

Demonstrate & Declare



Preface

What do you think about when you hear the word “evangelism”? For some people it means knowing the Roman Road, the Four Spiritual Laws, or the wordless book. For others it means knocking on doors or standing on street corners.

But, evangelism does not have to be all or any of those things. Ultimately, it is the revelation of the Good News to people. It is sharing both the Gospel—that Jesus came to earth, fully God and fully man, to die in order to redeem and restore our relationship with God—and sharing our story of how God saved us and how He meets us each and every day. Evangelism is not about saying the “right things,” but rather it is a way of living that both declares and demonstrates Jesus to the world and the people and in our spheres of influence.

When we know who Jesus is and what He has done for us, how can we help but share it with others? When He is our reason for living, we want to tell others—to have them join the journey, to let them know the peace that passes understanding, to introduce them to the Healer and Savior of our souls, the Redeemer of our lives.

And, as followers of the One, True God, we are not just spectators, but we are also invited into the story of redemption—we get to play a part in helping His Kingdom come on earth as it is in Heaven.

In this study, we will look at four different aspects of evangelism. We will take the opportunity to expand our definition and allow Holy Spirit to influence the way we take the peace, power, and presence of Jesus into our homes, workplaces, schools, and communities.

We invite you to not be overwhelmed or dismiss evangelism (“I’m not an evangelist...”) but rather, be open to who and where God is calling you. Step into the story—the divine drama. We can be like the shepherds who:

“After seeing [Jesus], the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child. All who heard the shepherds’ story were astonished ... ”

(Luke 2:17-18)

We get to be the peace, presence, and power of Jesus everywhere we go. We get to be Jesus' hands and feet to everyone we meet. We each have a story that uniquely represents how God saved us from our sins, healed our relationship with Him, and how He invites us daily into deeper communion with Him. When you receive an incredible gift, experience something extraordinary, or discover something that changes your life, you don't keep that to yourself! You share it with people, you make sure people know what happened and how it can affect them too. That is what we get to do with the gift of salvation!

Declaration as Evangelism

Lesson 1

Intro Question

What does declaring your faith mean to you?

Devotional Reading

Read **2 Corinthians 5:17-21**, then spend some time answering the questions below.

17 This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! 18 And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. 19 For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. 20 So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!" 21 For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

What key words or phrases stand out to you and why?

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What is something Holy Spirit highlighted for you?

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What questions come to mind when you read this passage?

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What would you like to say back to God in response?

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Reflection Questions

1. What does it mean to be an ambassador for Christ both from what you learn in **2 Corinthians 5:17-21** and from what you have experienced in your walk with Christ?

2. What is the qualification for being an ambassador? (**2 Corinthians 5:17**)



"[This] role as ambassador stands strikingly different from ambassadors¹ in the political realm of [Paul's] day. The normal pattern of diplomacy involved lesser political powers sending their ambassadors to the greater political powers before whom they would plead their cases. ... Yet, in the gospel, we see an amazing reversal. The all-powerful God sends his ambassadors, seeking reconciliation with those whom he has created but who lack a relationship with him."²

¹ "The term προσβέῳ (presbeuo) [translated as ambassador in this passage] originally was related to the concept of 'being older.' As a general pattern, officials were appointed from among the elders of a people, since age was valued as a basis for wisdom and judgment. So, by the first century, the term came to be used in a technical sense for one who serves as an ambassador or envoy who travels and represents another in an official capacity." (BDAG 861)

² Guthrie, George H., and Robert H. Stein. *2 Corinthians*. Baker Publishing Group, 2015. 311

3. We have a great privilege and invitation as followers of Christ to join with God's plan and be ambassadors of our faith. What do you learn about the importance of declaring your faith from **Romans 10:14-15**?

14 But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? 15 And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, "How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!"

4. It can be important and helpful to go back to the basics even for those who have been believers for a long time. As a reminder, what truth are we declaring? (**Romans 10:9-11**)

9 If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved. 11 As the Scriptures tell us, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced."

5. **Romans 1:16** calls us to not be ashamed of the Gospel. What are some of the things that hinder you from sharing your faith with others?
6. **1 Peter 3:15** says, *"...if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it."* While this isn't the only way we can share our faith, if someone asks about your hope, how would you explain it?
7. **1 Peter 3:16** reminds us to declare our hope in a gentle and respectful way. How have you seen this done well?

How have you seen this done poorly?

8. **Colossians 4:5-6** reiterates the importance of making the most of every opportunity to talk about Jesus.

5 Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity. 6 Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.

As you read this passage, who in your life comes to mind?

How can conversations with them be gracious and attractive?

prayer prompts

USE THE PRAYER PROMPTS BELOW TO RESPOND TO GOD. FEEL FREE TO ADD YOUR OWN AS WELL.

GOD, I THANK YOU FOR THE AMAZING GIFT OF SALVATION AND FOR THE MANY WAYS YOU HAVE MADE MY LIFE NEW. GOD, YOU ARE SO VERY GRACIOUS AND ATTRACTIVE; I LONG FOR OTHERS TO KNOW YOU IN THIS WAY.

GOD, AS I THINK ABOUT THE PEOPLE IN MY LIFE WHO DON'T KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO LIVE IN RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU, I ASK YOU TO GUIDE MY PRAYERS AND MY WORDS.

HOW CAN I BE PRAYING FOR THEM?

HOW CAN I JOIN YOU IN THE WAYS YOU ARE PURSUING THEM?

HOW CAN I BE PREPARED TO SHARE MORE ABOUT WHO YOU ARE WITH THEM?

HOW CAN WE, YOUR CHURCH, OFFER WORDS OF LIFE AND HOPE TO OUR COMMUNITY.

Share Your Story

Our stories are powerful. People can't argue with our stories—we don't have to defend them; they are part of who we are. We can continue to learn how to share our stories because this is one of the main ways we declare the Gospel.

An easy way to start sharing your story is to answer the question, "What has Jesus done in your life?"

Read the testimony and then use the questions on the next page to practice telling your own story.

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I first learned about Jesus from my mother and Sunday school. I said yes to Him when I was eight years old but that yes didn't come with a surrender of my life. It wasn't until I had made a mess of my life with a frantic seeking for acceptance and love that I knew my only hope was to surrender my all to Jesus.

What I noticed immediately after surrendering my life to Jesus was a strong desire to tell everybody about Him and what I felt inside. I felt free and had a hope that I had never felt before and I couldn't stop telling people. My life had changed overnight! I didn't want to do the wrong things that I had done before and I had a hunger to know God. That desire for Him and to tell others has never left me.

Mandy, Salem Alliance Church

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Choose one or two questions to answer from the prompts below to help you tell your story. It doesn't have to be long or extensive.

- Who told you about Jesus and how did they do that?
- How did you first learn about Jesus and what caused you to say yes to Him?
- As you were first getting to know Jesus, what did you notice about who He is and what He does?



How can you see yourself sharing this part of your story with someone else?

Sermon Notes

P R A Y E R R E Q U E S T S

Power as Evangelism

Week 2

Intro Questions

What do you think of when you hear the word “power”?

Power is a significant aspect of our faith—of who God is and what we have in Christ. What are your initial thoughts when you hear that power is an aspect of evangelism?

Devotional Reading

Read **Matthew 9:35-38**, then spend some time answering the questions below.

35 Jesus traveled through all the towns and villages of that area, teaching in the synagogues and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom. And he healed every kind of disease and illness. 36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37 He said to his disciples, “The harvest is great, but the workers are few. 38 So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields.”

What key words or phrases stand out to you and why?

What is something Holy Spirit highlighted for you?

What questions come to mind when you read this passage?

What would you like to say back to God in response?

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Reflection Questions

1. In **Matthew 9:35-38** Jesus both declared and demonstrated the Good News. What were His acts of demonstration?

2. Following Jesus' example, what are some of the ways we can both demonstrate and declare the Gospel (evangelism) through power, both physically and spiritually?


3. According to the verses below, where does power come from?

Acts 1:8

8 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.

Luke 24:45-49

45 Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. 46 And he said, "Yes, it was written long ago that the Messiah would suffer and die and rise from the dead on the third day. 47 It was also written that this message would be proclaimed in the authority of his name to all the nations, beginning in Jerusalem: 'There is forgiveness of sins for all who repent.' 48 You are witnesses of all these things. 49 And now I will send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised. But stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes and fills you with power from heaven."



The idea of living in Holy Spirit power that is demonstrated through miraculous works is, by nature, mysterious. It might even be daunting or uncomfortable. Yet, we have been given Holy Spirit, and therefore, have in us the same power that raised Christ from the dead (**Ephesians 1:19**). Like the disciples, we have been called to preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth (**Matthew 28:19-20**). In addition, we have the power to declare and demonstrate just like the disciples. 17

Read the following passage and answer the questions below.

When Jesus sent out his twelve disciples to preach the Kingdom of God, this was his instruction:

7 Go and announce to them that the Kingdom of Heaven is near. 8 Heal the sick, raise the dead, cure those with leprosy, and cast out demons. Give as freely as you have received!


Matthew 10:7-8

4. What does this mean for you, personally?

5. How have you seen the power of God at work in you, or in those around you, or in those around the world?

6. What could it look like to walk in a deeper relationship with Holy Spirit and His power that is at work in you?

7. How can we encourage each other as we walk in Holy Spirit power?



Through Holy Spirit, we have access to the power Jesus was talking about—the same power that raised Him from the dead. That power allows us to live for Christ in this broken world: in our homes, neighborhoods, schools, jobs, grocery stores, gyms, parks, etc. In addition, He gives us power to pray for healing, to cast out demons, and/or to perform miracles as a part of how He demonstrates Himself to the world. As followers of Christ, we are called to rely on Holy Spirit to live, move, and exist and to share God with the world around us. (**Acts 17:28**)

As we step into the power of Holy Spirit in our lives, we need to be reminded of these four things:

- We step into the power with humility (**1 Peter 5:6**)
- We step into the power with boldness (**Acts 4:31-33; 1 John 5:14-15**)
- We step into the power with patience (**Colossians 4:2; Matthew 7:7**)
- We step into the power with prayer (**James 5:16**)

8. How can you practically live these out in your everyday life?

prayer prompts

USE THE PRAYER PROMPTS BELOW TO RESPOND TO GOD. FEEL FREE TO ADD YOUR OWN AS WELL.

GOD, YOUR POWER IS BEYOND MY UNDERSTANDING AND IS AMAZING TO EXPERIENCE AND BEHOLD. I CAN'T QUITE GRASP THAT YOU ACTUALLY SHARE YOUR POWER WITH US AND GIVE US THE ABILITY TO DO THE THINGS THAT YOU DO.

GOD, AS I THINK ABOUT THE PEOPLE IN MY LIFE WHO DON'T KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO LIVE IN RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU, I ASK YOU TO GUIDE MY PRAYERS, MY WORDS, AND MY ACTIONS.

HOW CAN I BE PRAYING FOR THEM?

HOW CAN I BE PREPARED TO SHARE MORE ABOUT WHO YOU ARE WITH THEM?

HOW CAN I JOIN YOU IN THE WAYS YOU ARE REVEALING YOURSELF TO THEM THROUGH ACTS OF POWER?

HOW CAN WE, YOUR CHURCH, BE AN EXAMPLE OF YOUR MIGHTY POWER TO OUR COMMUNITY?

Share Your Story

Our stories are powerful. People can't argue with our stories—we don't have to defend them; they are part of who we are. We can continue to learn how to share our stories because this is one of the main ways we declare the Gospel.

An easy way to start sharing your story is to answer the question, "What has Jesus done in your life?"

Read the testimony and then use the prompts on the next page to practice telling your own story.

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My journey with Jesus started with listening to my favorite country artist talking about marriage on his podcast. I remember exactly where I was and the feelings that overcame me when he spoke. I didn't know exactly what he meant but I started to listen more intently, especially to the parts about Jesus and God. Then in September 2022 on the last summery day of the year, I took my paddle board out to a "new to us" part of the Willamette River. After about an hour, I was caught up in an eddy that dumped me off my board and sucked me under the water and right into the middle of a whirlpool. My time under the water was incredibly frantic and scary—it was dark, murky, muddy, and dirty. I could see the white bubbles of the surface but couldn't understand why I wasn't popping up to breathe the air. In my moment of giving up, of surrender, I witnessed the most beautiful crystal clear water I've ever seen. In that moment, my posture under water changed and I sunk to the bottom, which allowed me to push off and thrust my body up and breathe air. I am so thankful Jesus noticed me, pulled me from the water, and saved me. It was proof to me that He leaves the 99 for the 1. After that, I continued to listen to my favorite artist as he was the only pathway I knew to find out more about Jesus. I wanted to do the things he talked about like join a local church and dig into community. I was scared as I had never stepped foot in a church on a regular basis. The week before Easter 2023 my boyfriend Steve asked me to go to church with him. I said YES! Glory be to God and now I have been doing all I can to grow in strength, knowledge, and community. I am so thankful Jesus chose me that sunny day on the river!

Karrie, Salem Alliance Church

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Use the prompt below or describe your experience with God's power.

- How did the supernatural power of Jesus draw you into relationship with Him?

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How can you see yourself sharing this part of your story with someone else?

Sermon Notes

Justice as Evangelism

Lesson 3

Intro Questions

What does the word “justice” mean to you?

How have you experienced God’s justice in your life?

Devotional Reading

Read **Luke 10:29-37**, then spend some time answering the questions below.

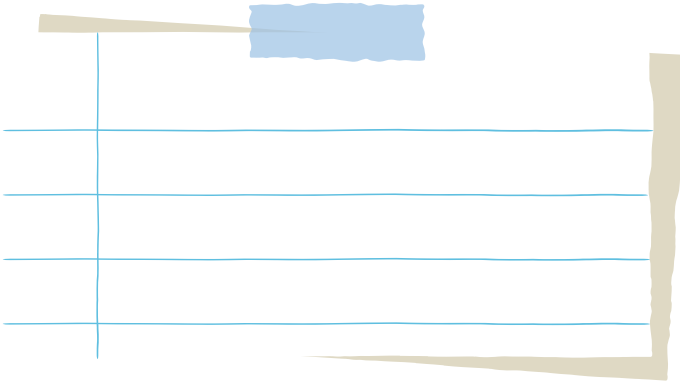
29 The man wanted to justify his actions, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” 30 Jesus replied with a story: “A Jewish man was traveling from Jerusalem down to Jericho, and he was attacked by bandits. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him up, and left him half dead beside the road. 31 “By chance a priest came along. But when he saw the man lying there, he crossed to the other side of the road and passed him by. 32 A Temple assistant walked over and looked at him lying there, but he also passed by on the other side. 33 “Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him. 34 Going over to him, the Samaritan soothed his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. 35 The next day he handed the innkeeper two silver coins, telling him, ‘Take care of this man. If his bill runs higher than this, I’ll pay you the next time I’m here.’ 36 “Now which of these three would you say was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by bandits?” Jesus asked. 37 The man replied, “The one who showed him mercy.” Then Jesus said, “Yes, now go and do the same.”

What key words or phrases stand out to you and why?

What is something Holy Spirit highlighted for you?

What questions come to mind when you read this passage?

What would you like to say back to God in response?



“When we say that God is just, we mean that He is perfectly righteous in His treatment of His creatures. God shows no partiality (**Acts 10:34**), He commands against the mistreatment of others (**Zechariah 7:10**), and He perfectly executes vengeance against the oppressors (**2 Thessalonians 1:6; Romans 12:19**). ... Justice and righteousness, which always work hand in hand, are the foundation of God’s throne (**Psalms 89:14**). ... Because we are created in the image of God (**Genesis 1:27**), we have His heart in matters of morality, courage, love, and justice. He is the complete embodiment of traits we only possess in part. He is complete love (**1 John 4:16**). He is complete goodness (**Psalms 106:1**). He is complete kindness (**Psalms 25:10**). And He is complete justice (**Isaiah 61:8**).”¹

¹ GotQuestions.org. “Home.” GotQuestions.Org, 7 June 2018, www.gotquestions.org/God-is-just.html.

Reflection Questions

1. In what ways did the Samaritan act justly?
2. How is compassion an act of justice?
3. What does it mean to love our neighbor, and how can that be a witness? (See also **Matthew 22:34-40**; **Leviticus 19:18**)



When working for justice in the world, Christians must not go incognito. When we are being 'salt and light' the goal is that, seeing your good deeds, others may 'glorify your Father in heaven' (**Matthew 5:14-16**; **1 Peter 2:12**). That can't happen if people don't know about your faith. We do justice not only for its own sake, but for Christ's and the gospel's sake.

Timothy Keller

4. See **Micah 6:8** (NIV) and **Isaiah 1:17** below. Take some time to think about how God views justice and what that means for us as His followers.

*8 He has shown you, O mortal,
what is good. And what does the
Lord require of you? To act justly
and to love mercy and to walk
humbly with your God.*

Micah 6:8

*17 Learn to do good. Seek
justice. Help the oppressed.
Defend the cause of orphans.
Fight for the rights of widows.*

Isaiah 1:17

5. We know that we are saved by grace and not by “works;” however, it is clear that working for justice is part of what we are called to do when we follow God. What is the relationship between justice and “works”?

6. When we stand up for justice, it demonstrates the character of Jesus. Knowing this, how would you describe justice as evangelism (an act of drawing people to Jesus)?

7. What does standing up for justice look like in your spheres of influence?

prayer prompts

USE THE PRAYER PROMPTS BELOW TO RESPOND TO GOD. FEEL FREE TO ADD YOUR OWN AS WELL.

GOD, I WORSHIP YOU FOR THE JUST, GOOD, AND MERCIFUL KING YOU ARE. YOUR EYES AND HEART FOR THE OPPRESSED ARE SO VERY BIG. HELP MY EYES TO SEE WHAT YOU SEE. HELP MY HEART TO FEEL WHAT YOU FEEL. HELP MY HANDS TO DO WHAT YOU DO.

WHO AND WHAT HAVE YOU PUT IN MY PATH THAT REQUIRE ACTS OF JUSTICE AND MERCY?

HOW CAN WE, YOUR CHURCH, BE AN EXAMPLE OF YOUR JUSTICE AND MERCY TO OUR COMMUNITY?

Share Your Story

Our stories are powerful. People can't argue with our stories—we don't have to defend them; they are part of who we are. We can continue to learn how to share our stories because this is one of the main ways we declare the Gospel.

An easy way to start sharing your story is to answer the question, "What has Jesus done in your life?"

Read the testimony and then use the questions on the next page to practice telling your own story.

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Even as a young child, I felt burdened over the injustices around me.

My family immigrated to the US when I was very young and spent their early years in the US trying to adjust and process what they had seen and been a part of in apartheid South Africa. The world seemed ridiculously unfair, disordered, and unjust. In one of my first experiences in church in middle school, the pastor shared about God's care for the oppressed and the orphan, the last and the least. God's Kingdom justice was attractive and compelling to me: a way of holistic peace and radical love that upended systems of greed, pain, and violence. For me it was an invitation into a relationship with Jesus. He was the one who exemplified and ushered in that way of living, which appealed to me as a broken, grieving, and angry young girl.

Since that time, I have been so privileged to work with and live amongst, what society would deem, the least and the last. In refugee camps, in remote villages, and with those ostracized by society, I have seen the Lord bring dignity, redemption, and transformation that continuously reminds me of the radical and merciful love of Christ. His Kingdom justice is far more fair and honoring than any system of man.

Micky, International Worker, Salem Alliance Church

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Use the prompt below or describe your experience with God's justice.

- How did the justice heart of Jesus draw you into relationship with Him?

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How can you see yourself sharing this part of your story with someone else?

Sermon Notes

Generosity as Evangelism

Week 4

Intro Question

What has generosity looked like in your life—how have you given it, how have you received it?

Devotional Reading

Read **John 13:34–35** and **Matthew 22:37–40**, then spend some time answering the questions below.

34 So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. 35 Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.”

John 13:34–35

37 Jesus replied, “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ 40 The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.”

Matthew 22:37–40

What key words or phrases stand out to you and why?

What is something Holy Spirit highlighted for you?

What questions come to mind when you read this passage?

What would you like to say back to God in response?

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Reflection Questions

1. In your own words, how would you describe the greatest commandment? (**Matthew 22:37-40**)


2. While generosity is often connected to money, it is more importantly connected to love. In what ways would you explain the connection between generosity and love?

3. What might it look like for you to not think of your things and money as yours, but rather things God can use for others?

4. The “American Dream” says that if you work hard, you can get what you want and it belongs to you; you earned it. Your time and your desires are valuable. It is countercultural to give away what you may think is rightfully yours. In what way does generosity challenge you—both monetarily and relationally?

8 God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. 9 Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. 10 For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

Ephesian 2:8-10



God has been generous with us, to the point of giving the life of His own Son so we could be in relationship with Him. Everything He has given to us is a free gift; it is not because of our good works or righteous lives.

5. In what ways has God been generous to you?

6. As you contemplate the extreme generosity of God, how does that generosity inspire or motivate you?
7. In what ways is God calling you to live a life of generosity so others can know God? As you answer, take some time to get creative with what generosity could look like in your life. Consider things like: generosity of time, space, friendship, mealtimes, being interruptible, etc.

prayer prompts

USE THE PRAYER PROMPTS BELOW TO RESPOND TO GOD. FEEL FREE TO ADD YOUR OWN AS WELL.

GOD, YOUR GENEROSITY IS LIMITLESS. YOU HAVE GIVEN ME SO MUCH. I THANK YOU AND I WORSHIP YOU.

GOD, AS I THINK ABOUT THE PEOPLE IN MY LIFE WHO DON'T KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO LIVE IN RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU, I ASK YOU TO GUIDE MY PRAYERS, MY WORDS, AND MY ACTIONS.

HOW MIGHT THEY EXPERIENCE THE DEPTHS OF YOUR GENEROSITY THROUGH ME?

HOW CAN WE, YOUR CHURCH, BE AN EXAMPLE OF YOUR GENEROSITY TO OUR COMMUNITY?

Share Your Story

Our stories are powerful. People can't argue with our stories—we don't have to defend them; they are part of who we are. We can continue to learn how to share our stories because this is one of the main ways we declare the Gospel.

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Read the testimony and then use the questions on the next page to practice telling your own story.

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For many years, I knew that Jesus was my Savior who was always with me—yet He was far away, He tolerated me, and ultimately He was disappointed with me because of sin in my life. As an adult, I feel like I have been getting to rediscover who Jesus is through the help of some books, mentoring, and a gracious spouse—especially when I was going through some dark, difficult times. I have learned that Jesus actually delights in me; He actually is with me and not standoffish. He thinks I am worth saving. My identity in Him is what grounds me now. My life is not perfect, but I have experienced the freedom that comes from walking in the light, as I learn to trust myself with Jesus and with others each day. It was His generous kindness, patience, and grace that drew me to a better relationship with Him. God pursued me relentlessly, not because He had to, but because He wanted to. He is that good. And I hope that others will experience God in that way too.

Aaron, Salem Alliance Church

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Use the prompt below or describe your experience with God's generosity.

- How did your experience of the generosity of God draw you into relationship with Him?

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How can you see yourself sharing this part of your story with someone else?

Sermon Notes

P R A Y E R R E Q U E S T S
