

LESSON 13

The Eternal Impact of Sharing Jesus

2 Corinthians 5:18-20

This final lesson emphasizes the everlasting importance of sharing Jesus, based on 2 Corinthians 5:18–20. God has reconciled us to Himself through Christ, and now calls us to be His ambassadors, delivering the message of reconciliation to others. Evangelism isn't just a duty; it's a sacred trust with eternal ramifications. We don't speak for ourselves... we speak for Christ, urging people to be made right with God. This lesson challenges us to view each conversation as part of God's larger mission and to share the hope of the gospel confidently and compassionately with those who are lost.

Class Objective: To help Christians understand the eternal significance of sharing Jesus with others and embrace their role as ambassadors for Christ. This lesson will inspire participants to view evangelism not as a burden but as a sacred opportunity to partner with God in His redemptive work.

Introduction

Why does evangelism matter so much?

Over the past twelve weeks, we've studied our calling, the gospel message, and how to engage the world with truth and compassion. But none of it makes sense if we forget what's truly at stake.

Evangelism is not just about church growth or spiritual conversations... It's about eternity.

The Bible teaches that everyone will one day stand before God. Those who are in Christ will be saved, while those who are not in Christ will be lost. This is not harsh... it's the truth. That's why the gospel is so urgent. That's also why Paul urged others to "be reconciled to God."

In 2 Corinthians 5, Paul reminds us that we are not just recipients of grace, but messengers. God has entrusted us with the message of reconciliation. And when we share it, we're not simply offering advice or philosophy. We stand in Christ's place, representing Him, and invite people into peace with God.

That's why this lesson matters. This isn't just about learning another method; it's about embracing God's eternal mission. It's about seeing every relationship, encounter, and opportunity through a lens that extends beyond this life. Souls are at stake, and God is calling you to speak.

You Are Sent

One of the most powerful truths in 2 Corinthians 5 is this: God uses people, ordinary people, to carry out His extraordinary mission. Paul says that God "has given us the ministry of reconciliation" and

“committed the message of reconciliation to us.” That means evangelism is not just something we support or believe in; it’s something we’re called to do.

This calling applies to every Christian, not just preachers, missionaries, or church leaders. If you’ve been reconciled to God through Christ, then you’ve been sent to help others find that same reconciliation. You are part of God’s plan to reach the world. You are His representative, His voice, His hands, and His feet.

That identity should shape how we see ourselves every day. When you go to work, you’re not just an employee, you’re Christ’s ambassador. When you’re with your neighbors, you’re not just being polite, you’re planting seeds. When you’re parenting, shopping, traveling, or having coffee with a friend, you are on a mission.

This doesn’t mean you need to preach at everyone or force every conversation toward religion. But it does mean living with intention. It means praying for open doors, looking for opportunities, and staying aware that God may be using you in ways you don’t even see. You are not where you are by accident. You are sent.

Every Conversation Counts

We often underestimate the impact of simple, everyday interactions. But when God calls us His ambassadors, He’s not just referring to formal Bible studies or large gospel events. He’s speaking about real life, our conversations at lunch, our texts of encouragement, our acts of kindness, and even our willingness to listen. Every encounter can serve as a potential doorway for someone to draw closer to God.

Paul’s words in 2 Corinthians 5:20 remind us that “God is making His appeal through us.” That means how we speak, respond, and treat others all matter. The message of reconciliation is often shared through relational bridges, trust, love, and honest conversations.

You might not see the impact immediately. Sometimes, you’re planting a seed that will grow months or years down the line. Other times, you’re watering a seed someone else planted. But God sees everything. He’s working through you, even when the conversation feels small or incomplete.

This should encourage us: we don’t need to “close the deal” every time. We’re not accountable for the outcomes. But we are accountable for speaking with purpose and living with spiritual awareness. When you carry the gospel, nothing is ordinary. Every conversation matters.

We Must Speak

It’s not enough to simply live a good life and hope people notice. At some point, the message of Jesus must be spoken. As Paul says, “We plead on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God.” That kind of appeal doesn’t happen silently. Good deeds open hearts, but the gospel must be heard to be believed (Romans 10:14-17).

Many Christians feel anxious about sharing their faith because they don't want to seem pushy or awkward. But notice the tone Paul uses: pleading. This isn't arrogance; it's a sense of urgency. We don't speak because we think we're better than others. We speak because we understand what's at stake. The lost need more than just moral support—they need a Savior.

God has chosen to work through words, His Word. That's how faith is born, hearts are convicted, and lives are transformed. When we share the gospel, we're not pushing an agenda. We're offering peace with God, through Jesus, by grace.

Don't fall into the trap of thinking your actions alone are enough. Living consistently adds credibility to your message, but it cannot replace the message itself. So when the opportunity arises, speak up. Tell someone what Christ has done. Speak with humility, love, and courage—and trust that God will use your words for His eternal purpose.

The Message We Carry

The message we've received isn't vague, political, or self-help advice. It's the gospel, the message of reconciliation through Jesus Christ. Paul clearly states: "In Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them." That's the core of what we share.

This message isn't about what we've done for God, but about what God has done for us. It focuses on Jesus, His death in our place, His resurrection, and His power to forgive, restore, and save. Evangelism isn't about pushing church traditions or debating opinions. It's about pointing to the cross.

This gospel is both deeply personal and universally powerful. It tells the addict, the skeptic, the self-righteous, and the broken that there is hope because sin has been dealt with. Reconciliation means the wall between God and man has been torn down by the blood of Jesus. That's the message we carry.

We don't need to invent it. We don't need to dress it up. And we certainly don't need to add to it. We are simply messengers, entrusted with the most important truth in the world. What greater privilege could we have? What more urgent task could we take on?

So, when you share your faith, remember you are not just offering an opinion; you are sharing the one message that can save souls for eternity. Let that truth guide your confidence, clarity, and compassion.

Eternity is at Stake

Evangelism isn't just about improving someone's life now; it's about their eternal future. When Paul pleads, "Be reconciled to God," he does so with eternity in view. He knows what's coming. A day of judgment is real. Heaven and hell are real. And people need to be ready.

This truth should motivate us, not to fear, but to compassion. We aren't trying to scare others into faith, but we must see the urgency. If we truly believe that those outside of Christ are lost, then silence isn't love, it's neglect. Sharing Jesus becomes not just important, but essential.

Eternity gives meaning to every invitation, every testimony, every Bible verse shared. When someone comes to Christ, their life is changed. They move from death to life, from judgment to grace, from separation to peace with God. That's what's at stake.

Too often, we get caught up in temporary concerns: comfort, reputation, convenience. But eternity reminds us of what truly matters. Who are we praying for? Who are we willing to talk to, even if it feels uncomfortable? What conversations are we avoiding that could carry eternal significance?

The gospel is the only message capable of transforming a person's eternal destiny. That's why we speak, go, and share Jesus.

So let eternity shape your urgency. Let love move you to speak. And let God use your life to help someone else find peace with Him forever.

Practical Teaching and Application

So how do we actually put this into practice? If God has trusted us with the message of reconciliation, how do we bring it into real life with clarity and conviction?

Here are five practical ways to begin:

1. Live With Purpose

Don't drift through life distracted or detached. Start your day by praying, "Lord, use me today to help someone move closer to You." Keep your eyes open for people who are hurting, searching, or simply curious. You are not here by accident. God has placed you where you are—home, work, school—for a reason.

2. Make a List, Pray by Name

Write down the names of three people in your life who need Christ. Start praying for them daily. Ask for open hearts, open doors, and the courage to speak when the time comes. This keeps the mission personal and focused.

3. Practice Your Message

Get comfortable sharing the gospel. Use 1 Corinthians 15:1–4 as your outline: Christ died for our sins, was buried, and rose again. Practice explaining it in 1–2 minutes, clearly and simply. Know how to connect it to your story.

4. Say the Name of Jesus

Don't just talk about "faith," "church," or "God" in vague terms. Say the name of Jesus. Talk about what He's done. It's His name that saves (Acts 4:12). Let people know that your hope is in a real person who is alive and reigning.

5. Trust God With the Outcome

You don't control who responds. You don't save people—God does. Your job is to speak and love faithfully. Even if the door closes or the person doesn't respond right away, keep planting seeds. God is always working.

Conclusion

You have been given something eternal . . . something too precious to keep to yourself. God has reconciled you to Himself through Christ. Now, He calls you to share that same message with others. You are His ambassador. You are His messenger. And when you speak, He is making His appeal through you.

That should fill you with both humility and courage. The work is bigger than you, but God has chosen to use you. He doesn't expect perfection; He asks for faithfulness. You don't need all the answers; you need a willing heart and a clear message.

So take the call seriously. View the people around you in a different way. Ask God to open doors, and when He does, walk through them with grace and confidence.

Your words may change someone's eternity.

And one day, perhaps when you least expect it, you might witness the fruit: a life saved, a soul redeemed, a person rejoicing in Christ because you cared enough to share.

So go. Speak. Plead on Christ's behalf: **"Be reconciled to God."**

That is your mission. And it matters forever.

For Discussion

1. What does it mean to be entrusted with the "message of reconciliation"? How does that responsibility influence your daily life?
2. How do you balance being a good example with actually sharing the gospel message? Why are both important?
3. In what ways have you seen God use a simple conversation or small moment to open someone's heart?

4. What fears or barriers prevent us from sharing the gospel more often? How can we get past them?
5. What does it personally mean to you to be called an “ambassador for Christ”? How might that change your purpose?
6. Who in your life needs to hear the message of reconciliation? What could be your next step toward that person?
7. How can remembering eternity provide you with more courage and urgency in your evangelism efforts?