

Go Global: Grow the Church
Global Missions Weekend
January 29/30, 2022
Valerie Hopman



centre street church

INTRODUCTION

Romans 10:9-10 says, “If you declare with your mouth Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.” Romans 10:14 poses a valid question: “How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?” Our world is starving for the one true God; when we ask for His help He empowers us to tell unbelievers about the Good News of God’s saving grace so that they, too, may come to know Him. Valerie Hopman shares three points, rooted in Scripture, that ‘grew her faith’, enabling her to reveal Jesus to others.

We don’t HAVE to evangelize, we GET to evangelize.

Some may think that evangelism is inappropriate or offensive; but Scripture tells us that when we reveal Jesus to a hurting world, we are loving them as Christ loves us. Matthew 10:7-8 says, “As you go, proclaim this message: ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.” The way Valerie felt when she thought she’d lost her son is illuminating: We cannot begin to imagine how grieved God is when He loses even one of His children.

Colossians 1:13-14 says, “For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the Kingdom of the son He loves, in whom we have redemption and the forgiveness of sins.” A literal translation of this verse could be: God dragged us, pulling with force and violence, and liberated us from spirits opposed to God, who rule over us. Through Jesus’ death on the cross and His resurrection, He redeemed us so that we would have eternal life with Him – that is Good News!

Evangelism is love in action.

Evangelism is love and truth poured into this world as we show others that the Spirit of God residing in us is a gift of hope and life. Jesus said, in Mark 16:15, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.” God enables us to participate in the growth His Kingdom as we bring unbelievers to Him.

God Owns Hope.

Jesus heals us completely. Don't let your emotions control you! Accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior and begin the most fulfilling relationship you will ever have. Life is hard and you may feel it's hypocritical to speak to others because you don't have it 'all together'. However, the world is tired of perfect Christians, so admit you have tough days as you struggle and search for answers. Then reveal that your God is good, faithful and will never leave nor forsake you, and that's why you serve Him!

Jesus, in Luke 15:4 said that when shepherds lose even one sheep, they leave the other 99 sheep, search for the lost one, and bring it home, rejoicing! Our world desperately needs good shepherds – evangelism will bring others to God!

IN - PURSUE RELATIONSHIP

1. What have you been excited about and interested in lately? It could be a new hobby, a new intellectual pursuit, a new job, etc.
2. When you go for a walk, how do you interact with other walkers?

UP - PURSUE GOD

Read Matthew 10:7-8, 14

3. Discuss what Jesus expected the disciples to do when He sent them to spread the news of His kingdom. What might this look like in our lives?

Read Mark 16:15, Luke 15:3-7, Colossians 1:13-14, 1 John 3:1

4. From these Scriptures what is God's disposition toward people? How does this shape our approach to evangelism?

OUT - PURSUE MISSION

5. In this weekend's message, Val said, "Don't be led by emotions, lead your heart and be led by the Spirit of God." When it comes to evangelism, how have you experienced the struggle between your emotions and God's Spirit?
6. Discuss how our words and actions in obedient response to Jesus change us but also those around us.

For Personal Reflection/Prayer:

Take a moment to remember the first time you encountered God and tasted of His powerful, sweet love for you. You decided, "I will serve this God, the King of kings and Lord of lords, the One who Redeems, the One who Restores, the One who I can trust, for the rest of my life." Remember that, and then go, testify because He is your only hope and the only hope of the world.

THE WORD (NIV)

Matthew 10:7-8, 14

7 As you go, proclaim this message: 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' 8 Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.

14 If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, leave that home or town and shake the dust off your feet.

Mark 16:15

15 He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.

Luke 15:3-7

3 Then Jesus told them this parable: 4 "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? 5 And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders 6 and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' 7 I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

Colossians 1:13-14

13 For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

1 John 3:1

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.