

MESSAGE TITLE: How Will Everyone Be Saved?

SCRIPTURE: Romans 10:13-17

KEY TRUTH

This passage of Scripture describes the sequence of events that must take place for everyone who will be saved to be saved.

GETTING STARTED

In Romans 10:14, Paul shared how God saves people. It is not through seeing His handiwork in creation (see Rom. 1:20). It is not through our own good works (see Rom. 9:32). Instead, it is through the sharing of the gospel. No one will be saved apart from hearing the gospel and believing in Christ as Savior and confessing Him as Lord. We are God's chosen instrument through which God declares His gospel message to the world. Together, our church can spread the gospel message in neighborhoods throughout Brevard county and even around the world. This passage coincides with our Missions Week emphasis.

OBSERVATION

How many questions does Paul ask in Romans 10:13-17? Why do you think he asked so many questions in this one passage? What's he driving at here?

Read verse 13. Here Paul quotes Joel 2:32. How does Paul say people are saved from their sins?

In verse 14, Paul says that a preacher must proclaim the gospel for people to hear it. Is he implying that only paid church staff or pastors can share the gospel?

What chain of events does Paul outline in verses 14 and 15 that must happen for a person to be saved? Consider this: if a link in the chain is missing, no one can call on the name of the Lord to be saved.

Why does Paul assert that those who bring good news have beautiful feet? Paul is quoting Isaiah 52:7. Read an explanation of this verse in the Commentary section to more fully understand how appropriate this quote is.

According to verse 16, is hearing the gospel enough to be saved? Why or why not?

Read verse 17. How does Paul summarize his message on the importance of sharing the gospel?

APPLICATION

Why do you think God chose people to spread the gospel? What do we learn about God from His choice to spread the gospel through people like us?

God doesn't need us to deliver the gospel to the world. If He wanted, God could write the gospel in the clouds or proclaim it from the heavens. God doesn't need us, but He has chosen us as His instruments through which the gospel would be proclaimed to all nations (Acts 1:8; Matt. 28:18-20). God chose to spread the gospel through us because He loves us and delights in sharing His work with us. Ask God to impress on your heart the names of 5 people who are far from God. Begin praying for their salvation and asking God for the opportunity to share the gospel with them.

Consider partnering with our Missions Ministry by completing a Mission Commitment Card if you have not already done so. The card is attached to this group discussion guide.

PRAYER

Ask our Heavenly Father to help us fully understand the gospel so that we might clearly articulate it to our lost friends and family members. Ask Him for help in applying the gospel to our lives each day. Thank God for calling us out of our sin to join Him in His kingdom work. Ask God to give the members of your group boldness to speak the gospel to those around them this week.

SHARE POINT

Read and review the application questions. Share with someone in your life how God's Word is changing you into a growing disciple. Encourage that person to do the same. That person could be a family member, a friend, a co-worker or a neighbor.

COMMENTARY NOTES

10:13 God bestows his saving grace on all, both Jews and Gentiles, who call on Him.

10:14-15 Calling requires faith. In the Old Testament, calling on the name of the Lord was a metaphor for worship and prayer (Gen. 4:26; 12:8; Ps. 116:4). No one can call out to God who has not believed in Him. Faith requires hearing. More than anything else, this question is the crux of all evangelistic activity since the first century. God has ordained that people must hear (or read, or otherwise understand the content of) the word of God in order to be saved. One who knows the gospel must communicate it to one who does not know it.

10:16-17 Many of the Jews in Paul's day listened to the gospel proclaimed and simply did not believe. The Gentiles heard too, and many embraced it. Paul's citations show that the Gentile conversion was predicted in the OT. Ultimately, all peoples are a disobedient and defiant people. Israel was singled out in this way due to their

consistent rejection of God's message and messengers (see Ac 7:51-60). Paul's conclusion is this: one can come to faith only through hearing the gospel, and the specific message that must be heard is the word of Christ, which is the good news about Jesus Christ as the crucified and risen Savior of the world. And people cannot place their faith in a message they have not heard.

Isaiah 52:7 In the ancient world, news was carried by a herald or official messenger. In this verse, the herald announces the end of hostilities and the fact that God reigns as King over his people. The feet of him who brings good news refers to someone like this herald who announces a great deed, usually a victory.

SOURCES CONSULTED

ESV Study Bible

www.smallgroup.com

HCSB Study Bible