

AGAPE HOUSE OF WORSHIP

MIDWEEK SERVICE/BIBLE STUDY

Study Series: Standing Strong in Spiritual Battles

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

Part 4: The Shoes of the Gospel of Peace

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Ephesians 6:10-18 10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the [a]wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of [b]the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, having girded YOUR WAIST WITH TRUTH, having put on THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, 15 and having shod YOUR FEET WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE; 16 above all, taking THE SHEILD OF FAITH with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the SWORD OF THE SPIRIT, which is the word of God; 18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—

QUESTION: What does it mean to “put on the WHOLE ARMOR of God”?

Ephesians 6:15(NKJV) and having shod YOUR FEET WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE.

Preparation: The act of preparing. The state of being prepared.

1 Peter 3:15(NIV) But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,

Colossians 4:5-6(NIV) 5 Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. 6 Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

The Gospel of Peace

QUESTION: What is the gospel?

Daniel 2:44, Matthew 4:17, 23, Mark 16:23. Luke 24:46-47. John 1:12. John 3:16. Matthew 11:28-30. Luke 4:18-21. Ephesians 2:8-9. Romans 10:9. Romans 14:10. 1 John 4:15. 1 John 5:11-12. Colossians 1:13

When it comes to giving the core beginning central message of the Gospel of the Kingdom one must understand that they are submitting their lives to the leadership (Lordship) of a risen Messiah who has a plan for their lives. When someone submits their lives to Jesus they have a strong foundation for Jesus to lead them. Laying down our lives to the leadership of Jesus is the message people need to hear. Confessing sin falls under laying down our past to His rule. Finding eternal life happens when one puts Jesus in charge of his life.

Tips for sharing the gospel: Developing a lifestyle of evangelism

You don't have to be an extrovert to share the gospel, neither do you have to be good at sales

Find your custom; what works for you! Jesus had a custom-Luke 4:16. Paul had a custom- Acts 17:2. A custom with evangelism is where you purposely do some form of evangelism regularly. Find what works for you and do it again and again and again. The key is to do it with The Holy Spirit over and over. How do you find out what works? By praying and trying. Ask God to give you a custom He wants you to do. He wants to reach the lost more than you do, so you can have confidence in getting an answer. Examples- Join the Love Roselle Campaign, Use a question from your story or a testimony to start a conversation, visit people in nursing homes/senior citizen centers, orphans, serve the poor, etc. You don't have to do everything, just do something consistently.

Embrace Compassion. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4. **Be Generous.**

Power Evangelism-Your secret weapon. Power is central to the sharing of the Gospel. When Jesus sent people out in His name to be witnesses, they were sent with power or at least a testimony of a miracle done in their lives. Luke 9:1-6. Matthew 10:1-20. Luke 24:49. Acts 1:8.

1 Corinthians 2:1-5. Apostle Paul purposely kept the power of the Holy Spirit central to his evangelism and encouraged people to earnestly desire the supernatural gifts of the Spirit. 1 Corinthians 14:1.

Healing + evangelism modelled in Acts 3; Prophecy + evangelism modelled by Jesus in John 1:43-51.
Word of knowledge + evangelism- John 4.

WHAT TO SAY

Healing scenario- Ask about a person's condition. "What happened? Listen for reply. "I am sorry that happened. This may sound weird, but sometimes when I pray for someone, they get healed. Could I say a quick prayer for you?"

Prophecy scenario- "Has anyone told you anything amazing about yourself today?" OR "This may sound weird, but sometimes God shows me things He likes about people, can I tell you what He showed me?"

Word of Knowledge scenario- "This may sound weird, but do you happen to have a problem right here?" Listen and if yes: "That is amazing. Sometimes God shows me things He wants to heal. Can I say a quick prayer for you?" If no, ask if there is something else you could say a quick prayer for.

Friendship scenario- "What did you do this weekend?" Listen. "I had a good weekend, church was really good." (Also, if they say something that would be good to pray about, you may offer to pray for that.)
Transition- "God has been a big part of my life. What about you? What is your spiritual journey?"

Leading to Commitment

How do you go from the moment where the person seems open for more to a commitment to Christ? First, know the essentials of salvation, how to explain them in a short time and communicate it in terminology that is meaningful to the person.

Example: "Has anyone told you that Jesus is crazy in love with you and has a plan for your life?" Listen for their response. Then say something like: "God's plan is to help you become who He created you to be and do what He created you to do. He wants to forgive you for everything you have done wrong and to have a real relationship with you. This begins by talking to God and genuinely giving your life to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Would you like to give your life to Jesus to begin that journey?" Listen, and if yes, reply: "I will help you talk to God by leading you in prayer. It only matters if you mean it. Let us pray."

