

Resurrection 101 – It's PREACHING!

1 Corinthians 15:1-4

Pastor Jason Dennett's Notes

NKJV - *"Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you - unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures.."*

- I. The Gospel's **DEFINITION**.
- II. The Gospel's **INVITATION**.

Although 75% of Christians say they feel comfortable sharing the Gospel, the majority do not do so. New findings from LifeWay Research – self-described as "distressing results" – indicate that 61% of evangelical Christians fail to share their faith on a regular basis, even though they believe it is their responsibility to do so. Moreover, nearly 50% said they have not invited a non-Christian friend to church in the past six months. - Christianity Today

Top 3 reasons Christians DON'T witness:

- Timidity** - They are afraid to.
- Complacency** - They don't want to.
- Inadequacy** - They don't know how to.

- I. The Gospel's **DEFINITION**. (v.3-4)

"For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures.."

- **Element #1** - Jesus is **GOD!**

John 1:1,2,14,18 NLT - *"In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He existed in the beginning with God. ... 14 So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unending love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son. ... 18 No one has*

ever seen God. But the unique One, who is himself God, is near to the Father's heart. He has revealed God to us."

Mic 5:2 - "..the Mighty God.."

Isa 7:14 - "Immanuel" which is Hebrew for "GOD with us"

- **Element #2** - Jesus **DIED** for sin, and was buried!

SIN demands that **BLOOD** be shed: Rom 6:23; Eze 18:20; Lev 17:11

Isa 53:5-6, 11-12 - "But He [was] wounded for **our transgressions**, [He was] bruised for **our iniquities**; The chastisement for **our peace** [was] upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him **the iniquity of us all**. ... 11 He shall see the labor of His soul, [and] be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, For **He shall bear their iniquities**. 12..**He bore the sin of many..**"

Heb 10:10, 12, 14, 17 - "By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ **once for all**. ... 12 But this Man, after He had offered **one sacrifice for sins forever**, sat down at the right hand of God, ... 14 For by **one offering He has perfected forever** those who are being sanctified. ... 17 then He adds, "**Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.**"

- **Element #3** - Jesus **ROSE** from the dead!

This was **POWERFUL**:

It means that the "Sin Offering" of Christ **was accepted** by the Father!

Rom 4:25 - "..Who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was **raised because of our justification.**"

Rom 4:25 NLT - "He was handed over to die because of our sins, and he was **raised to life to make us right with God.**"

This was **PROVEN**:

Historical Evidence - Early Christians; Gospel Message

Physical Evidence - Scriptures; Christ's Death; Empty Tomb

Testimonial Evidence - Peter; Twelve; 500; James; Apostles; Paul

- **D.L. Moody promised God that he would preach the Gospel to at least 1 person each day. One night, about ten o- clock, he realized**

that he had not yet witnessed; so he went out in to the street and spoke to a man standing by a lamppost, asking him, "Are you a Christian?" The man flew into a violent rage and threatened to knock Moody into the gutter. Later, that same man went to an elder in the church and complained that Moody was "doing more harm in Chicago than ten men were doing good." The elder begged Moody to temper his zeal with knowledge. Three months later, Moody was awakened at the YMCA by a man knocking at the door. It was the man he had witnessed to. "I want to talk to you about my soul," he said to Moody. He apologized for the way he had treated Moody and said that he had had no peace ever since that night on Lake Street when Moody witnessed to him. Moody led the man to Christ and he became a zealous worker for the Lord.

- **It is easy to determine when something is on fire: It ignites other material!** Any fire that does not spread, will eventually go out. A church without evangelism, or a Christians who doesn't share the Gospel, is a contradiction in terms, just as a fire that does not burn is a contradiction.

II. The Gospel's **INVITATION**.

- **Approach #1: "Invitational"**

This is the method of bringing someone to the Lord, by simply **INVITING** them to come and see things for themselves.

Peter's brother ANDREW in John 1:38-42 - "Then Jesus turned, and seeing them following, said to them, "What do you seek?" They said to Him, "Rabbi" (which is to say, when translated, Teacher), "where are You staying?" 39 He said to them, "**Come and see.**" They came and saw where He was staying, and remained with Him that day (now it was about the tenth hour). 40 One of the two who heard John [speak], and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And **he brought him to Jesus.** Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, "You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas" (which is translated, A Stone). ... 46 And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "**Come and see.**" (Ps 66:5 - "Come and see the works of God; He is awesome..")

- **Approach #2: "Beneficial"**

John 3:16 - "God so loved the world that **HE GAVE..**"

Mt 5:44,45 NLT - "But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those

who persecute you! In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven. For **HE GIVES** his sunlight to both the evil and the good, and he sends rain on the just and the unjust alike."

- **Approach #3: "Testimonial"**

TESTIMONIES in the OT: Eze 1; Isa 6; Rev 1; Dan 4

TESTIMONIES in the NT: Acts 22, 26; Gal 2; Matthew & Mark & John

Your TESTIMONY has 3 basic Components:

Who you were **BEFORE** Jesus.

HOW you met Jesus.

How your life has **CHANGED** in Jesus.

A young salesman was disappointed about losing a big sale, and as he talked with his sales manager he lamented, "I guess it just proves you can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink." The manager replied, "Son, take my advice: your job is not to make him drink. Your job is to make him thirsty."

- **Approach #4: "Ministerial"**

SERVICE is important - James 2 - "...Faith without works is dead!"

Early Church SERVED each other in Act 2:44-47 NLT - And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. 45 They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. 46 They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity-- 47 all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.

JESUS is the Great SERVANT of God in Matt 20:28 - "...the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

Jack had been president of a large corporation, and when he got cancer, they ruthlessly dumped him. He went through his insurance, used his life savings, and had practically nothing left. I visited him with one of my deacons, who said, "Jack, you speak so openly about the brief life you have left. I wonder if you've prepared for your life after death?" Jack stood up, livid with rage. "You stupid Christians!! All you ever think about is what's going to happen to me after I die. If your God is so great, why doesn't He do something about the real problems of life?" He went on

to tell us he was leaving his wife penniless and his daughter without money for college. Then he ordered us out. Later my deacon insisted we go back. We did. "Jack, I know I offended you," he said. "I humbly apologize. But I want you to know **I've been working since then**. Your first problem is where your family will live after you die. A realtor in our church has agreed to sell your house and give your wife his commission. "I guarantee you that, if you'll permit us, some other men and I will make the house payments until it's sold. "Then, I've contacted the owner of an apartment house down the street. He's offered your wife a three-bedroom apartment plus free utilities and an \$850-a-month salary in return for her collecting rents and supervising plumbing and electrical repairs. The income from your house should pay for your daughter's college. I just want you to know your family will be cared for." **Jack cried like a baby**. He died shortly thereafter, so wrapped in pain that he never accepted Christ. But he experienced God's love, even while rejecting Him. However, **his widow**, touched by the caring love of these Christians, responded to the Gospel message, and gave her life to Jesus. - **Van Campbell**

• **Approach #5: "Proclamational"**

"preached" in NT is the Greek word "**κηρύσσω**" or "**kēryssō**" and is used 61 times.

Romans 10:9,13-14 - "..whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved." How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?"

Creation **PREACHES** in **Ps.19 & Rom 1**

Jesus **PREACHED** constantly!

Apostles **PREACHED** in **Acts 2** (Pentecost); **Acts 17** (Athens)

WE should be **PREACHING!!** Rom 1:16

Years ago in St. Louis, a lawyer visited a Christian to transact some business. Before the two parted, his client said to him, "I've often wanted to ask you a question, but I've been afraid to do so." "What do you want to know?" asked the lawyer. The man replied, "**I've wondered why you're not a Christian.**" The man hung his head, "I know enough about the Bible to realize that it says no drunkard can enter the kingdom of God; and you know my weakness!" "**You're avoiding my questions,**" continued the believer. "Well, truthfully, I can't recall anyone ever explaining how to become a Christian." Picking up a Bible, the client read some passages showing that all are under condemnation, but that Christ came to save the lost by dying on the cross for their sins. "**By receiving Him as your**

*Substitute and Redeemer," he said, "you can be forgiven. If you're willing to receive Jesus, let's pray together." The lawyer agreed, and when it was his turn he exclaimed, "O Jesus, I am a slave to drink. One of your servants has shown me how to be saved. O God, forgive my sins and help me overcome the power of this terrible habit in my life." **Right there he was converted.** That man went on to become one of the greatest preachers of his generation!*

Fritz Kreisler (1875-1962), the world-famous violinist, earned a fortune with his concerts and compositions, but he generously gave most of it away. So, when he discovered an exquisite violin on one of his trips, he wasn't able to buy it. Later, having raised enough money to meet the asking price, he returned to the seller, hoping to purchase that beautiful instrument. But to his great dismay it had been sold to a collector. Kreisler made his way to the new owner's home and offered to buy the violin. The collector said it had become his prized possession and he would not sell it. Keenly disappointed, Kreisler was about to leave when he had an idea. "Could I play the instrument once more before it is locked away in silence?" he asked. Permission was granted, and the great virtuoso filled the room with such heart-moving music that the collector's emotions were deeply stirred. **"I have no right to keep that to myself," he exclaimed. "It's yours, Mr. Kreisler. Take it into the world, and let people hear it."**

- Our Daily Bread