

— Love Declared · Love Demonstrated —

Part 6 - The Power of an Invitation

The Context of Invitation: Everyday Relationships

We have all come to Jesus through a relationship.

+ Romans 10:14

“God sends the church, the whole body of Christ, to be messengers of the gospel within our everyday relationships.”

William Temple once stated the act of bringing someone to Jesus, “Is the greatest service that one [person] can render another.”

The Passion for Invitation: Our Intimacy with the Father

Romans 1:16, *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes...”* (NIV)

Messengers of Christ's Invitation

1. God sends *everyday people*
2. who have *encountered Jesus*
3. with the *courage to share*

Everyday people ...

Matthew 4:18-19

Acts 4:13

- + What qualifies us as messengers of the gospel isn't anything more than a simple following of Jesus.

Encountered Jesus....

"We need to encounter Jesus for who He really is for us—Lord and Saviour."

Do you know who the greatest messenger recorded in the gospel is?

John 4... a whole town for Jesus.

Courage to Share...

Story of Stephen - Acts 2:56 "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."

"We can't afford to let the gospel become just like background music to our lives.

God is sending everyday people, who have encountered Jesus, with the courage to share the invitation.

Albert McMakin—celebrate the invite

Billy Graham, "I don't need a successor, only willing hands to accept the torch for a new generation."

Discussion Questions

1. Who in your life was helpful in you taking your first steps towards Jesus?
2. Have you ever invited someone to hear the gospel or personally shared with someone in your life? If so, what happened?
3. Do you have a relationship in which you are currently helping someone take a step towards Jesus? What's been helpful, or unhelpful, along the way?
4. How does your relationship with Jesus effect the way you relate to people around you? Have you noticed shifts in what you say (declare) or do (demonstrate) in your relationships as you draw close to God?
5. What stops you from talking about Jesus in your everyday relationships? What helps to inspire you to share about Jesus?

Do you know the power of an invitation?

Try This: On April 19 Riverlife is launching Alpha. It's the perfect way to introduce Jesus to someone wanting to explore questions of faith and life. Every invitation you make is worth celebrating! Would you consider inviting someone you know and come along with them?