (NLT)

May God be merciful and bless us. May his face smile with favor on us. May your ways be known throughout the earth, your saving power among people everywhere. May the nations praise you, O God. Yes, may all the nations praise you. Let the whole world sing for joy, because you govern the nations with justice and guide the people of the whole world. May the nations praise you, O God. Yes, may all the nations praise you. Then the earth will yield its harvests, and God, our God, will richly bless us. Yes, God will bless us, and people all over the world will fear him.

Statistics on Sharing about Jesus

- 80% of Christians polled said the best thing that could ever happen to someone is to come to know Jesus
- 75% of Christians say they are reluctant to share their faith
- 47% of millennials said they believe it is wrong to share their faith with someone else
- 80% of non-Christians said they would be open to talking to a friend about spiritual things
- 25% said they would be open to attend a Christian gathering if invited by a friend

Romans 10:9,13-15 (NLT)

If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved... For "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

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? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, "How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!"

Luke 7:34 (NIV)

[Jesus] came eating and drinking,

Timothy Keller, Center Church: Doing Balanced, Gospel-Centered Ministry in Your City

The Greek word euangelizo means "to gospelize," to tell people the good news about what Jesus did for us, and in the book of Acts literally everyone in the early church does it. Not only the apostles (5:42) but every Christian (8:4) did evangelism — and they did so endlessly... every Christian was expected to evangelize, follow up, nurture, and teach people the Word. This happened relationally — one person bringing the gospel to another within the context of a relationship. In Michael Green's [book] *Evangelism in the Early Church*, he conveys the conclusion of historians that early Christianity's explosive growth "was in reality accomplished by means of informal missionaries." That is, Christian laypeople — not trained preachers and evangelists — carried on the mission of the church not through formal preaching but informal conversation — "in homes and wine shops, on walks, and around market stalls ... they did it naturally, enthusiastically."

Genesis 12:1-3 (NIV)

The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.

"You are blessed to be a blessing"

Matthew 5:14-16 (NIV)

"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 22:35-40 (NLT)

One of [the Pharisees], an expert in religious law, tried to trap [Jesus] with this question: "Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?" Jesus replied, " 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.

Luke 10:26-29 (NLT)

Jesus replied, "What does the law of Moses say? How do you read it?" The man answered, " 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind.' And, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' " "Right!" Jesus told him. "Do this and you will live!" The man wanted to justify his actions, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

Luke 5:31-32 (NLT)

Jesus answered them, "Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do. I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners and need to repent."

Begin with prayer

Listen

Eat

Serve

Story