

# Not Ashamed of the Gospel

Acts 8:4-25

*“The best ‘apology’ for the gospel is to let the gospel out. Never mind about defending Deuteronomy or the whole of the Pentateuch; preach Jesus Christ and him crucified. Let the Lion out, and see who will dare to approach him. The Lion of the tribe of Judah will soon drive away all his adversaries.”* (C. H. Spurgeon, “Christ and His Co-Workers,”)

“You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)

## I. Preach the Gospel

### A. Preached by Every Christian

“Now **those who were scattered** went about preaching the word.” (Acts 8:4)

### B. Preached to Everyone

“Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word.” (Acts 8:4)

“Now those who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except Jews.” (Acts 11:19)

“You, a Jew, ask for a drink from a woman of Samaria?... For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.” (Jn 4:9)

### C. Preached for Salvation

“But when **they believed** Philip as he **preached good news** about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, **they were baptized**, both men and women.” (Ac 8:12).

“There is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” (Ac 4:12).

“I am not ashamed of **the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone** who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.” (Ro 1:16).

## D. Preached for Much Joy

“So there was much joy in that city.” (Ac 8:8).

“And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord.” (Ac 13:48).

“Rejoiced along with his entire household that he had believed in God.” (Ac 16:34).

### Evangelism recommendations:

- Pray about it.
- Be creative.
- Be consistent and conscious.
- Be collaborative.
- Be committed.

## II. Don't Get Discouraged While Preaching the Gospel

### A. When God Completes Your Work Through Other People.

“If anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him” (Rom. 8:9)

“But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. 14 For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and **has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility** 15 by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, 16 and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility.” (Eph 2:13–16).

“What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, **as the Lord assigned to each.** 6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. 7 So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.” (1 Cor. 3:5-7)

### B. When You Encounter False Converts.

“This man is the power of God that is called Great.” (Acts 8:10)

“Also, many of those who were now believers came, confessing and divulging their practices. 19 And a number of those who had practiced magic arts brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted the value of them and found it came to fifty thousand pieces of silver.” (Acts 19:18-19)

<sup>15</sup>For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, <sup>16</sup>to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life. Who is sufficient for these things?" (2 Co 2:15–16)

*"Let the sun shine in brilliance; it shall moisten the wax, it shall harden clay... So it is with the gospel. Although it is the very sun of righteousness to the world; although it is God's best gift; although nothing can be in the least comparable to the vast amount of benefit that it bestows on the human race, yet even of that we must confess that sometimes it is the 'odor from death to death'."* (C. H. Spurgeon, "The Two Effects of the Gospel")