

Subject: *Bringing Lost Souls to Christ*

Scripture: *Romans 9:1-5*

Jesus came to earth on a mission. ***Luke 19:10*** *For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.* He is the one and only Savior. His mission is now our mission. We can't fulfill the mission without Him, and He won't fulfill the mission without us. Jesus said, "As the Father sent me, so I send you." I want to share three things that we need to reach lost souls and bring them to Christ while there is yet time. D. L. Moody once said this world is a sinking ship and the Lord impressed him, "I have given you a lifeboat to rescue as many as you can. Do it while you can."

OUR BURDEN FOR LOST SOULS (Rom. 9:1-5)

Some of the saddest words in the Bible are found in Psalm 142:4, "No man cared for my soul." The first few verses of Romans 9 echo the burden that Esther had for the Jews who were under a death sentence because of a hateful man named Haman. ***Esther 8:6*** *For how can I endure to see the evil that shall come unto my people? or how can I endure to see the destruction of my kindred?* How can we know about the eternal destiny of lost souls and not be burdened? ***Hebrews 9:27*** *And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.* Death is certain. Judgment is certain. Eternal punishment for the lost is certain.

We need to see lost souls as God sees them. ***2 Corinthians 5:16*** *Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more.* Paul no longer evaluated people by worldly, external standards. From the time of his conversion his one goal was to meet people's spiritual needs in Christ. We need to be soul conscious. Every person we meet, every neighbor, every co-worker, every family member is a soul that will spend eternity in heaven or hell.

OUR PRAYERS FOR LOST SOULS (Rom. 10:1-4)

We may pray for people in many ways: for healing, comfort, guidance, protection, and other blessings, but nothing is as important as praying for their salvation.

Lost people need spiritual eyes to see and understand the truth, a heart to receive and believe the truth, and a will to submit and obey the truth of the Gospel. Lost people need to know their lost condition (Rom. 10). They need to know that Jesus is their only hope.

As we pray for the lost we are not trying to convince God to do something against His will. ***1 Timothy 2:4*** *Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.*

When we pray for the lost this is what we need to pray for:

- Ask God to convict them of sin, righteousness, and judgment (Jn. 16:7-8)
- Ask God to make their hearts receptive to the truth (1 Thess. 2:13)
- Ask God to tear down all barriers and excuses in their minds (2 Cor. 10:3-5)
- Ask God to break their hearts with real repentance (Acts 11:18)
- Ask God to give them new life through the new birth (John 1:11-13)

OUR MESSAGE FOR LOST SOULS (Rom. 10:5-13)

A – Admit

Admit you are a sinner and repent (be truly sorry for your sin and realize it is offensive to God)

Romans 3:10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one.

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

B – Believe

Believe that Jesus is the Son of God and that He died for your sins and rose again from the dead.

Acts 16:31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

C – Confess

Confess Jesus as Lord. Agree with God that Jesus is Lord of all and Lord of your life. A person must be willing to submit and obey (Rom. 10:9-10).

Lost people must have the Gospel or they will not be saved. People can't believe unless they know, and they can't know unless we tell them. That's why we have Way of the Master training. That's why we distribute Every Home for Christ packets with Gospel tracts. That's why we give out Gospel literature at the mobile food pantry. That's why we preach the Gospel at the Haven of Rest. That's why we support and pray for missionaries around the world.

Rescue the Perishing

*Rescue the perishing; care for the dying.
Snatch them in pity from sin and the grave.
Weep o'er the erring one; lift up the fallen.
Tell them of Jesus, the mighty to save.*

*Down in the human heart, crushed by the tempter,
Feelings lie buried that grace can restore.
Touched by a loving heart, wakened by kindness,
Cords that are broken will vibrate once more.*

*Rescue the perishing; duty demands it.
Strength for your labor the Lord will provide.
Back to the narrow way patiently win them,
Tell the poor wanderer a Savior has died.*

*Rescue the perishing; care for the dying.
Jesus is merciful; Jesus will save.*