

John 4:31-38

No Excuses!

INTRO: List some of the reasons why believers are not more actively involved in personal evangelism and local outreach? May the Holy Spirit eliminate these excuses this morning as God's people receive God's Word in trusting faith.

I) **Three _____ for Evangelistic Negligence.**

(John 4:27-35; Acts 1:8; Mark 16:15)

1) _____ **and Prejudice.**

(John 4:27; Luke 5:31f)

2) _____ and Misplaced _____.

(John 4:31-34)

3) The Procrastinators “I’ll _____ mindset.”

(John 4:35)

II) **The Believer’s Mission**

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A) Our Mission is _____.

B) Our Mission is Great, But the Rewards are _____.

C) Our Mission is to Simply _____ Whatever God Calls Us
to _____. It's really that simple!

Personal Application and Small Group Reflection Questions in the spirit of James 1:19-22

- 1) If we support missionaries (near and far) why does King Jesus exhort all believers to participate in personal evangelism? Acts 1:8; 2 Corinthians 5:11-21; Mark 16:15.
All believers are commanded to be fisher's of men though only some have been given the "gift of evangelism." Like so many areas of theology it is both/and not either/or.
- 2) What excuses do you sometimes use for why you are not as active in personal evangelism and local outreach as you ought to be? What fears keep you from being more faithful in this spiritual discipline? Reach out to our deacon of local outreach/personal evangelism (Evan Jones) if you want some personal encouragement/help in this area of ministry. In our church believers can grow in this discipline by serving in our children's/youth ministries, helping out with after school "Good News Clubs" on public school campuses, going on various short-terms mission trips, inviting friends/neighbors/classmates to evangelistic events like our Ladies Tea, and the list goes on and on.
- 3) Do you feel a sense of urgency to share the gospel with people in your life? Note 2 Peter 3; Hebrews 9:27; Acts 17:29-33. Luke 13:1-9. How does the Lord often use trials and tribulations to help prepare the soil (the unregenerate heart) for the sowing of the gospel seed?
- 4) How does "pride and prejudice" keep us from Christ-like evangelism? Note sermon.
- 5) Why bother? When is the last time you thought this way about someone in relationship to evangelism or discipleship? Why bother interacting with _____. How does the unlikelyst of converts story in John 4 speak to this attitude? What are some other unlikely conversion stories (from a human perspective) that are recorded in the New Testament?
- 6) Does Psalm 40:8 and John 4:34 describe your heart's cry? How does one come to have a single-minded focus for the things of the Lord? How do we grow in this respect?
- 7) Read John 4:27-34. One pastor wrote, "*By His example Jesus shows us that the kingdom of God shall have priority over all bodily comforts.*" Has the Body of Christ been faithful to the Great Commission (mission) during the global pandemic of 2020? "What comforts in your life have caused you to step back from the dangers of the mission field?"
- 8) Jesus understood his life priorities and always did the will of Him who sent Him. How can we grow in this area of faith and obedience?
- 9) Who do you need to share the gospel with right now? What is stopping you?
- 10) Take time to pray specifically for the opportunity, for courage, and that God would give you the right words when you do have that conversation. Colossians 4.
- 11) How does God's sovereignty give us freedom to share the Gospel without fear of rejection (or the fear of messing it up)?
- 12) List some of the ways that personal evangelism is a blessing. We often view it as a obligation rather than as a privilege. Note point II, B.