



#1 – SHARING ***Pastor Mike Chapman***

The church – the Body of Christ – when functioning as Christ designed it, is both beautiful and powerful. In fact, I believe that the church is the greatest force on earth.

The key to the effectiveness of the church is the working of Holy Spirit that comes on us and moves through us when we are ONE.

Acts 2:1, When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. Suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting...And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. NKJV

Acts 4:32, The multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul. NKJV

Acts 5:12, Through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord. NKJC

In this series, we will be asking the question, “What does *all in* look like?” Today, we will ask this question in relationship to sharing our faith.

ADMITTING OUR STRUGGLE

How has such a wonderful, God-given opportunity to share our faith fallen on such “hard times?”

Isaiah 52:7, *How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of the messenger who brings good news, the good news of peace and salvation, the news that God reigns!*"

We struggle with sharing our faith because of ...

1. **Fear**

2 Timothy 1:7-8, *God did not give us a spirit that makes us afraid but a spirit of power and love and self-control. So do not be ashamed to tell people about our Lord Jesus.* NCV

2. **Lack of relationships with non-believers**

Luke 7:34, *Look at him! He is a friend of sinners.* NCV

3. **Apathy**

Revelation 3:16, *You are lukewarm – neither hot nor cold.* NCV



RE-ENVISIONING OUR OPPORTUNITY

Sharing our faith has multiple facets.

85% of Americans would accept an invitation to a Christi event or to worship, but only **2%** of Christians invite others.

Sharing faith is not just what "professionals" do. In fact, it is most effective when "non-professionals" do it.

42,000 Christians were asked "Who or what was responsible for your coming to faith in Christ?"

85% replied a **friend or family member**

5% replied a **pastor**

1/2 % replied **Christian television**

Sharing our faith our faith is not something we **do**; it is something we **join**.

God is already at work in the world ... in the lives people – our friends and family.

Matthew 11:29, Walk with me and work with me – watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. Msg

Sharing our faith is not slick **marketing** but a sincere concern for other people.

2 Corinthians 2:17, For we are not like those who market God's message for profit. On the contrary, we speak with sincerity in Christ, as from God and before God. HCSB

Imagine the impact if each of us went “all in” for the sake of the Gospel and our family and friends by sharing our faith.