

WEEK 10

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? (VARIOUS PASSAGES)

* This message is mostly from Ryan Fontenot's book called "LIVE SENT" (Chapter 12)

In this series, we've given you a lot of information. For some of you, this information has been brand new. For others, this was just a good reminder. But the question now is, will you *act* on the information you've been given?

You see, it's not a lack of *information*, it's a lack of *execution!* So, I want to close this series by giving you some action steps to put into practice what you've learned.

1. Record your story and share it.

I want you to use your phone to record and post your story on social media. Don't worry if you're a little nervous or it's not perfect. You see, when we share our testimonies, two things happen:

- We inspire other Christians to do the same.
- Lost people have a chance to come to Jesus.

Remember what happened when the woman at the well received Jesus and immediately went back to her city to share her story (testimony)...

John 4:39 "Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony..."

Remember, posting your story online is not a substitute for having personal conversations about Jesus. The most natural and effective way to share Jesus is: *As you go*, turn everyday conversations into gospel conversations.

But, posting your story is just another tool in sharing the good news about Jesus. And as you're recording your story, here's a simple outline to follow...

- 1) My life before Jesus (30 seconds).

- 2) When I met Jesus (30 seconds).
- 3) What Jesus changed in me (30 seconds).
- 4) What Jesus is doing now in me (30 seconds).

So, record your story, post it, and send it to your friends and family. It may start some great conversations about Jesus!

2. Make a prayer wall.

Prayer is one of the most powerful weapons we have in our spiritual arsenal...

James 5:16b "The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

Remember, we don't pray and *then* do the work of God. Prayer IS the work! So, make a list of people you're praying for and find a place where you'll see it and be reminded to pray for them.

Examples:

- One lady in our church had a literal prayer closet with...
 - A "wall of truth" (Passages she was learning, or others that brought encouragement and strength).
 - A "wall of prayer" (people and situations she was praying about, or answered prayers).
- I don't have a wall, but I do have a prayer list that I use each morning...
 - 30-day Journal (offer extras).
 - Connection Class roles.
- One teenager I know uses small post-it notes on her dresser where she can see it from her bed.

Regardless of how you do it – JUST DO IT. We don't pray and *then* do the work of God. Prayer IS the work! So, make a list of people you're praying for and put it where you'll see it each day and PRAY!

3. Get a partner.

Remember: two are better than one, which is why Jesus sent the disciples in pairs of two...

Ecclesiastes 4:9 "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil."

Luke 10:1 "After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go."

The book of Hebrews describes life as a race, and we all need someone to run this race with us. We were not made to walk alone, and we need people in our lives who will help us and encourage us. So, find someone you can partner with as we share Jesus in this dark world!

4. Start now, not later.

Delayed obedience is disobedience! Don't wait until you're "ready" because the truth is, you'll never be fully ready. There will always be more to learn. There will always be another question to answer. The best day to tell someone about Jesus is TODAY...

2 Corinthians 6:2 "For [God] says, "In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation."

If you need to be saved, NOW is the time, not later! And the time to tell people about Jesus is NOW, not later! So, start telling people today. You don't need a theology degree or perfect evangelism skills. Just start where you are with the people that God has put in your life and take one step forward each day.

Dan and I would love to help you on this journey, so don't hesitate to reach out for support, encouragement, and prayer!

5. Pass it on to someone else.

As you're sharing the gospel, you need to be passing on to others what God is teaching you. There's a true statement that says, "Evangelism is *caught* more than *taught*." So, find someone to pass on what you're learning and practicing each week. For example...

- Moses passed what he was learning to Joshua.
- Elijah to Elisha.
- David to Jonathan.
- Paul to Timothy.

- Barnabas to Mark.

So, take some time to prayerfully consider who that might be for *you*.

6. Celebrate every win.

Every seed planted is a step closer to someone coming to Jesus. So, celebrate every post, every conversation, and every *attempt* to share the gospel.

Remember, "We only fail if we don't tell." So, let's celebrate every small win along the way! Why? Because, what gets *celebrated* gets *replicated*.

After all, heaven celebrates every win...

Luke 15:7 "Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance."

All of heaven celebrates every win! Think about it: when the prodigal son repented and came home to his Father, what did the Father do? He called for a celebration!

So, share your story with someone TODAY and celebrate every victory. Even one person hearing about Jesus is cause for great celebration!

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- Your story (next 2 lines)
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