

Sharing the Good News Class – Session 1 - Teacher Notes

Intro:

What is the good news?

What is God's plan for sharing the good news?

What are the challenges with sharing the good news?

What are some strategies for sharing the good news?

{Prayer}:

Alright, let's begin by sharing *some examples of good news* that we're aware of.... For instance, wasn't it nice to have such good weather on Friday & Saturday – sunny/warm for this time of yr.

Other examples: [write on board]

I got a raise/promotion/engagement/birth/recovery from illness/X-mas gift/

We have *a tendency to share good news*. And don't we see this in the bible – **Mk. 1:40-45, Jn. 4:27-29, 39-42**

So many examples of people sharing with others about God's good work in their lives.... **Ps. 30:1-4**

So I think we have made the point pretty conclusively from life and the bible that good news is something that we tend to share.

Now let's move our focus to *the content of the good news* [and in particular, the good news of Jesus Christ]. This good news is sometimes called the gospel – **Mk. 1:1, 4, 14-15**

The gospel in Luke – **Lk. 1:76-79, 2:8-11, 3:3/15-18, 4:18-19**

Others: Jn. 3:16, 1 Cor. 15:1-4 [great summary of the gospel]

So if we believe this is good news, if we're convinced that it's true and worth sharing, if we're compelled to share it.... how should we do it? How should we present it?

Should we throw all these verses at someone like a barrage?

We could do worse...

But how should we present the gospel to others?

What kind of presentation should we use? There are many:

Romans Road – 3:23, 6:23, 5:8, 10:9-10

The Bridge [Navigators]

Steps to Peace with God – Billy Graham

4 Spiritual Laws – Campus Crusade [Cru]

2 Ways to Live*

Sharing the Good News – Session 1 - Class Notes

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What are the challenges with sharing the good news?

What are some strategies for sharing the good news?

Examples of good news:

Tendency to share good news:

Mk. 1:40-45, Jn. 4:27-29/ 39-42, Ps. 30:1-4

What is the good news [the gospel]?

Mk. 1:1, 4, 14-15

Lk. 1:76-79, 2:8-11, 3:3/15-18, 4:18-19

Jn. 3:16, 1 Cor. 15:1-4

How should we present this good news?

2 Ways to Live

God's plan for sharing the good news – Session 2 – Teacher Notes

Review:

The tendency to share good news – **Mt. 9:27ff** 2 blind men
What is the good news?

1 Cor. 15:1-4

This is of first importance [first priority]

How do we share the good news?

Presentations - *2 Ways to Live*

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So what is God's method/plan for sharing the gospel?

-A voice from heaven? Saul, Saul

-Dreams in the Middle East? Someone else do it?

-Great Commission [**Mt. 28**]

Who was the Great Commission spoken to?

just disciples? just pastors? just evangelists

Early church examples of non-Apostles sharing the gospel –

Acts 1-2 120/**Peter/Acts 8:1-4, 11:19ff, 1 Peter 2:9**

Uncle Bob

^Identity/exhortation

The importance of works in our witness-**Mt. 5:14-16, Php. 1:27**

- Also **1 Peter 3:15** be ready to give an answer for the hope you have when someone asks you...

What's surprising about that verse? [Amsterdam story]

Works are important, but.....people need more. both/and

*One more motivation for sharing the good news –**Lk. 15:1-10**

God's plan for sharing the good news? – Class Outline

Review:

The tendency to share good news – **Mt. 9:27ff**

What is the good news? [content]

1 Cor. 15:1-4

How do we share the good news?

Presentations - *2 Ways to Live*

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So what is God's method/plan for sharing the gospel?

-A voice from heaven?

-Dreams in the Middle East?

-Others?

-Great Commission [**Mt. 28**]

Who was the Great Commission spoken to?

Early church examples of non-Apostles sharing the gospel –
Acts 1-2 120/Peter/Acts 8:1-4, 11:19ff, 1 Peter 2:9

What about works? – important **Mt. 5:14-16, Php. 1:27**

- Also **1 Peter 3:15**

What's surprising about that verse?

Challenges with sharing the good news – Session 3 – Teacher Notes

Last week we talked about God's plan for sharing the Good News and we saw that it didn't just fall upon apostles & pastors & evangelists – we're all called to be witnesses for Jesus Christ – with our works, but also with our words.

In week one we talked about the content of the gospel, that it's good news. We also talked about the natural tendency to share the good news with others....

But that raises an important question, what are the challenges in sharing our faith with others.... **Mt. 10:35-38**

It's been said that the problem with evangelism is not lost people [Jesus said the harvest is plentiful – God is going to save many by harvesting them into His salvation. The problem with evangelism is the lack of laborers in the field –

So this morning I want to have an honest conversation about the challenge of sharing our faith.

- Personal [fear, inadequate, ruin friendship, too busy, lack of love]

Fear - **Mk. Acts 13:13**

Inadequate – **Moses** [also fear]

^Ex. 3:10-11

- Expectations/results – **Mt. 13** Parable of the Sower success rate?

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- Spiritual [warfare/devil] – **did you notice Mt. 13:19?**
Mt. 13:36-39, 1 Pe. 5,
- Cultural – post-modern/your truth-my truth
- entrenched belief system, ...]
- Questions [sincere or stall?] – **Jn. 4**
- Transitions into the gospel [topic, testimony..]
- Urgency/eternal punishment [Piper article]

*One more motivation for sharing the good news –**Lk. 15:1-10**

Next week's assignment: Personal Testimony:

Before I came to know Christ

How I came to know Christ

Since I came to know Christ

Challenges with sharing the good news – Session 3 – Class notes

Brief Review:

Mt. 10:35-38

An honest conversation about the challenge of sharing our faith:

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-Next week's assignment: Personal Testimony:

Before I came to know Christ

How I came to know Christ

My Life since I came to know Christ

Strategies for Sharing the Good News – Session 4 – Teacher Notes

We've reviewed the content of the gospel and God's plan for all of us to share the good news with others. We've also talked about some of the challenges to sharing the good news with others. Today in our final session, I'd like for us to think about some strategies for sharing the good news with others..

First a little perspective: [Motivation]

The greatness of sharing the good news – **Luke 15:1-10**

The urgency of sharing the good news – **Mt. 13:36ff, Heb. 9:27, Jn. 3:36** [Piper article]

The necessity/problem of sharing the good news - **Mt. 10:35-38**

It's been said that the problem with evangelism is not lost people [Jesus said the harvest is plentiful – God is going to save many by harvesting them into His salvation. The problem with evangelism is the lack of laborers in the field – **Is it a love problem?**

-Prayer/looking for opportunities [**Rom. 10:1** (list*), **Jn. 4**]

-Creating opportunities [coffee/kids/shared interests]

-Testimony* Outline [**Acts 22, 26, Php. 3:4ff**]

-Question/asking permission to share what the bible says

-Invitation – church, online message, etc.

Strategies for Sharing the Good News – Session 4 – Class notes

We've reviewed the content of the gospel and God's plan for all of us to share the good news with others. We've also talked about some of the challenges to sharing the good news with others. Today in our final session, we're going to think about some strategies for sharing the good news with others..

First a little perspective:

The greatness of sharing the good news – **Luke 15:1-10**

The urgency of sharing the good news – **Mt. 13:36ff, Heb. 9:27, Jn. 3:36**

The necessity/problem of sharing the good news - **Mt. 10:35-38**

- Prayer/looking for opportunities [**Rom. 10:1**(list*), **Jn. 4**]
- Creating opportunities [coffee/kids/shared interests]
- Testimony* homework [**Acts 22, 26; Php. 3:4ff**]
- Asking permission to share what the bible says
- Invitation – church, online message, etc.

Testimony Outline:

- I. My Life Before Christ
- II. How I met Christ
- III. My life after I met Christ