

# **OPENING PRAYER**

## **GETTING STARTED**

What is one goal that that you have when it comes to evangelism? (Please share it with your partner.)

What is your greatest fear about evangelism? (Please share it with your partner.)

## **GOALS FOR OUR STUDY**

- 1.)
- 2.)
- 3.)
- \_ .
- 4.)
- 5.)

# **GOALS FOR TODAY**

- 1.)
- 2.)

# **UNEXPECTED EVANGELISTS**

Besides our Lord Jesus, who would you consider the greatest evangelist of all time?

#### THE APOSTLE PAUL

#### With what you know about Paul, what made him such an unlikely choice as an evangelist?

Acts 8:1, 3 Saul was there, giving approval to [Stephen's] death. On that day a great persecution broke out against the church at Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria. ...But Saul began to destroy the church. Going from house to house, he dragged off men and women and put them in prison.

Acts 9:1-2 Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem.

**1 Corinthians 15:9** For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

Acts 26:4-5 The Jews all know the way I have lived ever since I was a child, from the beginning of my life in my own country, and also in Jerusalem. ...according to the strictest sect of our religion, I lived as a Pharisee.

Acts 26:17-18 "I [Jesus] will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me."

### If Paul was such an unlikely evangelist, how did he become one?

Acts 9:3-6 As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked. "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

#### Why would Jesus choose Paul to serve as an evangelist?

**1 Timothy 1:13-16** Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners,

Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life.

## <u>YOU</u>

Why would *you* not naturally be Jesus' first choice to serve as an evangelist? (Please share it with your partner.)

**Romans 3:10-12** As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one."

### So... why did Jesus chose you to become an evangelist?

**Titus 3:4-5** When the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy.

**2 Corinthians 5:14, 20** For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. ...We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.

### What fears about evangelism do these realities address?

# **EVANGELISM IS...**

How would you define evangelism?

Evangelism = εὐαγγέλιον = \_\_\_\_\_

What is the good news we have to tell? (Share it with your partner.)

**Luke 2:10-11** The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord."

**Matthew 1:21** "She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

Romans 6:23 The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The gospel if Jesus Christ is the	that Jesus has	us from our
and gives us	·	
Evangelism =		
HOW DO WE DO EVANGELISM?		
Two ways of connecting people to the gospel		

1.)

2.)

Which of these is better? What factors may you want to take into consideration?

#### When do we do evangelism?

**2 Timothy 4:2** Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.

What are some situations that might be "in season" or "out of season" to share the gospel?

In Season

**Out of Season** 

## FOR NEXT TIME

Begin thinking about people you know who are not churched.

Pay attention to (and if possible, count) how many unchurched people you interact with this week.

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