

September 27/28, 2008

His Story...My Story

“εὐαγγέλιον”

Pastor Mark Burch

I Corinthians 1:21 “...God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe.”

The Greater Context for this series: The Mission of God – “Missio Dei”

“Mission is not primarily an activity of the church but an attribute of God. God is a missionary God. It is not the church that has a mission of salvation to fulfill in the world; it is the mission of the Son and the Spirit through the Father that includes the church.” (Wikipedia)

Theological Moorings

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Defining the Terms: Evangelism - “εὐαγγέλιον” =

God has always had a plan – it is His mission after all...

The Gospel “ABOUT” Jesus

The Gospel “OF” Jesus



Quest Group Discussion Questions

History (Making it Personal)

1. Take some time off the top of the evening to get to know each other. A good discussion question might simply be a word association game. What is the first thought that comes to your mind when you think of “evangelism”?
2. Why do you think it is so difficult for most people to share their faith? What is the reason that the majority of churches in North America grow only by transfer, and not by evangelism? Talk about your own journey of faith....what was or is the greatest influencer in your life...a spoken message...or a life well-lived? What do you think the balance should be?

Digging Deeper (Looking to the Bible)

Preaching the Gospel “About” Jesus

Read Acts 1:8; I Corinthians 1:21-25; Romans 10:10-14; 2 Timothy 1:7-12; and Mark 2:38. Talk about the role of “preaching” in evangelism. Talk about the various ways we “preach” or witness. Have we defined evangelism too narrowly as only what happens behind the pulpit?

Living the Gospel “OF” Jesus

Read Matthew 25:34-40; James 1:26-27; 2:14-17; Isaiah 58:6-10 & John 13:35. Talk about “lifestyle evangelism” and the importance of living out what we say we believe.

The fields are white

Read John 4:34-42 and talk about its implications today. Think of Rob’s story on video this weekend, and the simple invitation of a friend that changed his life. Who is there in your life that God has already prepared?

Finally, remind yourself of 2 Corinthians 5:14-14-21; God’s plan is to use us! Why? We might question! But it is His plan. Add in the reference from Luke 19:41-42 and talk about your compassion quotient.

Taking It Home (Application)

8. Evangelism is a key issue that we need to talk about as individuals and as a church family. When you consider the pendulum of “Preaching the Story” vs “Living the Story” where do you think most of us fall? What suggestions, comments, dreams do you have for WPC in this area of evangelism. What key issues do we need to address? Finally, spend some time in prayer for the people in your life you are seeking to influence toward God.

Many of you have asked about getting a copy of last weekend's message as well as the prayer that Craig Groeschel used at the end of his message. The "Franciscan Benediction" is printed below. However, because the message is copyrighted, we are unable to upload it to our website. We have ordered a copy of all the messages from this year's Leadership Summit and they should be in the church library in early October. Pastor Groeschel's message will be included on this DVD. Contact the church library if you would like to put your name on the waiting list to watch the message again! Or, if you would like to purchase your own copy, you can order it locally from the Leadership Centre at 250-491-2432

A Franciscan Benediction

“May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half truths, and superficial relationships, so that you may live deep within your heart. May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom, and peace. May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation, and war, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and to turn their pain into joy. And may God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done. “

“A Story To Tell”

Εὐαγγέλιον

September 26, & 27, 2008

Pastor Mark Burch