

SPEAKING



OF JESUS

THE WHY & HOW OF SHARING OUR FAITH

“Almost all practicing Christians believe that part of their faith means being a witness about Jesus (ranging from 95% to 97% among all generational groups), and that the best thing that could ever happen to someone is for them to know Jesus (94% to 97%)... Despite this, many Millennials are unsure about the actual practice of evangelism. Almost half of Millennials (47%) agree at least somewhat that *it is wrong to share one’s personal beliefs with someone of a different faith in hopes that they will one day share the same faith.*”

*Almost Half of Practicing Christian Millennials Say Evangelism is Wrong – Barna Poll (2019)*

<sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and said to them, “**All authority** in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,<sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the **end of the age.**” – Matthew 28:18-20

If this is all true...

Why do we all *struggle* to share this news with the lost?

Why does the *severity* and *clarity* of the Great Commission not lead us to go?

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The foundation of Evangelism is based on the Lordship of Christ.

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# Our outline consists of two main points...

- The Authority of Christ
- The Presence of Christ



# The Authority of Christ

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given  
**to me..”**

Matthew 28:18



## The Authority of Christ

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to **me..**”

Matthew 28:18

**So...what** authority does Jesus have?

## The Authority of Christ

**“But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins...” (Mathew 9:6)**

**“Pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” (Matthew 9:38)**

**“I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.”**  
(Matthew 16:18-19)

**“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me...”**  
(Matthew 28:18)

## The Authority of Christ

**“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.” (Colossians 1:15-18)**

## The Authority of Christ

**“..far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church.”**

(Ephesians 1:21-22)

**“God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth” (Philippians 2:9-10)**

## The Authority of Christ

**“But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.” (John 1:12-13)**

- We take hold of this commission because there is only One **who has the authority to tell us to “go”**.
- His Authority produces confidence in us.

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## The Authority of Christ

- Verse 18 brings us relief...

***“And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.”***

**- We are freed from confidence in ourselves...we need to cherish *the doctrine of Christ’s authority in our evangelism.***



## The Authority of Christ

**“Obedience to the Great Commission isn’t a man-made program, nor is it our own willpower that leads us to go. Jesus’s authority compels us to go, for missions only makes sense if He has all authority in heaven and on earth. However, we don’t go reluctantly, as if we’re being forced to follow just any king. His worth is the fuel of our mission.”**

- David Platt

## The Presence of Christ

**“And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”**

Matthew 28:20

→ Jesus promises His presence!

**“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us).”**

(Matthew 1:23)

## The Presence of Christ

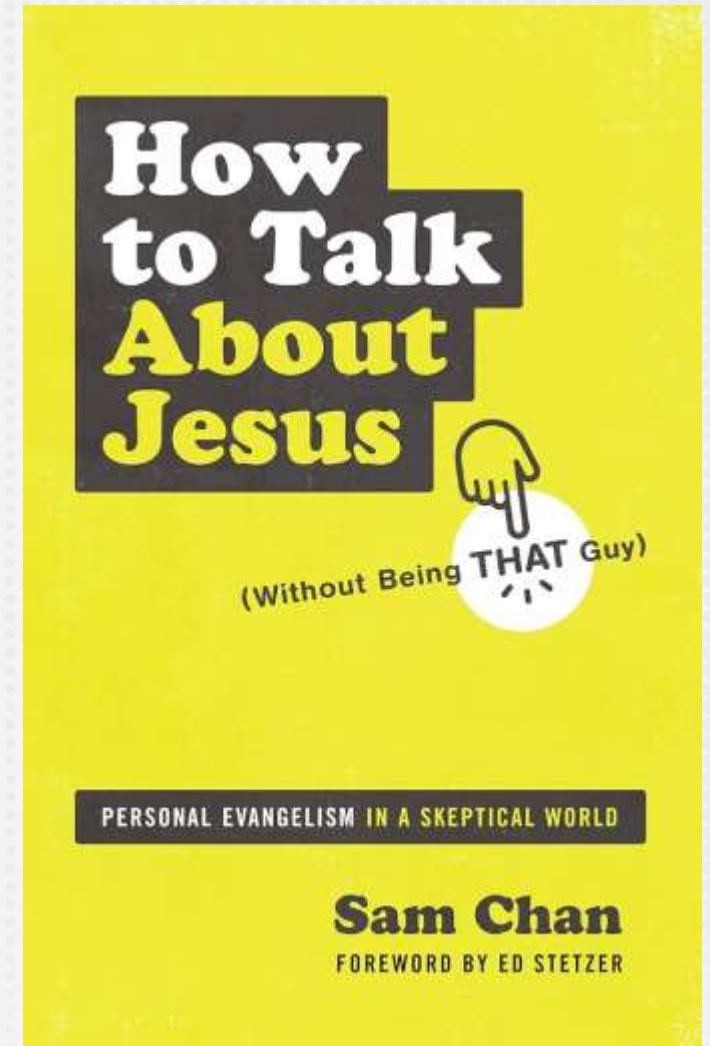
- **Missional Success is based on Christ's presence through His Spirit.**

**“(Jesus)..is able to do far more abundantly than we can ask, think, or imagine through his power at work within us..”**  
(Ephesians 3:20)

## The Presence of Christ

**-Successful Evangelism is faithfulness...**

→ We take a step of faith  
in the power of the Holy Spirit  
and we leave the outcome to God!



***What if I don't feel like I am experiencing his presence?***

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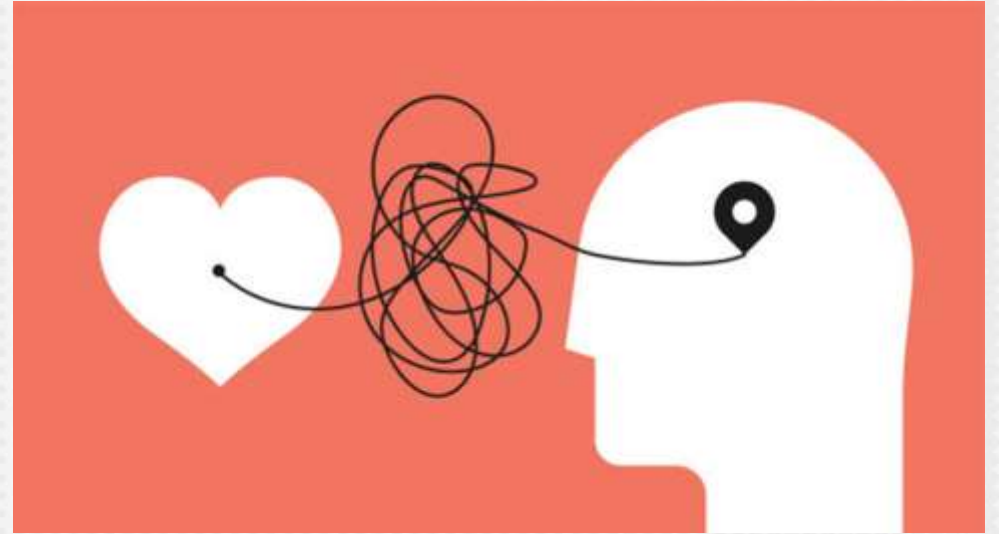
→ Ask yourself: *Am I actually stepping out in faith?*

## To close...

Engage your emotions with the Lord.

The emotions invoked in sharing our faith are *no different* than any others.

... Run to Him in the moment!



## A prayer to pray...

*“Lord,  
I feel awkward, uncomfortable, and fearful to share right now. I am fearful of what they may think, that they may be offended, that I may say something wrong, but Lord, YOU are worthy of my obedience. And You are with me right now. You are sovereign and near in this conversation. Strengthen and empower me through Your Spirit to step out in faith right now.  
**Thank you, Lord, that you are with me.”***



## A few questions to ponder...

- **How does the reality of Jesus's** authority and presence transform the way you think about sharing your faith? Which promise do you need to cling to today?
- Who or what is hindering your obedience to the command from Jesus to go and make disciples of all nations?
- Identify and write down an area in your life that you would like to see the Lord refine through this sermon series.