

THE GOSPEL FOR EVERYDAY CHRISTIAN LIVING

PART SEVEN

Joe Thorn, author of *Experiencing the Trinity*: The gospel is forgotten when it no longer functions as our ongoing hope and confidence before God, or when it becomes unessential for the practical, daily living of the Christian life. The gospel we often forget must be reclaimed and retained for the safety of our souls, and this is done through preaching the gospel to ourselves.

9. WE MUST PREACH THE GOSPEL TO OURSELVES EVERYDAY TO STIR OURSELVES UP TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO OTHERS.

❖ **2 Corinthians 5:18-19**, “All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled (restoring a broken, hostile relationship) us to himself [**Gospel**] and gave us the ministry of reconciliation [**Gospel ministry**]; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them [**Gospel**], and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation [**Gospel ministry**].”

A C Gaebelien says...Having reconciled us unto Himself by Jesus Christ, He has also given to us the ministry of reconciliation. Having brought us into this blessed position through grace, He calls us to make it known to others and lead others to Him. What we have received we are to use in our ministry. And **every reconciled one is called into this service to exercise the ministry of reconciliation and be a soul-winner.**

Christ left heaven to save sinners, can't we leave our comfort zones to preach the gospel? Christ suffered brutally for our sins, can't we suffer a little to preach the gospel? Christ was rejected and humiliated for our sins, can't we face rejection and humiliation for preaching the gospel? Christ unashamedly died for our sins, shouldn't we feel unashamed to preach the gospel? Christ saved us through the preaching of the gospel by others to us, shouldn't we also let Him use our preaching of the gospel to save others?

Two factors:

- i. The Lord Jesus Christ is the only way of salvation
- ii. The preaching of the Gospel is the only way people come to know the way of salvation

- ❖ **Romans 10:13-15**, For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!”

Warren Wiersbe: Jesus Christ died to make reconciliation **possible**. You and I must live to make the message of reconciliation **personal**. God has “given to us the ministry of reconciliation” (2Cor 5:18). We are His ambassadors of peace (2Cor 5:20). Our feet should be shod “with the preparation of the Gospel of peace” (Ep 6:15). “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God” (Mt 5:9). A missionary was preaching in the village market, and some of the people were laughing at him because he was not a very handsome man. He took it for a time, and then he said to the crowd, “It is true that I do not have beautiful hair, for I am almost bald. Nor do I have beautiful teeth, for they are really not mine; they were made by the dentist. I do not have a beautiful face, nor can I afford to wear beautiful clothes. But this I know: I have beautiful feet!” And he quoted the verse from Isaiah: “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” (Isa. 52:7). Do you have beautiful feet?

John G. Paton, a missionary to New Hebrides, speaks about a eight year old little boy John Sim, who died of tuberculosis. His childish heart seemed to be filled with joy about seeing Jesus.

Shortly before John Sim’s death, he said to his parents, “I am going soon to be with Jesus; but I some times fear that I may not see you there.”

“Why so, my child?” said his weeping mother.

“Because,” he answered, “if you were set upon going to heaven and seeing Jesus there, you would pray about it, and sing about it; you would talk about Jesus to others, and tell them of that happy meeting with Him in Glory. All this my dear Sabbath school teacher taught me, and she will meet me there. Now why did not you, my father and mother, tell me all these things about Jesus, if you are going to meet Him too?”

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU PREACHED THE GOSPEL TO SOMEONE?

- In light of the gospel, I should be grateful to God for reconciling me to Himself.

- In light of the gospel, I should be active in the ministry of reconciliation, i.e. preaching the gospel and reconciling others to God.

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