Biblical Steps for Sharing Your Faith

In this *Groundwork* series, we've dug into Scripture to better understand *what* evangelism is and *why* every believer is called to share their faith. We've studied Jesus Christ's ascension and Pentecost to grasp the role and power of the Holy Spirit in our witness. Now, with this solid foundation, let's examine stories from the New Testament and discover best practices for *how* we share our faith. Together, let's study how Jesus himself interacts with the people he encounters and what the apostles do as they begin their ministry. From these stories, we can glean simple, practical steps that each of us can follow to confidently share our faith.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- Are you familiar with any formal or organized methods of evangelism like Romans Road or Evangelism Explosion? What was your experience with them?
- What is your favorite biblical story that depicts someone sharing their faith in Jesus? What strikes you about it?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: Biblical Steps for Sharing Your Faith

READ Matthew 9:35-10:7, Acts 4:23-31, Acts 8:26-40, Revelation 12:11

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- In segment 1, hosts Darrell Delaney and Scott Hoezee discuss three crucial elements for sharing your faith: compassion, obedience, and courage/boldness. Do any of these come naturally to you? Which feels difficult?
- Scott and Darrell open segment 2 by noting that Jesus' model of compassion "is a good reminder to us to never count anybody out...You never know if God is actually preparing that person's heart for when you come in and share your faith." Which groups of people do you think the church or Christians today are guilty of counting out? Is there anyone you personally have been guilty of counting out? Why do you think this happens? Why do you think practicing compassion helps combat this?
- Intentionally thinking about your story can help you be prepared when opportunities for spiritual conversations arise. What parts of your story do you think people can relate to? What was your experience with God in those parts of your story?
- Think about some of the places you spend your days at. What are some natural conversations that you might have there? How could you imagine genuine interest leading to spiritual conversations or opportunities to share your faith?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

John 11:1-44, John 4:1-42, Matthew 15:21-39, 1 Corinthians 3:1-9, 1 Samuel 16:7, 1 Corinthians 2

CONCLUSION

Reflect on your answers to the questions above. As you reflect, pray.

If needed, use one or all of the following prayer prompts as a guide:

- Pray with thanksgiving for the gifts God has given you that make sharing your faith come naturally. Ask for wisdom to use this gift or gifts to serve God's kingdom.
- Pray about the steps that feel difficult. Identify whether you feel fear, anxiety, or something else. Pray for growth and opportunity.
- Pray confessionally and seek forgiveness for the times you've judged another too quickly or for the ways you've witnessed it in a church or Christian community. Ask for the Spirit to open your eyes, your heart, and your mind.
- Pray for God to reveal to you where he is at work in your own story and how it might resonate with others. Ask for opportunities to share your story and for awareness of the Holy Spirit's prompting when those opportunities are in front of you.
- Pray for opportunities to genuinely listen and care for others as you go about your daily activities.

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