

Study guide

Lesson 1

WHERE ARE THOSE WHO SPEAK ABOUT CHRIST?

Now, brother, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain for what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures
1 Corinthians 15:1-4

WHO SPEAKS ABOUT CHRIST? THE EVANGELISTS!

Did you know that the word “evangelization” is not found in any part of the Bible. The reason is simple. This word is not a subject of study or a theme to be discussed intellectually. The word is derived from the term “evangel” that means “message” or “good news”. The gospel is the propagation of a message. It is an action. That “good news” is what Saint Paul refers to in the passage that we are considering on this occasion. It is a term that implies action.

The word “evangel” is found in the Bible. The term “*evangelizo*” (in the Greek language) is defined in the Bible as “*the act of presenting good news actively.*” This act can only be done by a person that is committed to the job of sharing with others the message of Jesus. The fact that you are in this meeting makes you part of that action.

You and I are a part of that team of evangelists that tell others how good Jesus has been with us in dying for “our sins”. Our action is that we speak of the love of Christ.

WHO EVANGELIZES AND WHERE?

...and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all of Judea, in Samaria and to the end of the earth.
Acts 1:8b

Before ascending into heaven, Jesus left very specific instructions to His followers. He told them, “*you are my witnesses.*” Where were those witnesses? In that place called the Mount of Olives. Next to Jesus. Before leaving, He charges them with the “gospel”, His message of good news of love.

The message is simple: “*Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.*” Whatever person that does not only believe in this for himself but also shares it with someone else, becomes an “evangelist”. In essence, Jesus Christ is telling us, “you will be evangelists” when He says to us, “you will be my witnesses.” Have you ever thought about this? Sharing Jesus makes you an evangelist.

The question is: Where are we going to evangelize? Where are we going to act as His messengers? The answer is not very complicated. We are going to do it everywhere. Our testimony is something extraordinary. Jesus Christ came into this world to rescue what was lost, hurt, undone and oppressed. This can be proclaimed in all places, in the home, in the school, at work and on the street.

SOMEONE HAS BEEN PRAYING FOR YOU

He said to them:
“The harvest is much, but the laborers are few; therefore,
pray to the Lord of the harvest to send laborers to the harvest.”
Luke 10:2

Have you ever thought that someone prayed for you and your family so that you can know Christ? Jesus knows that there is a need for “evangelists.” There are many followers and admirers of Jesus. According to Jesus, there are many people that do not belong to Him and He asks us to pray so that God will send people to share the gospel with them.

The good thing is that from the time that Jesus shared this truth many years ago, many have obeyed and have begged God to send “laborers” to the “harvest”. This phrase simply means, “*raise up someone to do the work of the messenger in a world that has not heard the message.*”

Someone has been praying so that you will be that “laborer”. You can go to those who have not heard. As a matter of fact, when you have your Family Altar and celebrate your Life Group, is an indication that you have become the answer to that prayer. Consider yourself that “worker” who has gone to “the harvest” with your family.

YOU ARE COMMISSIONED

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is set before you. Heal the sick who are there and tell them, The kingdom of God is near you.

Luke 10:1,8-9,

Many times we think that God does not trust us. The opposite is true. Of course He trusts us! As a matter of fact, the best thing that you can do is to accept His trust. You are a part of a select group of “evangelists” that are commissioned to go before Jesus, announcing, so that many know His love and experience His power.

The commission that Jesus gives you is simple:

1. Go, “to all the city.” That means that where you live, you are the “evangelist” in that place.
2. “*Heal the sick in that place.*” There are needy people who need to healing in their soul, their body, and their mind. You have the remedy, His name is Jesus.
3. Declare, “*The kingdom of God is at hand.*” When God arrives, so does peace, so does happiness, so does salvation. If you arrive in the name of Jesus, so also will the kingdom of God, be sure of that.

CONCLUSION: YOU WILL SEE RESULTS

The seventy returned joyfully, saying: “Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name!”

Luke 10:17

To be “an evangelist” or a messenger of Jesus is not just anything. When people went out in the name of Jesus, they returned amazed about the things that God had done. One of the most impressive things was when even “*the demons submit.*” That means that there is no power in the universe that can have the authority that Jesus gives to His “evangelists.” That is why we ask, “Where are the evangelists?” Every Christian family should be a family of evangelists!

You know where the evangelists are. Don’t you? They are in your house and in our church. If each one of them believe God, they will be a powerful team of messengers, anointed and equipped to announce that in Jesus Christ there is eternal life! We will see healings, restored families, repented sinners, and transformed lives.

Again, “Where are the evangelists?” Right here! In this meeting.

QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS:

Ice-breaker questions

Have you ever sent an important message with a person you trusted and that person has not given the message to who you asked? How did you feel? Would you send another important message with that same person?

Questions for Life Group:

What does God want us to do with the message of salvation? How do you feel now that you know that God has called you to be one of His Evangelists? God wants everyone to hear His good news. Do you believe that people need to hear the gospel?

Prayer