

"Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen."

Easter Day, BCP

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### Personal Concluding Thoughts

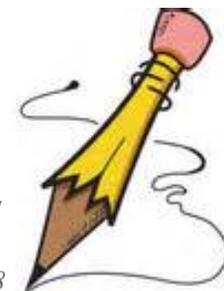


Sunday Oct. 23, 2016

**Sermon Notes: "Proclaiming the Good News"**  
Acts 8.1-4, 1 Peter 3.13-18, Matthew 28.18-20

*"But what does it say? 'The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart' (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim)."*

*-Romans 10.8*



## "Proclaiming the Good News"

The Parable of the Sower is an amazing story of evangelism. The sower seems to care less about where the seeds were thrown or if they grew; as long as they were thrown everywhere. It's the work of the Holy Spirit to ensure that the seed finds good soil, and is given proper water. Our job is to simply cast the seeds into the world.

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"ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE, EVANGELISM IS SIMPLY TELLING THE GOOD NEWS; IT DOES NOT INCLUDE MAKING SURE THAT THE OTHER PERSON RESPONDS TO IT."

MARK DEVER

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*What came up in the sermon that you were surprised at? Did anything in the sermon speak directly to you, personally?*

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"IN TELLING OTHER PEOPLE HOW MUCH JESUS MEANS TO YOU, YOU MAY NOT HAVE TOLD THEM THE GOSPEL AT ALL."

MARK DEVER

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Often times, we confuse our own personal witness with evangelism, what God is doing in and through us. Whereas, evangelism is sharing what God has done in and through Jesus Christ.

*When you hear the word 'evangelism' what comes to mind? According to the world, is evangelism a good thing or a bad thing?*

*Have you ever brought a non-Christian friend to church? What was the result?*

## Read Romans 1 Peter 3:13-18

Evangelism is knowing why we do the things we do, live the lives we live and say the things we say: Because God has given us life in Christ.

*What are the two main things Peter commands in this passage?*

*What are some ways that sharing the gospel with others and suffering for Christ's sake might go hand in hand?*



*Read 1 Corinthians 10:32-11:1, Romans 9:1-3, John 15:8-11. What in these passages motivates you to evangelize? What scares you?*

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"SOME PEOPLE HAVE BECOME CHRISTIANS THROUGH PRESENTATIONS OF THE GOSPEL THAT MAY HAVE BEEN TERRIBLE. THE PERSON SHARING THE GOSPEL MAY HAVE BEEN SCARED, STUTTERING, FORGETFUL, INTIMIDATING, PUSHY, OR EVEN OBNOXIOUS. BUT WHEN THERE IS TRUTH AMID ALL THE ERRORS, GOD'S HOLY SPIRIT CAN BRING THE LOST TO REPENTANCE AND FAITH."

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*What are some of the hardest aspects of evangelism for you?*

*What are some of the most rewarding aspects of evangelism for you?*

*"Jesus himself did not try to convert the two thieves on the cross; he waited until one of them turned to him."*

*-Dietrich Bonhoeffer*