THE SIMPLEST WAY TO CHANGE THE WORLD PART 6: GETTING TO THE GOSPEL

Pastor Luke Uran - March 8, 2020



SERMON NOTES AND SCRIPTURE

Romans 1:16 (NIV)

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.

Quote from The Simplest Way to Change the World

Our mission, as ambassadors of Christ, is to share the good news of Jesus' work through His life, death, burial, and resurrection. This is the true hope for the world. As a result, we can't keep from speaking the gospel to those we love – or at least we should not be able to." – Willis, 119.

Why we can't stop speaking the Good News:

- 1. The Good News is motivating.
- 2. The Good News is hope, not advice.

1 Peter 3:8-12 (NIV)

8 Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. 9 Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. 10 For,

"Whoever would love life

and see good days

must keep their tongue from evil

and their lips from deceitful speech.

- 11 They must turn from evil and do good; they must seek peace and pursue it.
- 12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

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1 Peter 3:13-17 (NIV)

13 Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? 14 But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened." 15 But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, 16 keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. 17 For it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.

Things to avoid:

- 1. Avoid the bait-and-switch approach.
- 2. Avoid forced presentations.
- 3. Avoid lovelessness.

Getting to the Gospel:

- 1. Trust that God goes before you.
- 2. Listen carefully.
- 3. Ask good questions.
- 4. Tell your story.
- 5. Talk about Jesus!

GROUP DISCUSSION

Read the passages of scripture from this past week and share what stood out to you most from them.

Was there something new that you learned from the passages this week?

Who lead you to the Lord? How important was it that they articulated the gospel to you in order for you to understand? Share the circumstances of that time.

How vital is the "do good" portion of sharing our faith found in 1 Peter?

Have you ever spent time thinking about the reason for the hope that you have in Jesus Christ?

If someone were to walk up to you and flat-out ask you: "why are you a Christian?" What would you say? Would you be able to answer them?

Look back at the "things to avoid" and the "getting to the Gospel" portions of the sermon. Have you found yourself using any of these? Do you find any of them to be detrimental in sharing with others about Christ? Which are the most helpful?