

## So That All May Hear the Word of the Lord

Acts 19:8-10

**WHAT IS TRUE:** God advances His mission through faithful, persistent, Holy Spirit-empowered witnesses so that all people may have the opportunity to hear the “good news” (gospel) that Jesus saves sinners.

**WHAT TO DO:** Because Christ has called and sent us, we must faithfully and persistently share the gospel in our everyday lives so that as many people as possible may hear the Word of the Lord.

**BACKGROUND / CONTEXT:** The Lord is holy and created humanity for Himself. Humanity sinned and is separated from God. Jesus Christ came, lived perfectly, died for our sins, and rose again, and through personal repentance and faith, we as sinners are forgiven and reconciled to God. Thus, the gospel isn’t good advice about how to live—it’s good news about what Jesus has already done. *“For I passed on to you as most important what I also received: 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 15:3–4). *“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord”* (Romans 6:23). The bottom line is this: Sin always pays—but what it pays is death. God doesn’t owe us life; He gives it as a gift through Christ.

**SERIES CONCLUSION:** Church, this passage is a fitting conclusion to our *Sent by the Savior* series. So far in the series, we have covered:

- Christ’s authority (Matthew 28)
- Christ’s compassion (Matthew 9)
- The gospel message (1 Corinthians 15)
- The Spirit’s power (Acts 1:8)
- The response to the gospel (Acts 2)
- The formation of the church (Acts 2:42–47)
- The multiplication of disciples (2 Timothy 2)
- The sending of Christ (John 20)
- Now: *What happens when the church actually lives this out?* Acts 19 gives an example. This is the mission happening. And what we see is staggering. *“All the residents of Asia... heard the word of the Lord.”* (v. 10)

### 1. Faithful Gospel Proclamation Begins with Confident Persistence (v. 8)

*“Paul entered the synagogue and spoke boldly over a period of three months.” That is, Paul expressed himself freely, openly, and fearlessly.*

#### A. Paul Speaks Boldly

- Not Timid, Not Uncertain, Not Fearful
- Confidence rooted in truth and not personality

#### B. Paul reasons and persuades

- Evangelism includes explaining the truth, answering objections, and calling for a response. Without calling for a response, it’s not biblical evangelism.

#### C. Paul remains persistent (i.e., “three months”)

- He does not quit when the results are slow

D. **Application:** Faithful evangelism is not one conversation, invitation, or attempt. It is consistent, patient, ongoing faithfulness in telling people the good news that Jesus saves sinners. Keep speaking even when people don’t respond immediately.

Be willing to have multiple conversations with people. Don’t be discouraged; pray for those whom you evangelize.

### 2. Opposition Does Not Stop the Mission – It Redirects It (v.9)

*“But when some became hardened... he withdrew... and began to reason daily in the lecture hall of Tyrannus.”*

- A. **Some reject the message** (Hardened hearts and public opposition will occur)
- B. **Paul adjusts his strategy** (Leaves the synagogue and moves to a lecture hall)
- C. **The mission continues** (He does not stop—he adapts)
- D. **Application:** Rejection is not failure. It is often part of the mission. Don’t be discouraged by resistance. Don’t overlook the little opportunities alongside the large ones. Keep going where people are willing to listen. If one door closes, you don’t go home—you knock on another.

### 3. The Gospel Spreads Through Consistent, Everyday Sharing (v. 9–10)

- A. **God’s Goal: That All May Hear the Word of the Lord (v.10)**
- B. **Daily Investment** (Not occasional ministry, but steady spiritual conversations)
- C. **Long-term commitment (i.e., two years of consistent work)**
- D. **Multiplication happens through faithfully sharing Christ**
  - People hear -> believer -> share -> repeat
- E. **The Region of Asia (Roman Province of Asia Minor)**
  - Includes cities like Ephesus, Colossae, Laodicea
- F. **The Method is Multiplication; Paul didn’t reach everyone personally himself**
- G. **Application:** The Good News spreads through ordinary, repeated faithfulness. We keep the spiritual conversations going with others—not just events, but everyday conversations. You should build regular rhythms of sharing, consistently invest in the people you know, and be available and faithful in small, daily opportunities.
  - The People whom Paul taught carried the gospel outward. Within **two years**, by faithful teaching and multiplication, an entire region was saturated with the gospel. This does not mean every person personally heard Paul.
  - The gospel spread so widely that the entire region was reached.
  - Who or where can you tell someone so that they might hear about Jesus?

### 4. Bringing it Home: New Mexico and the Call to Faithfulness

#### A. Let’s bring this into our world

- Asia Minor was ~250,000-300,000 square miles w/population in the millions.
- New Mexico is ~ 121,590 square miles w/population of 2.1 million people.
- Asia Minor was roughly 2 to 2.5 times the size of New Mexico. Yet, in just two years, *all* the residents heard the word of the Lord.”

#### B. What to do

- Not occasional ministry, but steady sharing of the Gospel in normal life. Pray daily for the lost. Disciple someone intentionally. Support and participate in church outreach. See your life as your mission field.
- If the early church, with no internet, cars, buildings, or mass communication, could see a region changed in two years, what could God do through us today?

C. **Application:** Church, this is where the series lands. We are not lacking: knowledge, access, or opportunity. The question is not: *“Can it happen?”* The question is: *“Will we be faithful?”*

**Closing Exhortation:** *The gospel has reached us. Now, will it spread through us so that all might hear the Word of the Lord?*