

# ON MISSION WITH GOD

## The Gospel that we present – PART III

*Home Group Leaders Notes*

*Evangelism is from God and by God. It is His heart and His calling on man to return to a state of union.*

What bearing must this have on believers and their influence?

### **WHAT IS THE GOSPEL WE PRESENT?**

- Man's sin? – NO
- God's Wrath? – NO

#### **1. We present the LOVE of God..**

*"For SO LOVED the world, that HE GAVE his only begotten SON"*

- We must help people understand how God's love is different from man's emotional or physical love.
- God's love is based on his choosing not on our deserving.
- God's love is because of our worth. We are made in His image.

#### **2. We present the GRACE of God.**

*"For by grace are we saved, not by works of righteousness". Eph 2:4-10*

*"In his justice he declared ALL sinners, that ALL might receive the gift of life".*

- We must help people understand Grace. God's unmerited favour.
- People are programmed for performance, they struggle to accept God's choosing.
- The willingness to receive Grace is our first step in reconciliation with God. There is no other standing.

#### **3. We present the PURPOSES of God.**

*"For we know the plans I have for you says the Lord"*

*"We are his workmanship, created in Christ for good works"*

*"You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation," 1 Pet 4*

*"My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you" Gal 4:19*

- In God's sovereign will he has a wonderful purpose for his creation. We are the only part of it that has rebelled in our own will and live for purposes other than God's.
- Repenting and living for these purposes will ensure the pleasure of God in our lives.

#### **4. We present the WORK of God.**

*<sup>2 Cor 5:17</sup> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the **ministry of reconciliation**:*

- God is at work in each of our lives. We need to be honest and open with our lives. As we allow people into our lives, they will see God's power, providence, grace and forgiveness displayed in real life.
- God's work of salvation is holistic. Having saved us from the penalty of sin, he is forming Christ in us. We are therefore being transformed, healed, renewed and regenerated. Our past, present and future, our hurts, hang-ups and habits, our broken relationships and severed ties, all come under the comprehensive 'putting right of man by God'. Not just the forgiveness of our sin. But the changing of our hearts to hate sin and love God. This is the mighty Work of God.

**Salvation** – is the comprehensive putting right of man by God, objective as well as subjective, past, present and future; personal as well as corporate.

### **HOW DO WE PRESENT THE GOSPEL?**

Acts 2:22-24, 36-41; 3:12-21, 26; I Corinthians 15:3-8

#### **Five essential elements**

1. Christ died for our sins.
2. He was buried & was raised on the third day
3. Repentance
4. Faith in Jesus' name
5. Forgiveness