

**Created for This
Share- Session #5
Small Group Notes**

Introduction:

What context or when have you found the greatest opportunities or ways to have gospel centered conversations with others?

What have been in the past your greatest fears or excuses you used for not having a gospel conversation?

Share about an experience or person that is very inspirational to you personally. What motivated you to share about that person or experience? How much did love factor help you to share about them?

For this discussion, we are going to discuss how we were created to share. We will see that before we can truly begin to share about the love of Christ, it needs to mean something personally to us. It's when we share not from a place of love that our gospel conversations may be received with hardness or coldness.

Discuss:

1. Romans 10: 1-8

Explain: In Romans 9, Paul explained that Jews, people who should have accepted God's Son, rejected Him instead. In chapter 10, Paul pointed out the Jews were zealous for God, but in the wrong way. They put their faith in their zeal as a work to be saved, however, the difficult task of obtaining righteousness is not for us to undertake. It's already been done! Christ came down from heaven, suffered the punishment of our sin, died on the cross, rose, and ascended into heaven. So, any attempt to win righteousness by bringing Christ down from heaven is unnecessary. And any attempt to bring Christ up from the dead is equally unnecessary. To do so denies Christ's incarnation, death, and resurrection. So, what is our responsibility? It is simply to receive the message of faith and then to share that message with others. Therefore, all believers should have heartfelt desires and prayers for lost people to be saved.

In verses 1-4, Paul writes about the zeal of the people. How do you define "zeal"? What do you think it means to be zealous for the Lord? What are reasons that people try to equate zeal to being saved? How are they wrong?

In verses 5-7, Paul shows how the righteousness of Christ is not based on our works. What would you say to someone who insists that this message of righteousness by faith alone is just too simple, that there has to be more we have to do to earn God's love?

Read verse 8, What do you think it means that the faithful say: “The Word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart.” Why does knowing that God is near you in every conversation we have impact the way we speak and share with people? How could it free us to have more gospel conversations?

2. Read Romans 10:9-13

Explain: Paul states the way in which salvation is justified in someone’s heart when they recognize the work of Jesus on the cross and the gift of eternal life being offered. While our confession is not meant to be a work towards someone being saved, it is admitting our need of Jesus and our desperation to fill the emptiness of our lives with the presence of Jesus. Therefore, Paul is citing biblical support for the universal offer of salvation. Salvation is for both Jew and Greek (i.e., Gentiles) since the same Lord (Gk kurios, v. 12) is rich in mercy to all. The promise is for all who call on the name of the Lord (kurios, v. 13). As the prophet Joel said, “Everyone who calls on the name of Yahweh will be saved” (Joel 2:32). Jesus is Lord, or Yahweh.

What does it mean to “call on the name of the Lord”?

How has Christ secured salvation that is found exclusively through calling on the name of the Lord?

How does the exclusivity of this claim propel followers of Jesus to mission?

3. Romans 10:14-17

Explain: What must occur for someone to call on the name of the Lord? Someone must first be sent to proclaim the gospel message, and then listeners must pay attention and believe. In the absence of any one of these factors, no one can call on the name of the Lord. Therefore, the Lord uses us, even when we feel doubts or struggle with having to know all the “right” answers, to share the good news of Jesus! The important truth to take away is that we are all called to share our story of how our lives have been changed by Jesus!

How were the questions Paul stated in these verses meant to motivate his readers toward sharing the gospel? How is faithful obedience to the mission of Jesus always beautiful?

How does this passage show how God has made the gospel good news for the whole world? How should this give us further confidence to live on mission for Jesus no matter where we are or what we are going through?

Go around the group and share your life before Jesus, when Jesus saved you, and how your life has changed since knowing Jesus.