

SIX SHIPS

Week 6: Navigating the Waters of Evangelism
 October 13-14, 2018
 Eric Lerew

**WARM-UP**

Who was your favorite teacher in school or your favorite role model when you were younger? Why?

INTRODUCTION

- Name two qualities you'd like people to associate with you whenever they meet you or hear your name.
 - Who has modeled these qualities for you in life?
- Whose story of faith has inspired you or motivated you? (This may or may not be someone you have met in person.)
- A big part of evangelism is story. How did Jesus use story in his ministry?
- Each of us has a story that can demonstrate God's power and grace to someone else. But often we believe that being sent to tell others is for *some people* and not for *all* of us. Read **Matthew 28:19-20**. How does this passage prove the idea that evangelism is for all of us?
- The word disciple is in the Bible, but not the word discipleship. But, Scripture *does* say to make disciples. So how do you define discipleship?
 - What are some examples of how we could disciple other people?
- As you look at **Matthew 28:19-20** again, how did Jesus include both evangelism and discipleship in this commission to all of his followers?
- Read Paul's words to Timothy in **2 Timothy 2:1-2**. How does this underscore the same thing Jesus said in Matthew?

BIBLE APPLICATION

- Read **John 14:12-14**. What stops you from believing or expecting that you can do as Jesus did and even more?
 - What do you think he meant when he said we would do more?
- What stops you from sharing our story and discipling others?
- Look up these verses for some examples of what hinders us: **2 Timothy 2:7-9**, **1 Peter 5:5-6**, **Philippians 2: 3-5**.

Read **Acts 22:1-23**. Here, Paul tells his story of salvation to a crowd of accusers.

- How can we use Paul's example to tell our own story?
- Why was it important for Paul to share his "before" story?
- Paul didn't make it just about himself. In verse 14-15, how did he turn it to make it about the crowd too?
- Paul also included a call to action. In verse 16, what is it?
- Why would the Jews be unwilling to accept Paul's testimony? (verses 18-22)
- Paul's words were not received warmly. What do you think was the significance of how they acted in verses 22-23 when he said he was going to preach to the Gentiles, rather than the Jews?
- Even though Paul was falsely accused of all sorts of things, how does Acts 23:1 explain how he could be at peace?
- How does Paul's story encourage you?

NEXT STEPS/ACTION

Take time to share your stories with each other. Give a short version of how you came to know and follow Jesus.

- Why is it important to share your story?
- How can doing this on a consistent basis help each of you to feel more comfortable in sharing your story?
- Who do you know that you could share your story with in your everyday life?
- Who do you know that could grow spiritually if only they have someone to teach and disciple them?

PRAYER

Pray for Red Cedar Church, for an increase of evangelism and discipleship that results from people stepping up to take action on Jesus' commission in Matthew. Pray for a renewed sense of mission, even during this time of transition between lead pastors.



PERSONAL STUDY & NEXT STEPS ACTION

Read Ezekiel 37:1-14

This is Ezekiel's vision of the Valley of Dry Bones. Just as God brought life to the dead bones, he will awaken those who are spiritually dead.

- What needs to be awakened in you personally?
- Who is he calling you to disciple (to help awaken or grow spiritually)?
- What could be the result for God's kingdom if you disciplined just one person?

These questions are part of a blog Eric Lerew posted on his website. You're encouraged to use them for personal reflection about your story and sharing it with others.

1. What is my response to Jesus?
2. What is my identity in Christ?
3. What is God's mission?
4. What's my role in God's mission?
5. How is my relationship with God growing?
6. Am I becoming more like Jesus?
7. Where and to whom has God sent me?
8. Who am I discipling?
9. Who is God calling me to lead?

Baptism is your public witness of your decision for Christ, of moving from a seeker of Jesus to a fully engaged believer in Jesus.

Learn more on the website:

redcedarchurch.com/baptism

GROUP PRAYER REQUESTS

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NEXT STEPS TO FULL LIFE

Baptism is coming up on October 20-21. If you have not been baptized by your choice, we invite you to consider this next step in your faith journey.