

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: Articulating the Gospel

PASSAGE: 2 Corinthians 5:11-15

DATE: March 21, 2021

I. Three Motivations for Articulating the Gospel

A. Christ's Greatness (vs. 11)

- "If you want to build a ship, don't drum up people to collect wood and don't assign them tasks and work, but rather teach them to long for the endless immensity of the sea."

B. Christ's Love (vs. 14)

- "If Jesus is precious to you, you will not be able to keep your good news to yourself; you will be whispering it into your child's ear; you will be telling it to your husband; you will be earnestly imparting it to your friend; without the charms of eloquence, you will be more than eloquent; your heart will speak, and your eyes will flash as you talk of his sweet love. Every Christian here is either a missionary or an impostor. You either try to spread abroad the kingdom of Christ, or else you do not love him at all. It cannot be that there is a high appreciation of Jesus and a totally silent tongue about him... If you really know Christ, you are like one that has found honey; you will call others to taste of its sweetness; you are like the beggar who has discovered an endless supply of food: you must go tell the hungry crowd that you have found Jesus, and you are anxious that they should find him too." - Charles Spurgeon

C. Christ's Surrendered Example (vs. 15)

- "And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels." - Luke 9:23-26

II. Practical Ways to Grow in Articulating the Gospel

1. Pray for opportunities and for boldness
2. Become a regular
3. Be fluent in the gospel around believers and unbelievers
 - “To become fluent in a new language, you must immerse yourself in it and commit to practicing it, over and over again. You must use it every day until you actually start to think about life through it. Becoming fluent in the gospel happens the same way—after believing it, we have to intentionally rehearse it (to ourselves and to others) and immerse ourselves in its truths. Only then will we start to see how everything in our lives, from the mundane to the magnificent, is transformed by the hope of the gospel.” – Jeff Vanderstelt
4. Master your testimony
 - “But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.” – 1 Peter 3:15

Benediction

“But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life.” – 2 Corinthians 2:14-16

Reflection/Discussion Questions:

1. How has fear and a lack of urgency impacted your consistency in sharing the gospel?
2. What is the connection between adoring the God of the gospel and articulating the gospel regularly?
3. Which of the three motivations given by Paul (Christ’s greatness; Christ’s love; Christ’s surrendered example) is most helpful in becoming more consistent in sharing the gospel?
4. How can you grow in becoming more gospel fluent towards unbelievers and believers?