10: Evangelistically Bold Pastor Dennis Rouse February 24-25, 2018

Matthew 28:19 NKJ

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..."

Mark 16:15 NIV

He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation."

Luke 24:47 NKJ

"...and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem."

Acts 1:8 NLT

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Matthew 9:10-13 MSG

Later when Jesus was eating supper at Matthew's house with his close followers, a lot of disreputable characters came and joined them. When the Pharisees saw him keeping this kind of company, they had a fit, and lit into Jesus' followers. "What kind of example is this from your Teacher, acting cozy with crooks and riffraff?" Jesus, overhearing, shot back, "Who needs a doctor: the healthy or the sick? Go figure out what this Scripture means: 'I'M AFTER MERCY, NOT RELIGION.' I'M HERE TO INVITE OUTSIDERS, NOT CODDLE INSIDERS."

3 Areas of Boldness That Open Hearts to Christ:

1. Bold Love

Matthew 22:35-40 NLT

One of them, an expert in religious law, tried to trap Him with this question: "Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?" Jesus replied, "'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: 'LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments."

Our Challenge: To love people as much as we love ourselves

Ephesians 5:1-2 MSG

Watch what God does, and then you do it, like children who learn proper behavior from their parents. Mostly what God does is LOVE YOU. Keep company with him and learn a life of love. Observe how Christ loved us. His love was not cautious but extravagant. He didn't love in order to get something from us but to give everything of himself to us. LOVE LIKE THAT.

2. Bold Influence

Matthew 5:13-16 MSG

"Let me tell you WHY YOU ARE HERE. You're here to be salt-seasoning that brings out the God-flavors of this earth. If you lose your saltiness, how will people taste godliness? You've lost your usefulness and will end up in the garbage. Here's another way to put it: You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don't think I'm going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I'm putting you on a light stand. Now that I've put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! KEEP OPEN HOUSE; BE GENEROUS WITH YOUR LIVES. BY OPENING UP TO OTHERS, YOU'LL PROMPT PEOPLE TO OPEN UP WITH GOD, THIS GENEROUS FATHER IN HEAVEN."

Our character is a reflection of either darkness or light!

3. Bold Servanthood

1 Corinthians 9:19-23 MSG

Even though I am free of the demands and expectations of everyone, I have voluntarily become a servant to any and all in order to reach a wide range of people: religious, nonreligious, meticulous moralists, loose-living immoralists, the defeated, the demoralized—whoever. I didn't take on their way of life. I kept my bearings in Christ—BUT I ENTERED THEIR WORLD AND TRIED TO EXPERIENCE THINGS FROM THEIR POINT OF VIEW. I've become just about every sort of SERVANT there is in my attempts to lead those I meet into a Godsaved life. I did all this because of the Message. I didn't just want to talk about it; I wanted to be in on it!