

# **We Will be an Engaging People**

**Acts 8:26-40**

**January 17, 2021**

**Vision: Rejoicing as people come to life in Christ.**

**Mission: Building relationships that lead to Gospel transformation.**

**Last week: We will be a rejoicing people.**

**This week: We will be an engaging people.**

What if WE caught a vision of our lost family, friends, co-workers and community trusting Jesus? What if instead of cursing the darkness, we shined the Light?

*Now when the people complained, it displeased the LORD; for the LORD heard it, and His anger was aroused. So the fire of the LORD burned among them, and consumed some in the outskirts of the camp.* **Numbers 11:1**

*Do all things without complaining and disputing, <sup>15</sup> that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, <sup>16</sup> holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.* **Philippians 2:14-16**

*“You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. <sup>16</sup> Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”* **Matthew 5:14-16**

I believe, in Scripture we are taught two main ways for the advancement of the Gospel; prayer and evangelism (discipleship).

How many of us have shared our political (leanings) with someone over the last two months? How many of us have shared Jesus with someone the last two months?

We have a tendency to want to deal with the symptoms instead of dealing with the disease, we need to deal with both.

**Back up (history) to Acts 8:1-26.**

Verses 1-4: Scattering of the Church – The Believers were being dispersed.

Verses 5-25: The Gospel was spreading.

Persecution always brings prosperity to the Gospel, always.

As crazy as the world is right now, this next year is going to be so helpful for the Church.

You will know who is willing to die, be imprisoned, or lose opportunities in order to stand boldly for the Gospel AND biblical teaching. Self-preservation will mark the unfaithful. ~ **Costi Hinn**

**Now, let's look at verses 26-40.**

- 1) **We must put ourselves in a \_\_\_\_\_ to hear from the Holy Spirit.**  
After faithfully praying, do you know your second asset in sharing the Gospel? Walking with Jesus DAILY.
- 2) **When the Holy Spirit speaks we need to \_\_\_\_\_ (v 26).**  
It's not that the Holy Spirit doesn't give us Gospel encounter opportunities or even prod our heart, it's often we are too focused, selfish, or obstinate to hear.
- 3) **When the Holy Spirit speaks we need to \_\_\_\_\_ (v 27).**  
When He does speak or we know we are to share, we need to DO it.
- 4) **When the Holy Spirit speaks, it may seem “\_\_\_\_\_” (v 29).**  
Phillip was told to go and overtake the chariot.
- 5) **God has already called us to evangelize. We simply need to be \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (vs.31-32).**

*<sup>14</sup> How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? <sup>15</sup> And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is*

written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who <sup>[b]</sup>preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!”  
**Romans 10:14-15**

6) If Phillip doesn't \_\_\_\_\_ they both miss out (vs. 34-40).

**Must tell the Gospel (as we go).**

7) **Went on his way rejoicing (v 39).**

The time to simply gather for a “holy huddle” on Sunday morning and get some Jesus juice is no more!

If there's ever been a time to share the Gospel, it is now!

So often though, we say “I can't” or “I'm not ready.” We can't do it without Him, but thru Him we can.

One of these days is none of these days.

<sup>13</sup> Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit”; <sup>14</sup> whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. <sup>15</sup> Instead you ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that.” <sup>16</sup> But now you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. <sup>17</sup> Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.  
**James 4:13-17**

“Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.” **Hebrews 3:15**

“In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you.” Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.  
**2 Corinthians 6:2**

People say what they think, but they do what they believe.

We make our decisions, but our decisions turn around and make us.

There've been more people saved, churches planted & expansion of the Kingdom of God in oppressed, impoverished nations than in America. They took to the streets to share the good news. We posted selfies, sipped on lattes & whined about lines at a drive through. Think about it.

**~ Michael Caff**

**So how do I begin with someone to share the Gospel with them? Some may be “easier than the others.”**

- Worldview – everyone has one. “What do you think about what is going on in our world right now?”
- Engage \_\_\_\_\_ with the \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ ONE (find out their story). Find out about the person or more about the person you are seeking to engage with.
- \_\_\_\_\_ in ONE person spiritually (My story). Tell your own personal story. How you were saved and what God has done in your life.
- \_\_\_\_\_ ONE person to worship (His story). This has been our “only” means of evangelism at times. While inviting someone to worship is good is should only be part of it.
- \_\_\_\_\_ ONE person in small groups. Community.
- \_\_\_\_\_ ONE person to Christ.

Story App

Be available.

**Prayer Focus:**

- **I will be a rejoicing person.**
- **I will be engaging person.**
- **I will be intentional.**