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2 Kings 7 - Lepers At The Gate

Then they said to each other, "What we're doing is not right. This is a day of good news and we are keeping it to ourselves."

2 Kings 7:9a

1. God Gave You A _____ To _____

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Matthew 28:19-20

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Acts 1:8

2. Being _____ About My _____ Makes My Story _____

"Then Paul said, "I am a Jew, born in Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, and I was brought up and educated here in Jerusalem under Gamaliel. As his student, I was carefully trained in our Jewish laws and customs. I became very zealous to honor God in everything I did, just like all of you today. And I persecuted the followers of the Way, hounding some to death, arresting both men and women and throwing them in prison. The high priest and the whole council of elders can testify that this is so. For I received letters from them to our Jewish brothers in Damascus, authorizing me to bring the followers of the Way from there to Jerusalem, in chains, to be punished."

Acts 22:3-5

The Whole Truth

3. Being Clear About What _____ Did, Gives My Story _____

"As I was on the road, approaching Damascus about noon, a very bright light from heaven suddenly shone down around me. I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?' "Who are you, lord?" I asked. "And the voice replied, 'I am Jesus the Nazarene, the one you are persecuting.' The people with me saw the light but didn't understand the voice speaking to me. "I asked, 'What should I do, Lord?' "And the Lord told me, 'Get up and go into Damascus, and there you will be told everything you are to do.'

Acts 22:6-10

Memory Verse

"There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3:28

MY NEXT STEP IS TO...

- Invite Jesus to be my Lord and Savior for the first time today
- Memorize Galatians 3:28
- Ask God to show me any area where I'm being a "silent witness" and to provide opportunities to point people toward Jesus
- Get the most out of today's message by attending my Life Group
- Sign up to receive the daily email Easter devotionals



Discussion Questions - Week #8

LIFE GROUPS

QUICK REVIEW

Thinking back to the sermon this weekend, "The Whole Truth", summarize the main point in a sentence or two.

Was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Do you plan on taking any practical steps this week in response to the message?

GETTING STARTED

► One of the main themes in the message was the importance and impact of our story. Take a moment, think back to your childhood, and share your favorite story you were told.

► Share a recent spiritual conversation you have had with someone who doesn't identify as a Christian.

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Pastor Rick shared two of the more well-known biblical commands to share our faith in Matthew 28:19-20 and Acts 1:8. A third well-known passage can be found in 2 Corinthians 5:14-20 where Paul provides both the rationale and understanding of His calling and ours. Read the passage together. How would you summarize Paul's words in your own?

What does Paul suggest should motivate us for the mission we're on?

What do you think it means to you to be Christ's ambassador?

Why do you think God chooses to use unexpected ambassadors such as Paul and ourselves?

How could this passage give you confidence in sharing the good news with those who don't identify as Christians?

2. Read Ephesians 6:18-20 & Colossians 4:2-6. What stands out to you?

What does it tell you that Paul asked for prayers that he would proclaim the good news fearlessly (Eph. 6:20 NIV)?

What do you think it means for your speech to be gracious and seasoned with salt (Col. 4:6)?

How do you think your habit of evangelism would be impacted by a habit of praying for evangelistic opportunities?

What's one thing that stands in the way of you sharing your story more regularly?

FOR PRACTICE

Set aside some time this week to think about those in your life who do not know Jesus. Consider choosing one or two people who you will commit to praying for by name daily. Ask God to lead you in knowing what to pray specifically for them, and ask God for an opportunity to engage them in a spiritual dialogue. Perhaps even asking them, "how can I pray for you?" If you feel led to, consider praying regularly that this person would join us for our Easter services, and then give them one of the invite cards from our worship folder.

SHARE IT

Is there anything you heard or learned in the weekend message or Life Group this week that you want to share with someone you know?

PRAYER REQUESTS

There are 1.8 billion Muslims in the world today. Starting March 22, Muslims will begin observing Ramadan, a month set aside for fasting. Pray that their hearts would be stirred to know the true Messiah and that Jesus would reveal himself to them. Pray for missionaries and indigenous Christ-followers to have fruitful opportunities to share in this season and in unreached areas that Jesus would make himself known in visions, signs, and wonders.