

HERE I AM, SEND ME Part 1 – THE CALL

The greatest PRIVILEGE this side of heaven is to LEAD someone TO THE LORD.

→ Have you ever experienced that thrill? What happened & how did it feel?

The GUILT TRIP: What's the first word that jumps into head when you hear the word 'evangelism?'

1. DREAD 2. GUILT 3. INADEQUACY

Are They RIGHT? Is evangelising our MOST IMPORTANT call?

- * Anything you put BEFORE relationship with God will end up becoming LEGALISTIC.

- * Sharing your faith, like everything else, is intended to be the CONSEQUENCE of your relationship with the Lord

- * A grateful RESPONSE to what Jesus has done for you.

- * If that's case, the OUTPUT becomes an OVERFLOW; the inevitable OUTCOME of the strength & depth of your relationship with the Lord.

→ What's the danger of sharing your faith out of guilt rather than gratitude?

→ Have you ever experienced evangelism as a 'legalistic duty?'

How can we keep it a joyful overflow of our relationship with Jesus?

The BALANCED MOTIVATION

1. Acknowledge the COMMISSION (Matt 28:18-20)

- * IMPERATIVE & ACTIVE, but RELATIONAL.

→ Read Matthew 28:18–20. What stands out to you about how Jesus frames the Great Commission—as a relational command rather than just an order?

2. The Message is GOOD NEWS (Luke 2:10-11)

- * Trouble is, religion has SKEWED the message, making it seem like BAD NEWS.

- * Religion takes TRUTH & SQUEEZES the JOY out of it.

- * Takes the GOSPEL & strips the GOOD out of it.

- * Our opportunity: Fewer people ever get to HEAR the good news, & into that, we get to SHARE & BE good news.

→ In what ways has religion (yours or others') ever distorted the good news into something that felt like bad news?

→ How does your life and presence either reinforce or contradict the message that the gospel is good news?

3. Our Role is as AMBASSADORS (2 Cor 5:18-20)

- * EMBRACE the role; ADOPT it as a LIFESTYLE.

- * "I REPRESENT the KING, so HOW can I do that skilfully, right here, right now?"

→ What does it mean to live as an ambassador for Christ in your daily context (work, home, friendships)?

4. The Heartbeat is, we LOVE PEOPLE (Matt 9:36–38)

- * We share our faith, because Jesus LOVED them enough to DIE for them.

- * We share our faith, because the COMPASSION of the Holy Spirit rises within us.

- * We share our faith, because they NEED what we ALREADY HAVE ... i.e. reconciliation & redemption.

→ Jesus was moved with compassion (Matt 9:36–38). When was the last time you felt that kind of compassion for someone who doesn't yet know Jesus?

SUMMARISING the CALL

1. Become MORE LIKE Jesus, so people can SEE what He's REALLY LIKE.

- * Opposite = Be a PHARISEE.

→ What do you think it looks like in real terms to 'become more like Jesus so people can see what He's really like?'

2. Have frequent & deep ENCOUNTERS with His LOVE, so that you really GET it & can therefore successfully GIVE it.

- * Opposite = Being SHALLOW & CLOSED, BUSY & DISTRACTED, RELIGIOUS & COLD.

→ Why does 'lukewarm' love keep you from sharing the gospel & how do you personally go about keeping yourself rooted & grounded in His love?

3. BE, ACKNOWLEDGE & TELL the good news.

- * Opposite = Be BAD NEWS, just as worldly, grumpy, critical as everyone else.

→ How can you 'be' good news? How does being generally negative harm a person's witness?

4. SHINE the light, SOW seed, TRUST the Lord

- * Pray for OPPORTUNITIES & when you get them, make it ABOUT JESUS.

- * We shine, we sow, we trust & all the rest is WELL ABOVE our PAYGRADE.

→ What are some natural, non-forced ways you could shine the light, sow the seed, and trust the Lord in your current circles of influence?

→ What does it mean to say 'all the rest is above your paygrade' (1 Cor 3:6)?