

Discussion Questions

Date: August 16th, 2026

Preacher: Josh Ratliff

Sermon Outline

Evangelism | Matt. 28:19-20; Acts 1:8; Rom. 10:13-15; John 4:1-41; Acts 2:14-42; Acts 17:1-9; 16-34

Evangelism, the Mandate (Matt. 28:19-20; Acts 1:8; Rom. 10:13-15)

- Jesus commanded that the Good News about him be spread all over the world. (Matt. 28:19-20; Acts 1:8)
- Love and compassion compel us to preach the Good News. (Rom. 10:13-15; 2 Cor. 5:11-21)
- **Question:** What is your heart for unbelievers today? Do you need to seek God for more compassion for those who have not heard?

Evangelism, the Methods (John 4:1-41; Acts 2:14-42; Acts 17:1-9; 16-34)

- Methods of evangelism will vary depending on the circumstance
 - One-on-one Conversations (John 4:1-41; Acts 8:26-39)
 - Public Proclamation (Acts 2:14-42; Acts 17:1-9; 16-34)
 - Meals and Friendship (Luke 19:1-10)
- **Question:** What method of evangelism can you put into practice this week? Who is God calling you to share with?

Bottom Line: Jesus is calling every believer to share the Good News about His salvation.

Talking Points

- * What do you think of when you hear the word "evangelism"?
- * What is "pre-evangelism"? Where do you see this get mixed up with actual evangelism today?
- * Do you think the lack of evangelism today is driven by a belief that it's optional, or by a fear of not knowing how to do it well?
- * Outside of growth, how would the Church be impacted if we took evangelism more seriously? How would your own life be impacted?
- * When it comes to sharing the Gospel, which motivates you more, a healthy fear of the Lord or the love of Christ? How can these two motivators actually work together?
- * What tends to be our motivation when we seek to simply win arguments about God, instead of showing the love of Christ? Has there been a time when you failed in this way?
- * What should we say to a Christian who feels excused from evangelism because it 'isn't their gift'? How does understanding various biblical methods help reframe evangelism for someone who feels intimidated by it?
- * Where in your life are you compromised or tempted to compromise your witness in order to avoid the social friction that would come from it? Who can you ask to pray for you to be bold in this area?

Is there someone the Lord is placing on your heart to share the Gospel with? How can the group be praying for you and this individual this week?

Understanding Scripture

1. Read the passage aloud.

- Question: How would the original audience have understood this passage?
- Question: What was God's desire for them?

2. Reread key verse(s) aloud.

- Question: What does this teach us about the human soul, desires, or behavior?
- Question: What does this teach us about the nature, desires, or behavior of God?

3. Ask if anything is difficult to understand in the passage, or simply point it out yourself.

- Back up from the confusing verse and reread the whole section slowly—highlight the author's flow of thought.
- Ask everyone, "What are some possible interpretations?" Encourage curiosity!
- If needed, provide clarification, but admit if you don't have a satisfactory explanation, and volunteer to research answers. Share your findings over text or at the next meeting.

4. Summarize the passage in 1-3 sentences to refocus the group ("Okay, so far we've seen in Amos...")

- Question: What does this say about our relationship with God and/or each other?
- Question: How do the teachings, actions, or person of Jesus shed light on this passage?

Prayer Requests

