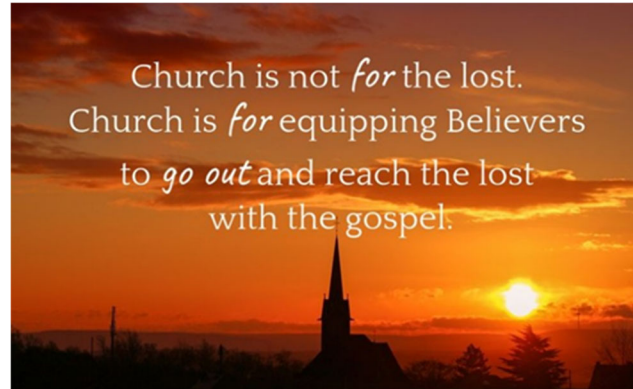


Zion Lutheran Table Talks
December 18th, 2025
6:15 PM

“Using SALT to share Christ with others”



Questions we'll explore...

1. Why share Christ? Why does it matter?
2. Is evangelism a burden, a call or a rich privilege?
3. How do I overcome my fear of evangelism?
4. "I don't want to push my faith down anyone's throat"
5. Why do I feel guilty when I don't share the message of the Gospel?
6. Am I called to be fruitful or faithful?
7. How can I love those who don't know Christ more than I love myself?

OVERCOMING THE FEAR OF EVANGELISM

- ❖ Not all fear is bad; it reminds us of the significance of the task of sharing the Gospel and not supposed to be taken lightly.
- ❖ Forces us to depend on the Lord
- ❖ What witnessing is not;
 - An answer giver or problem solver
 - Not a quoter of scripture in every situation
 - Not a converter
- ❖ Typical new member hears the Gospel seven times before attending church.

Read John 12:39 - 43

Question 1 – *What are the fears that keep you from sharing your faith?*

Question 2 – *Why didn't the rulers believe in Christ?*

Question 3 – *How can we love those who don't know Christ more than we love ourselves?*

Read Acts 4: 29-31 – Disciples were afraid and threatened – Prayed for boldness

- ❖ It's OK to tell God you're afraid and ask that He fills us up with boldness

Question 4 – *How are non-believers or those who have fallen away from Christ brought into the grace of our Lord?*

- ❖ God employs human instruments/ambassadors to bring people to faith in Christ
 - Isaiah "Here I am, Send me" because he knows what's at stake

WHY WE SHARE OUR FAITH AND WHAT'S AT STAKE

- ❖ As Christians we have the privilege of being part of God's gospel work

Question 5 – *What is the difference between an evangelist and evangelism?*

- Evangelist equips the body to do the work of the ministry, equip the body to go out and share the gospel.
- Evangelism refers to the broader practice or effort of spreading the gospel message to others.
- Both are integral to the mission of sharing faith, but one focuses on the individual role and the other on the overall activity.
 - Apologetics (the defense of something) doesn't save someone.
- ❖ God has given us a mandate to go out and share the gospel

Question 6 – *What does it mean to say, "I'm willing to go if God calls me, in the meantime I'm going to stay?"*

Question 7 - *What happens when we reverse the statement to, "I'm willing to stay, should God call me to stay, but I'm willing to go?"*

- ❖ At Zion Lutheran we are not in the ministry to "count" people who are led to Christ nor are we in the business of counting successes.
- ❖ Faithfulness and Obedience are synonymous
- ❖ **Romans 10:9-12** - *"Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one*

confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame."

- ❖ The one thing in heaven we will not be able to do is share the gospel – our purpose for sharing is here on earth
- ❖ **Compelled by compassion**, everyone should want to go and share the gospel, because that is the claim of Christ on how people are saved. It is the life, death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ

WHY DO I FEEL GUILTY WHEN I DON'T SHARE THE MESSAGE OF THE GOSPEL?

- ❖ Don't overcomplicate the message. Stop over-thinking it. We don't have to have an answer for everything.
- ❖ C.S. Lewis – *"We don't know the inner working of an engine before we hop into a car and start to drive"*
- ❖ The Word of God is a living powerful and sharp two-edge sword that live within us and there is ample opportunity to use it.
- ❖ Stick to scripture rather than philosophies and stories
 - Don't take scripture out of context – "Always be ready to give a defense."
 - Safest place to be is in the center of God's will
 - Greatest trial you will ever face is the one you go through without the Lord

We run into the question of "How can a God allow suffering and the Democrats?"

- ❖ Lots of thoughts, wisdom and ideas, but only one thing to me that makes sense is the concept of Hell.
- ❖ Sin is from the inner workings of man's heart (Luke 6:45)
- ❖ Hell is eternal because God is eternal and our sins are against an eternal God
- ❖ The most loving thing that God can do is tell us "Worship me, draw near to me."
- ❖ C.S Lewis – *"We are not bodies with spirits; we are spirits with bodies."*
 - We were created to know God and make him known and when we rebel against that inner knowledge, what is God to do?
- ❖ Truth to scripture

Question 8 – What is the role of the Holy Spirit in the life a non-believer?

Read Colossians 4:6 - SALT

S – Start a conversation

- ❖ Just saying hello, how are you? Where are you from? Do you have a home church?

A – Ask a Question

- ❖ If they begin to tell us something about themselves, we can ask a question. And then be quiet

L – Listen

- ❖ Be silent and know God is working
- T – Tell the Story
 - ❖ Tell the story about Christ and His work in you. Work on your story

Get to the point of “What Must I do?”

- ❖ “I’m going to go to church”
- ❖ “Start giving – Bribe God?”

IT’S EASY TO TALK ABOUT GOD IN THE CHURCH, WHAT ABOUT OTHER PLACES

- ❖ Be rich in your good works
- ❖ We don’t need to complete the deal – some else has your back – follow on forces
- ❖ “They’re not going to say ‘You’re always thinking about me’

Closing

OVERCOMING THE FEAR OF EVANGELISM

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WHY WE SHARE OUR FAITH AND WHAT’S AT STAKE

- ❖ As Christians we have the privilege of being part of God’s gospel work
 - Difference between an evangelist and evangelism

WHY DO I FEEL GUILTY WHEN I DON’T SHARE THE MESSAGE OF THE GOSPEL?

- ❖ Don’t overcomplicate the message. Stop over-thinking it. We don’t have to have an answer for everything.

USING S.A.L.T TO WITNESS COLOSSIANS 4:6

“Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.”

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