



Sermon Text: Romans 10:14-17

Sermon Date: December 27

Romans 10:14-17 is an inconvenient truth. It reveals the great need for global missions. Knowing what it teaches requires us to change our lives. Pastor Justin began by reminding us of four foundational truths Paul has established throughout the book of Romans.

1. **God Reveals Himself To All People** (see Romans 1:18-20; 2:14-16). There isn't a single person that is excusably ignorant of God. Through nature and the conscience, He has accurately revealed Himself to everyone.
2. **All People Reject God Through Sin** (see Romans 1:18, 21-23; 2:1). Every person willfully suppresses the truth of God through their unrighteousness and sin. Everyone violates the law that God has written upon their hearts. Every person has done what he/she knows is wrong. All people are guilty and without excuse.
3. **All People Stand Condemned Before God** (Romans 3:10-12, 23; 6:23; 2:12). All people will be judged by the light they've been given, none are without light, and everyone has rejected the light God has given them. People are condemned to Hell, not because they have rejected the gospel, but ultimately because they have sinned against God.
4. **Salvation Is Available To All People In Christ Alone** (Romans 3:24-26; 10:9-13). Salvation is available to every person who turns from their sin and puts their faith in Jesus. No person with saving faith will be shut out of salvation. "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Having established these points, with a series of rhetorical questions Paul walks us through the importance of global missions—reaching all peoples with the gospel message.

1. **TO CALL REQUIRES BELIEVING**—"How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed?" In order to call on Jesus and be saved, you must first believe in him.
2. **TO BELIEVE REQUIRES HEARING**—"And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard?" To believe in Jesus, you must first hear about him and what He has done. If you have never heard the gospel of Jesus, you cannot believe in him, call upon Him, or be saved.
3. **TO HEAR REQUIRES PROCLAIMING**—"And how are they to hear without someone preaching?" If people are going to hear what Christ has done, someone has to share that good news with them. Paul implies human agency here. He does not permit us to assume that angels or visions will be used to share the gospel.
4. **TO PROCLAIM REQUIRES GOING**—"And how are they to preach unless they are sent?" If people do not go to the unreached and share the gospel with them, they cannot hear, believe, call, and be saved. This is why the gospel messengers' feet are beautiful—they bring the news of salvation to a condemned and dying world. In verse 17, Paul summarizes: "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the Word of Christ."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1) **What stood out to you from the sermon and the biblical text from this Sunday?**
- 2) **It is estimated that roughly 2.7 billion people (40% of the world's population) are classified as "unreached." How should our lives change if what Paul teaches here is true?**
- 3) **What are some practical, sustainable ways you can help reach the unreached with the gospel?**