

“How To Be Ready To Share Jesus”

Colossians 4:2-6

Sermon Series: “This Is Us”

Introduction: Our fifth TLC Core Value states, “The church is the missionary: Lost people matter to God so the church is here to be the missionary to the community and the world.” Every Christian is a missionary who is called to share Jesus with those around him or her. However, we often struggle to do that. Rebecca Pippert wrote, “Christians and non-Christians have something in common. We’re both upright about evangelism.” So, we may think this is challenging, but we can share Jesus with others through the power of the Holy Spirit. The goal of this message is to equip us to be ready to share Jesus with those around us.

Main Idea: We are called to clearly share the good news of Jesus with others.

How can we be ready to clearly share the good news of Jesus?

1. Prayer (v. 2-4). Paul gave some general instructions regarding prayer in verse 2 and then gave some specific instructions regarding evangelistic praying in verses 3-4. Verse 2 is a command to pray that is modified with three instructions. The instructions tell us that we are to pray persistently, alertly, and thankfully. Then, in regard to evangelism, he told them (and us) to pray:

A. For God to open a door for His Word.

B. For us to speak the gospel clearly as we ought to.

2. Live with wisdom toward unbelievers (v. 5). We are to conduct ourselves in a godly way, particularly in our dealings with unbelievers (the meaning of “those who are outside”). This means that we live with integrity, godliness, kindness, striving to have a good Christian testimony, and apologizing when we blow it.

3. Obediently use the opportunities that God gives us (v. 5).

This is the meaning of “redeeming the time.” It literally means to buy back our God-given opportunities. In other words, we are to be obedient and share with others as God opens the doors of opportunity. Are we being obedient?

4. Be prepared to appropriately speak the gospel (v. 6). In the earlier verses, we saw that Paul was asking for prayer to speak the Word, the gospel of Christ, clearly. In verse 6, he speaks of speaking with grace, seasoned with salt, and knowing how we should answer each one. So, we need to be ready to answer people’s questions. This implies the idea of personal conversation. Commentators differ on the meaning of grace and salt, but I believe they refer to the unmerited favor of the gospel and the conviction of the Law that prepares us for the gospel.

Conclusion: Three practical ways to prepare for sharing the gospel are studying apologetics to be able to answer questions (The God Questions sermon series would be a good starting place), being able to share your spiritual story/testimony, and then knowing how to share the gospel.

An outline for sharing your testimony is: my life before receiving Jesus, how I realized my need for Jesus, how I became a Christian, and how Jesus has changed my life.

Another learning opportunity would be going through the evangelism class online. You can do that by entering <https://trainedup.church/truelifechurch/#/>