



## Two Great Obstacles to proclaiming Christ

Romans 10:1–7 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup>Brothers, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved.

<sup>2</sup>For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge.

<sup>3</sup>For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God’s righteousness.

<sup>4</sup>For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

<sup>5</sup>For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them.

<sup>6</sup>But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down) <sup>7</sup>“or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).

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Galatians 5:20

idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions,

Romans 5:8

but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Psalm 18:30

This God—his way is perfect; the word of the LORD proves true; he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him.

1 Peter 1:18–19

knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, <sup>19</sup>but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

### 1. Proclaiming Jesus effectively begins in YOUR heart!

10:1 and 9:1-5 Also see Galatians 5:20; Romans 5:8; John 3:16; Philippians 3:18

**ACTION:**

1) Eliminate: bias, prejudice, hate, bitterness, all these clog the path. Root it out! Don’t give it a foothold!

2) Engage your heart with the love and compassion of Christ! Try see people as Jesus did.

### 2. Self-salvation always comes up short! (10:2-7, 16)

**ACTION:**

1) Recognize that self-salvation depends on self-righteousness, and always is way insufficient!

Saul – 1 Samuel 28:1-19

Babel – Genesis 11:4

Not all will hear and obey the gospel – Romans 10:17

2) Engage your heart with a love for God’s righteousness which is perfect!

Also see Lev. 22:21; Psalm 18:30; 19:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19

*Faith comes by hearing,  
and hearing through the Word of Christ!*  
(Romans 10:17)

--- “*How will they know?*” ---

April 12, 2026

***SUNDAY after church...***

Think through your morning and: 1) List and praise the Lord for specific encouragement you were able to give! 2) List and praise the Lord for specific encouragement you received! 3) List songs or lyrics that touched your heart.

***MONDAY***

**DISCUSSION STARTER:** From your notes on the front, what are some of the biggest obstacles in your life in proclaiming (telling) Christ to others? How do they hinder you? Identify these and write them down. Now how can you begin to eliminate these from your life?

***TUESDAY***

**DISCUSSION STARTER:** From your notes on the front and reading Romans 5:8 and 10. Write out your description of God’s love and compassion from these verses. How can you engage your heart with His love and compassion for people? What difference does that make in your effectiveness in proclaiming Christ?

***WEDNESDAY***

**DISCUSSION STARTER:** From your notes on the front, reading Galatians 5:20. Write out why do these things are so anchored in our world today.

***THURSDAY and FRIDAY***

**DISCUSSION STARTER:** From your notes on the front and reading Romans 10:2-7, write out how self-salvation, or self-righteousness are so imbedded in our culture (or sinful man). How can you recognize this quicker and kill it in your life?

***SATURDAY***

**Prepare** your heart for Sunday’s gathering by being ready to fully engage in the worship.