

Sermon Title: To Jesus

Sermon Series: Inviting

Scripture: Colossians 4:2-6

Speaker: Pastor Ian Bonthron



What are our _____ as followers of Jesus?

Invitation: Share Jesus with others by Praying, Investing, and _____

Acts 1:8 ESV

8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

We are witnesses to what we _____ and have _____ in our lives.

What if your school, work, community, and family are not “just” a place where you have to be, but a place where God is _____ you?

Colossians 4:2-4 ESV

2 Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. 3 At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— 4 that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.

1. PRAY

Colossians 4:5-6 ESV

5 Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. 6 Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

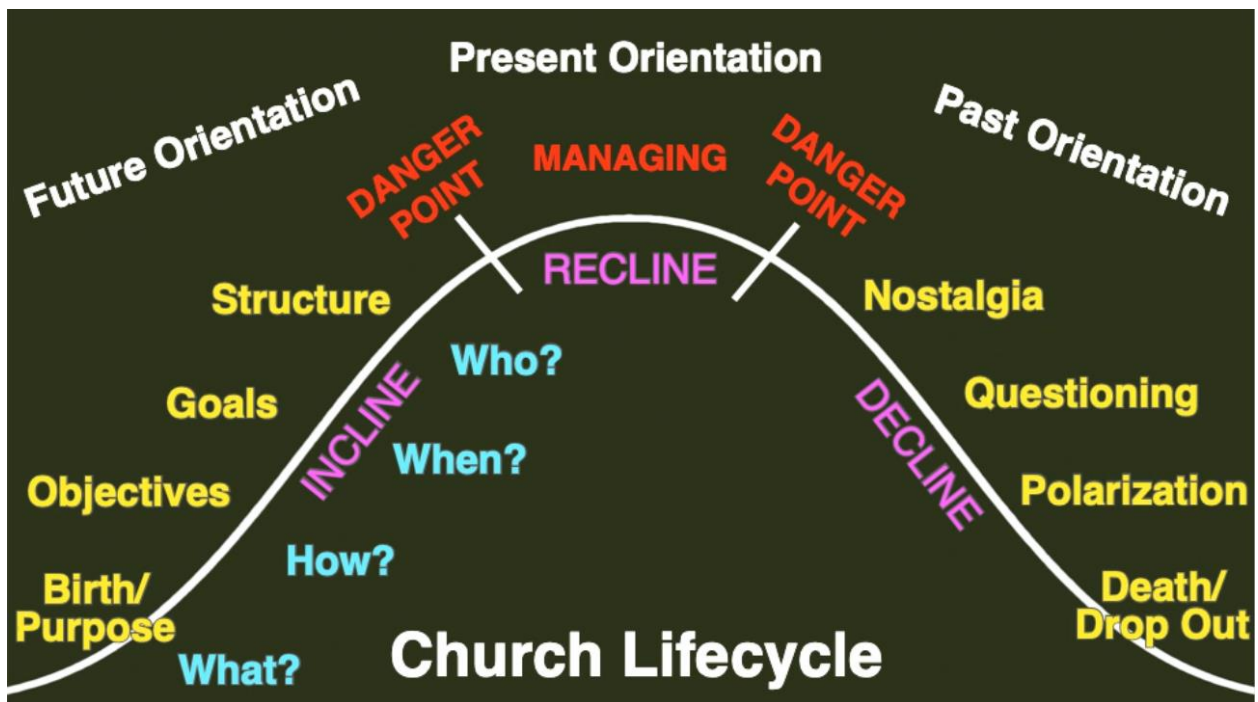
2. INVEST

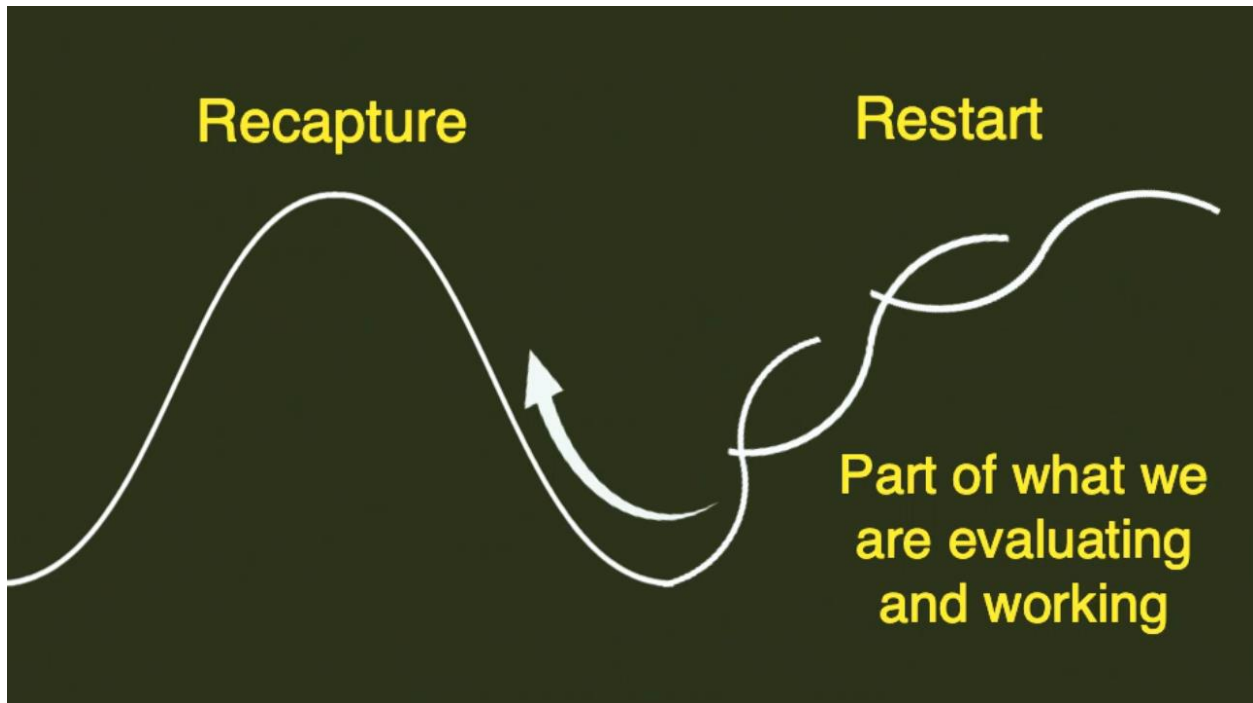
- Starts with our Character _____
- Relationships are _____

Church Lifecycle

Matthew 28:19-20 ESV

19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”





3. INVITE

Colossians 4:6 ESV

6 Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

What is their _____ Step?

1 Peter 3:15 ESV

15 but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,

“Man Feeds The Hungry At All Times, Uses Food If Necessary” - Babylon Bee

Romans 10:14-15, 17 ESV

14 How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?
15 And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" ...17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Acts 4:29 ESV

And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness

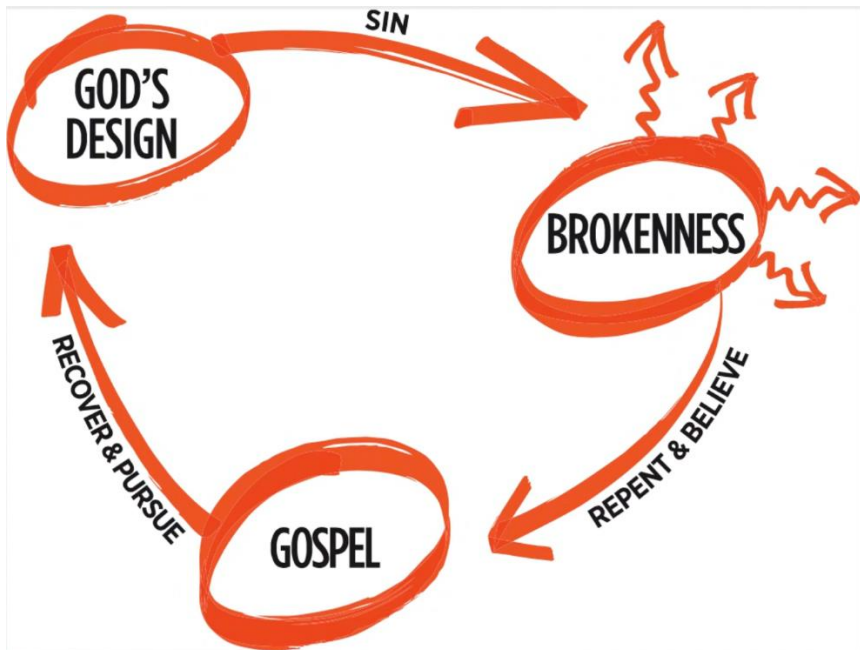
,Share a _____ - _____ Invitation

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 ESV

3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures,

What is the Gospel?

Christ _____ for our _____ and _____ from the dead



Invitation: Share Jesus with others by Praying, Investing, and Inviting

QUESTIONS:

Getting to know you Questions:

1. We've all been invited to something. What has been one of the greatest invitations you've ever gotten? What made that invitation special?

2. For those who are followers of Jesus, why is sharing your faith sometimes scary or difficult?

3. For those struggling with whether you are a follower of Jesus, what struggles keep you from trusting Jesus?

Into the Bible Questions:

4. Read Colossians 4:2-6

2 Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. 3 At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— 4 that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.

5 Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. 6 Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

– What was something from the passage or sermon that surprised you, helped you, confused you, or bothered you?

– What does this passage tell us about God? People? Living to please God?

5. What is the Gospel? 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures,

6. For Extra Study, Read Acts 17:16-34

16 Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. 17 So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. 18 Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, "What does this babbling wish to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities"—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. 19 And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? 20 For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean." 21 Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

22 So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. 23 For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. 24 The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, 25 nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. 26 And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, 27 that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, 28 for "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said, "For we are indeed his offspring."

29 Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. 30 The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, 31 because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

32 Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked. But others said, "We will hear you again about this." 33 So Paul went out from their midst. 34 But some men joined him and believed, among whom also were Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.

– What was Paul's message to those in Athens?

– How did Paul use wisdom and an understanding of their culture to share the gospel?

– How was that message received? How might this give you encouragement to share Jesus with others?

Application Questions

Take some time practicing sharing the Gospel or Good news about Jesus with each other. - For help, You can use the iphone app <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/life-conversation-guide/id879490935> (Download for iPhone), the booklets we have in the cafe or watch a video presentation here:

https://vimeo.com/227782208?embedded=true&source=vimeo_logo&owner=8015155

Take some time to pray for the people with whom you want to share the gospel.