

Lost Cause | Week 1 - We Need a New Way to Evangelize!

Message Big Idea

If we are going to fulfill the vision of Jesus (Acts 1:8), we must be about the mission of Jesus (Luke 19:10), and that means we must revive evangelism.

Scripture

Acts 1:8, Luke 19:10, Matthew 28:18-20, Romans 5:8 and Genesis 12:1-3

Series Overview

In our new series, Lost Cause, we will learn how to revive our hearts to share God's good news with others. Evangelism is not a lost cause, but a challenge given to all of us to adopt God's great passion and Jesus' personal mission as our own.

Opening Question

What's the most recent good news you've heard? How did you react when you heard it?

Bible Discussion

1. Read Acts 1:8, Luke 19:10 and Matthew 28:18-20. How do these three passages relate to one another, and in what ways do their missions challenge us today? If Jesus has all authority in heaven and on earth (Matthew 28:18-20), how should we respond to his commands?
2. In Romans 5:8, what does God remind us? How does this reveal God's passion for the lost cause or evangelism?
3. Read Genesis 12:1-3. Who did God say this to, and why? What word shows up most often in these verses? How did Jesus "go and bless"? Give specific examples of Jesus using the B.L.E.S.S. practices: B-begin with prayer, L-listen, E-eat, S-serve and S-share your story. How does Jesus' life and ministry help shape your approach to evangelism?

Life Application

4. Today, confusion abounds as to whether evangelism is even okay anymore. What are some of the factors that lead to our confusion? In what ways do you struggle to believe evangelism is appropriate in our society? How does it change your perspective and approach to remember that evangelism is meant to be a blessing? (Genesis 12:1-3)
5. It is God's passionate desire that all of us come to know Him. How did God first make Himself known to you? Who did He use to share His good news with you? What would be different in your life if that person had not shared the good news with you?
6. How do the B.L.E.S.S. practices differ from how you've historically done evangelism? What ideas do you have for implementing these practices into your evangelism? Consider the first step, "beginning with prayer" by listing the names of your eight closest neighbors, coworkers or friends and committing to pray for and interact more with them this week. Jesus promises to be with us as we share his good news and carry out the Great Commission. (Matthew 28:18-20)