

Midweek Study

Notes

GOD'S
Dream Church

Through 1 Timothy

Wednesday, May 22, 2019

Reaching Others for Christ

1 Timothy 2:4-7

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BARNA RESEARCH:

- 1 in 5 unchurched adults would be very receptive to coming to church if a trusted friend invited them (Barna Research)
- 1 in 7 unchurched are open to trying a new church (16 million nation-wide)
- Most unchurched adults fall into the "de-churched" category.
- 2 decades ago, 8% of born-again Christians were unchurched. Today, that figure is 16%!
- 40 million unchurched adults are very interested in Christianity nation-wide.
- Born 1945 or earlier = 28% unchurched
- Born 1946-1964 = 35% unchurched
- Born 1965-1983 = 40% unchurched
- Born 1984-2002 = 48% unchurched!

*One nationwide study conducted by Barna Research found that on any Sunday morning, **one out of four unchurched** people would willingly attend a church service if a friend would invite them to do so.*

E. F. Brown calls this passage "the charter of missionary work."
He says that it is the proof that all men are capable of receiving God.

**They may be lost, but they can be found.
They may be ignorant, but they can be enlightened.
They may be sinners, but they can be saved.**

4 Convictions that help you reach others for Christ:

1. God wants everyone saved

(2:4- who desires all men to be saved...)

2 Peter 3:9- The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is long-suffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

Notes

2. Every person needs to know how to be saved

(2:4- ... and come to a knowledge of the truth)

“Christians often hesitate to reach out to those who are different. They want God to clean the fish before they catch them.” -Jim Cymbala

One Sunday evening, William Booth was walking in London with his son, Bramwell, who was then 12 or 13 years old. The father surprised the son by taking him into a saloon! The place was crowded with men and women, many of them bearing on their faces the marks of vice and crime; some were drunk. The fumes of alcohol and drugs were poisonous. “Willie,” Booth said to his son, “These are our people; these are the people I want you to live for and bring to Christ.” Years later, Bramwell Booth wrote, “The impression never left me.”

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

3. God provided one way to be saved

(2:5-6- there is one mediator – Jesus who gave Himself a ransom for all)

John 14:6- Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Acts 4:12 (KJV)- Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

Mark 10:45- For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

1 John 2:2 (NKJV) - And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world. (CEV)- *Christ is the sacrifice that takes away our sins and the sins of all the world's people.*

4. We must not practice selective evangelism

(2:7- for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle--I am speaking the truth in Christ and not lying--a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.)

PAUL SAID HE WOULD BE THE MESSENGER IN THREE WAYS:

1) **PREACHER** (kerusso) means “to herald.” A herald was given authority to deliver official messages from his sovereign to kings or government officials and to make formal public proclamations.

2) **APOSTLE** (latin is missio) – “sent one” the modern day apostles, though they are not like the 12 Apostles of the Lamb, they are our missionaries, sent ones with a commission.

3) **TEACHER** It is not enough to know that Christ lived and died; we must think out what that meant. A man must not only feel the wonder of the story of Christ; he must think out its meaning for himself and for the world.

NOTE: Paul says he was not lying – he was called by God to teach the non-Jews about faith and truth. Here was a racial-aware comment.

C. T. Studd used to repeat four lines of rhyme:

“Some want to live within the sound of Church or Chapel bell; I want to run a rescue shop within a yard of hell.”

Spurgeon, “If sinners will be damned, at least let them leap to hell over our bodies. And if they will perish, let them perish with our arms about their knees, imploring them to stay.”

Bottom line: Life is short, death is sure, sin is the cost and only Jesus is the cure.”