

The Good News
November 15, 2015
Luke 4:16-30 and Luke 4:42-44

“The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; to proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD.” **Luke 4:18-19**

Jesus was sent for this reason and we are to be about what Jesus was about. We can't heal the brokenhearted (God can), but we can preach the Gospel to the poor and all peoples. We can proclaim Liberty to the captives.

Unfortunately, though we would rather curse the darkness than shine the Light. It's as if it makes us feel better to curse the evil in our world or someone else's life when it does absolutely nothing, nothing at all.

John 1:1-10

We are not called to curse the darkness, but shine the Light at our school, homes, workplace, Church, kids' school, ball field and to the nations. We can do this while standing on the Truth!

Who needs the Good News (Gospel)? _____ !

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

2 Peter 3:9

1) _____ need the Good News

There is none righteous, no, not one; there is none who understands; there is none who seeks after God. **Romans 3:10-11**

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. **1 Timothy 1:15**

As a believer I need Jesus for Salvation (past, present and future tense).

Am I taking in God's Word and communication through prayer?

2) My _____ needs the Good News

So they said, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.” **Acts 16:31**

The light that shines the farthest shines the brightest at home.

How am I telling/sharing the Good News with my family?

3) My “_____” needs the Good News

This is my co-workers, classmates and friends.

We all have a different “sphere of influence” and if we share the Good News with them imagine the numbers of people hearing the Good News.

4) My _____ needs the Good News

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

Acts 1:8

The Quadrennium Project Report provides a projection of likely religious beliefs, preferences and practices for a defined study area. It is based upon the Quadrennium Project national survey conducted by MissionInsite. While general religious data is available through various organizations, only MissionInsite can provide local geography projections that are current. The study area is a 15 minute drive from HC BCH! Here are just a few of the findings:

- 16% believe there is another way to Heaven other than Jesus
- 48% believe abortion should remain legal
- 25% believe marriage is not just between a man and a woman
- 31% believe same sex marriage should be legal
- 15% believe Jesus is not currently reigning as Lord of Heaven and earth

The issue is not the above issues. The issue is, does our community know the Gospel and do they know that God desires them to be followers of Jesus and follow His ways?

5) My _____ needs the Good News

If we as believers ignore the fact that our families, our sphere of influence, our community and our world needs the Gospel we are being a disobedient believer!

In essence, we are saying I am saved and I am good, but literally to hell with everyone else.

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.

Matthew 24:14

“He (God) will come when every people group has heard the Gospel. For this reason he has charged the church, not just generally with getting the Gospel to as many people as we can, but specifically with getting the Gospel to every people group on this planet. Indeed, he is not coming back until this assignment has been accomplished.” ~ *David Platt* in *Radical Together*.

I am done cursing the darkness and just talking about the Gospel. I will share it, will you?

Ask God to help you see the opportunities every day. He gives them to you. The fact is we are so busy (me included) with our responsibilities and day to day activities we don't even see the opportunity.

Today, as you're Pastor, I am asking you to pray and to commit to share your faith this week with one person. Don't be selfish and keep Jesus to yourself.

Secondly, will you commit to not curse the darkness and yet shine the Light? We have plenty of darkness observers, we need more Light sharers.

Thirdly, be reminded that there is no “retirement” in sharing the Gospel. While we may retire from our profession, we never retire from our possession, Jesus Christ!