

A FAITH WORTH SHARING

PRECEPT

EPHESIANS 6:14-20

¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. ¹⁹ Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

EPHESIANS 2:1-3

¹ As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

PROMISE

One way we can know that our relationship with Jesus is real is that we have a desire to share our faith with others. We're told not merely to keep the faith, but to share it. If it is a love worth finding, then it should be a love worth sharing. It does not matter how eloquently you preach, nor how beautifully you sing, nor how generously you give, nor how faithfully you attend, nor how circumspectly you walk; there is no substitute for sharing your faith with others. Psalm 126:5-6 says if we go and sow, weep and reap, we will understand the secret of sharing our faith. Explaining why evangelism is so important helps people understand the necessity and value of sharing their faith.

Acts 4:12 tells us that Jesus is the only one who can save us. People are lost without Christ. He is the only way for people to get to heaven. God could have written the Good News in the sky. Instead, he has chosen to share it through us. Billions around the world (and in our neighbourhoods) need to hear it. If we don't share it, who will?

The Bible says, *"When I tell wicked people they will die because of their sins, you must warn them to turn from their sinful ways so they won't be punished. If you refuse, you are responsible for their death"* (Ezekiel 3:18). God makes it clear that if people around us are headed for hell and we don't share the Gospel with them, we're responsible. People are in our lives for a reason. If we don't tell them about Jesus and they spend an eternity away from God, that's on them—but it's on us, too. The Bible is also clear that Jesus' mission is "to seek and to save the lost" (Luke 19:10). Because we were created to be like Christ, our mission should be the same as his. In fact, in John 17:18, Jesus spells this out even more specifically: "In the same way that you gave me a mission in the world, I give them a mission in the world." Jesus repeats this message over and over in the New Testament. If I'm a Christian, my mission in life isn't optional—it's a command. We're either obedient to do what Jesus did or we're not.

2 Peter 3:9 says that God "does not want anyone to be lost". That means you'll never look at anyone whom God doesn't want to save. No one is too bad. No one is too forgotten. No one is too far from God. If God wants every person to be saved, we should, too.

PRACTICE

1. Sharing is Caring. How important is it for us to share our faith? What benefits come to us and others from sharing our faith?

2. Sharing Your Faith Today. Have you ever shared your faith in Jesus with someone? What happened?

PRAYER

I. Life Worship

- Pray for the team to serve God the best they can through music and leading the people of God in worship.

II. Life Kids

- Pray for more volunteers to teach the next generation of who God is and how they can obey Him.

III. Life Link

- Pray for them to grace our first-timers with warm welcome and smiles as they usher them on our services.

IV. Life Sports

- May this be an effective avenue to invite more people to know God & experience His transformative power.

V. Life Courses

- Pray for Bro. Mario and all the students to grow in knowledge & love of God.

VI. Volunteers

- May volunteers serve God and His people with love & passion as they use their spiritual gifts for His glory.

VII. Life Groups

- As we continue to grow, may all our members be ushered to join life groups where they can grow & belong.