

Session 6: The Importance of Careful Evangelistic Outreach

Part 1: Reviewing what we have already learned:

- **The church's mission is to make disciples:**
 - Evangelism:
 - Discipleship:
- **The church's mandate:**
 - Gospel clarity:
 - Sound doctrine:

Part 2: How should we approach evangelism:

- **Key Passage: 1 Corinthians 3:1-11**
 - **We need to be spiritually motivated: 3:1-3**
 - It is possible to be doing a good thing out of impure motives.
 - Rather than envy, contentment.
 - Rather than strife, grace.
 - Rather than division, unity.
 - **We need to remember that ministry is not about self-promotion: 3:5**
 - **We need to recognize that God determines the nature of the role we play: 3:6**
 - **We should look at this matter humbly and gratefully: 3:7**
 - **We need to remember that faithfulness is what God desires: 3:8**
 - **We need to remember that the power to save is not with us, but rather with God: 3:9**
 - **We need to soberly consider how we approach the work we do in the ministry of evangelism: 3:10**

Part 3: Some helpful suggestions:

- **Approach evangelism prayerfully:**
- **Ask good questions:**
 - If you were to die today, do you know for sure where you would spend eternity?
 - If God were to ask you, why should I let you into heaven, what would you tell Him?
 - What part of your salvation is dependent on the works you do today, and what part is on the work Christ did on the cross 2,000 years ago?
 - Is salvation a free gift, or is it a reward for our faithfulness and obedience?

- **Approach the situation with grace and discernment:**
 - Figure out if the person is willing to have the conversation.
 - Figure out if the person is genuinely saved.
 - Figure out where the person's understanding of the gospel is deficient.
 - Be patient.
 - Be willing to have multiple conversations.
 - Make sure the scriptures are the authority in the conversation.
 - Be kind, yet firm, and never cut corners.
- **Some scriptures that you need to be well prepared to use:**
 - Isaiah 53:4-12
 - Isaiah 64:6
 - John 3:3-18
 - Romans 3:10-4:5
 - Romans 5:6-10
 - Romans 8:3-8
 - Romans 10:1-4
 - Ephesians 2:8-9
 - Philippians 3:4-9
 - 1 Peter 1:18-19
 - Revelation 20:11-15

Part 4: Terms we need to understand, use, and illustrate:

- **Condemned:** we are born legally guilty and under God's wrath against our sin.
- **Propitiation:** God's wrath against our sin has been appeased and removed through the payment of Christ death on the cross.
- **Imputation:**
 - Our sins have been placed on Christ and he has taken the Father's wrath against those sins upon Himself.
 - Christ's righteousness has been placed on our account as we have been united with Christ.
- **Justified:** We have been declared not guilty forever on the basis of Christ's imputed righteousness.
- **Forgiven:** We have been released of the debt we owe God for our sin, on the basis of Christ's shed death on the cross.
- **Repentance:** The thinking change that points me to the finished work of Christ.
 - Our view of sin:
 - Our view of self:
 - Our view of the Savior:

- **Faith:** A wholehearted dependance on the death, burial, resurrection, and righteousness of Christ as our one and only means to be reconciled to the Father.
 - **Mind:** We understand the fundamental components of the gospel.
 - **Emotions:** We are gripped in the heart by these truths and desire to be saved from our sins and reconciled to God.
 - **Will:** We chose to trust exclusively in the finished work of Christ.
- **Redeemed:** We now belong to God and have been freed from the guilt of our sin through the payment of Christ's sacrifice.

Part 5: Final Thoughts

- **Romans 10:14-17**
 - Let's make sure our hearts are in the right place when we approach evangelism.
 - Let's make sure we are well equipped when we go out to speak with people.
 - Let's not allow the pressure or results to replace a desire to be faithful, and available.
 - Let's learn from others.
 - Let's be content with the role we play in someone's salvation.
 - Let's never stop learning and growing.
 - Let's not allow difficulties to discourage us.