

STUDY QUESTIONS CONT'D

9. Can you name someone that you believe God wants you to share Christ with?
10. Will you commit to sharing Christ with the person above in the absolute first opportunity and pray for the opportunity?

WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?

The word “gospel” means “good news.” The Gospel, or good news, of Jesus Christ is that He did what no one could ever do. You see, God loves us, but ever since Adam and Eve sinned against God, every human being has sinned and therefore cannot come into God’s presence because He is holy and perfect. As much as we try, we cannot bridge the gap to God because of our sinful nature. We can never be good enough to reach God. Good works, religion, philosophy and morality all fall short of God’s perfection.

God loves us so much that He sent His Own Son, Jesus Christ, to bridge the gap (John 3:16). Jesus did what no one else could ever do, because He is both God and human, born to Mary. He took upon Himself the punishment we deserve, dying on the cross in our place. Now, through a relationship with Jesus Christ, we can come before a holy God. That is the good news! We enter a relationship with Jesus by placing our faith and trust in Him and Him alone for our salvation. Do you have a relationship with Jesus Christ?

The good news doesn’t end there. Not only can we have eternal life through Jesus, but we also now can live without being condemned because of sin. Jesus paid the price for our sins, and He lives within those who have placed their trust in Him. In Christ, not only have we secured our future in eternity with God, but we have the Holy Spirit living in us to help us today to live for Christ. For more information on how to know God, check our website at www.gbcmilescity.com.

SERMON NOTES

LIKE A MIGHTY ARMY

John 17:20-26

²⁰ “I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; ²¹ that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. ²² And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: ²³ I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me. ²⁴ “Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵ O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. ²⁶ And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.”

1. **The Church is like a mighty army in its unity.**
(Eph. 4:3) ³ being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

We are all one in Christ. God only has one church. All who are saved and are members of that body share one life – the life of Christ. What matters is that the life of Christ is present.

2. **The Church is like a mighty army in its purpose.**
An army that forgets its purpose is in trouble.

Let us be clear – We are to save the lost.

(2 Cor. 4:3) ³But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing,

SERMON NOTES

3. Like an army is devoted to it's Commander-in-chief.

(John 5:22-23)²² For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son, ²³ that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.

(1 Tm. 2:5) For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,

Be ready to share Jesus when the Lord gives you opportunity.

Be a good witness by the way you live.

The way we live is often more convincing than the words we say.

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. How would you rank the unity of the Church today from 1 to 10?
2. Why do you think unity is so important for the Church?
3. If someone asked you to explain what the Church is, how would you explain to them?
4. Which is harder, sharing Christ with someone through your lifestyle, or sharing Christ in a conversation?
5. Comparing the Church to an army, is it winning the war, or is it losing ground?
6. The Commander of the Lord's army is Jesus Christ. How does that affect the outcome in the end?
7. Why do you think it is easy to say to ourselves, "someone else will do it," when it comes to sharing Christ?
8. What is the difference between devotion and duty?