

GREG'S NOTES

A NEW BEGINNING TEACHING OUTLINES

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TELL SOMEONE, PART 5

Crusade Special

You have a sphere of influence. You have a circle of friends—people that listen to you. In many ways, you've earned the right to share your faith with them because you've modeled your faith in decisions you make, in the way that you live, and in the things that you do. Use your influence for God's glory. Take that little step and pray for that person—that their heart will be responsive to the proclamation of the gospel.

What elements must be in place for the gospel to be the gospel?

PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES

1. **To fully appreciate the good news, you must first know the bad news.** We are all sinners separated from God. No matter how good, moral, or religious we try to be, we still fall short of God's standards. That's where Jesus comes in. He paid the price for us. God poured His own wrath and anger on Jesus, who died in our place (see Romans 5:6–8).
2. **If you only promise the glories of heaven and don't warn about the reality of hell, you're not declaring the whole gospel.** I am not saying you should primarily focus on hell, but you shouldn't edit it out of the message. Neither should you just focus on the fringe benefits of salvation (peace, purpose, fulfillment, joy). The biggest thing about salvation is that you are not going to hell anymore.
3. **When you are sharing the gospel, you have to make a beeline to the cross.** The essence of the gospel message is not your testimony, although that builds a bridge, or that Jesus will make you a happier person, even though He will. The essence of the gospel message is that you don't have to go to hell. Instead you can go to heaven because Jesus Christ died on the cross.

RELEVANT REMINDERS

- When we are in sync with heaven, when we are close to the Lord, we will understand that God cares about lost people. And because He cares about them we should care too.
- God is a God of love and justice. He doesn't send anyone to hell. You send yourself there when you live the life you want to live without God.
- The last thing that God wants is for any man or woman made in His image to spend eternity separated from Him in hell. That's why He sent Jesus. Only Jesus was qualified to bridge the gap between a holy God and sinful humanity.

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APPLICABLE ACTIONS

How do you lead a person to Christ? It's a matter of just popping the question. What's the question? "Would you like to ask Jesus Christ to come into your life right now?"

Be like that guy with the big Muskellunge fish and be fool enough to grab it! Go for it!