

WEEK 6 – MAKE GOD KNOWN

Essentials – Make God Known.

ICEBREAKER

Think of the most recent "good news" you received. What was it? How did it make you feel?

INTRODUCTION

Many Christians find evangelism scary. The word evangelism comes from two Greek words meaning a good message that's declared, brought, or preached. Those who share their faith are indeed delivering a good message. It's a message that can transform a person's life and eternity.

God has wired us all differently and wants to use our unique personalities and stories to point people to Jesus Christ.

What has been your experience in sharing your faith with those around you? Are you generally timid or bold? Does the word "evangelism" scare you or attract you? Why is that?

INTO GOD'S WORD

Read Romans 1:16 and Romans 10:13-14. Jesus entrusted his untrained disciples to share the gospel with the people around them. What does that communicate to those of us who may feel unequipped or unprepared to share our faith?

Read Matthew 4:19-20 and Luke 19:10. What did Jesus mean when he said he would make his disciples "fishers of men"? Do you see yourself in that way? Why or why not? If the purpose of Jesus is to "seek and save the lost," what does that imply about us as Christ-followers?

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Read Matthew 28:19-20. Referred to as the Great Commission, this passage makes it the responsibility of every Christian to be involved in reaching those without the hope of Jesus. How are the ministries of Fairhaven Church accomplishing that responsibility? How are you involved in the Great Commission?

Read John 1:35-42. What lessons or principles for sharing our faith do we find in this story of Andrew and Peter becoming followers of Jesus, the Messiah? What lessons might you put into practice in your own circle of relationships?

APPLICATION

The New Testament teaches that sharing our faith is the responsibility of every believer. This includes sharing your story, inviting others, and spreading the good news of Jesus' saving grace. Believers are called to be "fishers of men," actively working with Jesus to seek and save the lost. The Great Commission underscores this mandate for all Christians to engage in sharing their faith locally and globally, making disciples of all nations.

As you've grown older in your faith, has the number of your non-Christian friends grown or decreased? Why do you think that is?

Take a few minutes to name someone who needs Jesus and for whom you will pray. Can you plan to speak to them about your faith? Are there any obstacles that would make that difficult?

Spend some time as a group praying for the people you would love to reach with the hope of Jesus. Pray that God would give you the opportunity and the personal courage to speak up. Ask God to prepare that person's heart to be receptive.

DAILY THIS WEEK (Choose one)

What can you do this week to take steps toward sharing your story of faith and hope in Jesus with someone you know who doesn't have a relationship with Jesus?

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- Make a list of several people in your sphere of influence who do not have a relationship with
 Jesus. Pray for them regularly and look for opportunities to share your faith.
- Personally invite two friends to Fairhaven's Sunday services in the coming weeks.
- Write down your faith story—what God has done in your life. Is it clear and concise? Is it understandable? This exercise will help you as you prepare to share your faith with others.

PRAYER

Lord Jesus, thank you that your mission was to "seek and save the lost." I pray that you would also give me a passion to fulfill that same mission in my life. Lord, give me a heart for those who don't know you. Help me to share the same love you showed me with others in my life. Lord Jesus, I pray for those people in my life right now who don't know your grace or hope. I pray that you would soften their heart, that you would open their eyes, and that you would reveal to them your glory through me. I pray for divine opportunities where I can be a "witness" for you. In Jesus' name, amen!

S U G G E S T E D R E S O U R C E S

Have No Fear: Being Salt and Light Even When It's Costly, John C. Lennox 10Publishing, 2018

8 to 15, The World Is Smaller Than You Think, Tom Mercer Oikos Books, 2013

Sharing the Gospel with Ease: How the Love of Christ Can Flow Naturally from Your Life, Thom S. Rainer Tyndale Momentum, 2022

The Master Plan of Evangelism, Dr. Robert E. Coleman Revell, 2010

If you have questions or would like to talk to a Pastor on this subject, please contact your Campus Pastor.