

## 4. NOW WHAT? Tell Everyone!

"Then they said to each other, 'What we're doing is not right. This is a day of good news and we are keeping it to ourselves. If we wait until daylight, punishment will overtake us. Let's go at once and report this to the royal palace.'" 2 Kings 7:9 NIV

➤ \_\_\_\_\_

➤ \_\_\_\_\_

➤ \_\_\_\_\_

➤ \_\_\_\_\_ **to Easter Service!**

**EASTER SUNDAY ~ APRIL 16**  
**8:30 AND 10:30**  
**HOPE at the Fritz**

*"If it's true . . . Now What?"*

## NOW WHAT: Tell Everyone

April 9, 2017

Paul F. Knight

HOPE Church ~ Grand Cities Mall

### Palm Sunday

The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup> They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Blessed is the king of Israel!" <sup>14</sup> Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written: <sup>15</sup> "Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey's colt." <sup>16</sup> At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him. <sup>17</sup> Now the crowd that was with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to spread the word. <sup>18</sup> Many people, because they had heard that he had performed this sign, went out to meet him. <sup>19</sup> So the Pharisees said to one another, "See, this is getting us nowhere. Look how the whole world has gone after him!"  
John 12:12-19 NIV

<sup>37</sup> When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: <sup>38</sup> "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" <sup>39</sup> Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!" <sup>40</sup> "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."  
Luke 19:37-40 NIV

**"Make Sure the \_\_\_\_\_ Stay \_\_\_\_\_."**

# Tell Everyone!

When the eleven disciples left for Galilee, going to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. <sup>17</sup> When they saw him, they worshiped him—but some of them doubted! Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup> Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”  
Matthew 28:16-20 NLT

The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name. <sup>42</sup> Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.  
Acts 5:41, 42 NIV

**Gospel = \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_!**

## 1. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ Everyone

God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. <sup>10</sup> This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.  
1 John 4:9, 10 NLT

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.  
John 3:16, 17 NIV

## 2. Jesus Gives \_\_\_\_\_ to Everyone

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Blessed is the king of Israel!”  
<sup>14</sup> Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written: <sup>15</sup> “Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey’s colt.”  
John 12:13-15 NIV

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup> neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
Romans 8:37-39 NIV

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. <sup>17</sup> This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment . . .  
1 John 4:16, 17 NIV

And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”  
Matthew 28:20 NLT

## 3. Jesus Can \_\_\_\_\_ Everyone

They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, “Hosanna!” “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Blessed is the king of Israel!”  
John 12:13 NIV

So the Pharisees said to one another, “See, this is getting us nowhere. Look how the whole world has gone after him!”  
John 12:19 NIV

for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”  
Romans 10:13 NIV

<sup>12</sup> The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup> They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Blessed is the king of Israel!" <sup>14</sup> Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written: <sup>15</sup> "Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey's colt." <sup>16</sup> At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him. <sup>17</sup> Now the crowd that was with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to spread the word. <sup>18</sup> Many people, because they had heard that he had performed this sign, went out to meet him. <sup>19</sup> So the Pharisees said to one another, "See, this is getting us nowhere. Look how the whole world has gone after him!"  
John 12:12-19 NIV

<sup>37</sup> When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: <sup>38</sup> "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" <sup>39</sup> Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!" <sup>40</sup> "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."  
Luke 19:37-40 NIV

## NOW WHAT???

Two Weeks Ago: Bless Everyone  
Last Week: Love Everyone  
This Week? Tell Everyone!

Part of our job on earth is to make sure ....

**THE STONES STAY SILENT!**

**"Make Sure the STONES Stay SILENT."**

The stones will never do as good of a job as you can!!

- You know what it is to be loved
- You know what it is to be transformed

**What do you think a rock would sound like?**

## Tell Everyone!

When the eleven disciples left for Galilee, going to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. <sup>17</sup> When they saw him, they worshiped him—but some of them doubted! Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup> Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”  
Matthew 28:16-20 NLT

The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name. <sup>42</sup> Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.  
Acts 5:41, 42 NIV

## Gospel = Good News = Jesus!

good news - a political victory or new announcement that was meant to illicit joy and gladness.....euangelion

## Preach the gospel, and if necessary, use words

A false account and a blatantly not biblical statement

## Who do I encounter that I don't think should hear??

**The greatest gift you can give to another human being is an introduction to the One who loves**

them.

Bill Hybels

## The Apostle Paul – in prisoner in Rome and is thinking about his release... what does he think about?

- Starbucks?
- Going to find a spouse?
- Finishing the last bit of work he left behind – fixing up the tents he was making?
- A new television?
- A new car or chariot
- What was it that occupied his mind as the first thing, or at least one of the first things, he wanted to do when the got out . . .

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. <sup>3</sup> And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. <sup>4</sup> Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.<sup>5</sup> Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. <sup>6</sup> Let your conversation be always

full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

**Colossians 4:2-6 NIV**

## **1. Jesus Loves Everyone**

God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. <sup>10</sup> This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.

1 John 4:9, 10 NLT

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

John 3:16, 17 NIV

## **2. Jesus Gives Courage to Everyone**

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Blessed is the king of Israel!” <sup>14</sup> Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written:

<sup>15</sup> “Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey’s colt.”

John 12:13-15 NIV

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.<sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup> neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:37-39 NIV

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. <sup>17</sup> This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment . . .

1 John 4:16, 17 NIV

And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”  
Matthew 28:20 NLT

## **I've Got Jesus Christ, God, as My King!!!**

- **I know that whatever happens to me here... I am never alone**
- **What ever happens here – God wins**
- **Whatever happens here – I am secure**
- **Whatever happens here – His love for me will never change – more than conquers**
- 

The courage to walk toward life-change!

I'll never measure up! I won't ever change

I'll never be accepted.

If I make a mistake Church people will judge me.

## **Zacchaeus**

**All the people saw this and began to mutter, “He has gone to be the guest of a sinner.”**

**<sup>8</sup> But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.”**

For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son, <sup>14</sup> who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins. Colossians 1:13, 14 NLT

### **3. Jesus Can Save Everyone**

They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Blessed is the king of Israel!"  
John 12:13 NIV

So the Pharisees said to one another, "See, this is getting us nowhere. Look how the whole world has gone after him!"  
John 12:19 NIV

for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."  
Romans 10:13 NIV

### **The fear of the Pharisees was the desire of God!**

- I don't think I can ever be good enough
  - Religion == Do
  - Relationship = Done
  
- Rules – Moralistic – Live Life to the Full

Who would you like to not hear the good news of Jesus?

### **4. NOW WHAT? Tell Everyone!**

"Then they said to each other, 'What we're doing is not right. This is a day of good news and we are keeping it to ourselves. If we wait until daylight, punishment will overtake us. Let's go at once and report this to the royal palace.'" 2 Kings 7:9 NIV

- **Pray**
  - **Courage**
  - **Opportunities – Open Doors**
  - **People would be receptive**

### **C.H. Spurgeon**

"Prayer pulls the rope down below and the great bell rings above in the ears of God. Some scarcely stir the bell, for they pray so languidly; others give only an occasional jerk at the rope. But he who communicates with heaven is the man who grasps the rope boldly and pulls continuously with all his might."

- **Care**
  - **Bless and Love Everyone**
  - **Be Like Jesus**
- **Share**
  - **Know Your Story –**
    - **What was it like**
    - **How did Jesus happen for you?**
    - **What has happened since?**

•

## ➤ **Invite Everyone to Easter Services**

EASTER SUNDAY ~ APRIL 16  
8:30 AND 10:30  
HOPE at the Fritz

*"If it's true . . . Now What?"*



is written:<sup>15</sup> “Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey’s colt.”<sup>16</sup> At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him.<sup>17</sup> Now the crowd that was with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to spread the word.<sup>18</sup> Many people, because they had heard that he had performed this sign, went out to meet him.<sup>19</sup> So the Pharisees said to one another, “See, this is getting us nowhere. Look how the whole world has gone after him!”  
John 12:12-19 NIV

<sup>37</sup> When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:<sup>38</sup> “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”<sup>39</sup> Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!”<sup>40</sup> “I tell you,” he replied, “if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.”  
Luke 19:37-40 NIV

**What in the world are these folks doing?**

**What is this parade all about?**

**What is the purpose of the Parade?**

**They are celebrating:**

**And there is a group that wants**

**The people to stop!**

**Be quiet**

**Don’t loose your dignity or create a stir politically!!**

**And Jesus seems to be perfectly fine with it!!! As a matter of fact – He supports it!**

<sup>12</sup> The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup> They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, “Hosanna!” “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Blessed is the king of Israel!” <sup>14</sup> Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it

**devoted to things other than God and Christ...and then transforms their lives!!!**

- **Even with all of the things they don't quite understand . . .**
- **This is one of the reasons that I love when people come for Easter Services...**

- **Even when they don't come the rest of the year...**
- **Jesus loves the praise and celebration... There are always those who try to shut down Easter – The Celebration of the Resurrection... Pharisee type folks – I usually just feel bad for them...**
- **Like those folks who want to point out all kinds of reasons the Church **shouldn't celebrate Easter at all – cause it was a this or that holiday...****

  - **Timing corresponds with a pagan holiday: Big whoop – God has been in the business of taking this back for himself for nearly forever . . .**
  - **He does that with days that were dedicated to something else . . . like the Easter... and now it is a day when pretty much the “whole world” takes notice of Jesus!!!**
  - **He does it with buildings..**
  - **And He does it with people – people who were at one time –**

"One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God" (Romans 14:5-6b).

**As a matter of fact Jesus **tells the super spiritual folks** – the Pharisees – if you don't do this...**

**If you don't praise me...  
The Stones will cry out!!**

- They have some great ideas about Jesus, but clearly, from our perspective, incomplete or misplaced . . .
  - They are declaring Him King
  - They are speaking of His Power to Save People
  - They are shouting about the banishment of fear
  - There is even a group concerned that the “whole world is going after him.”
  - And that same group who is wanting Jesus to quiet things . . .

- But they don't understand the "how"

**Tell Everyone!**  
**Make Sure the Stones Stay Silent.**

**Gospel = Good News = Jesus!**

By nature – is spoken, shouted or declared!

I

Jesus

<sup>12</sup> The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup> They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna!"

in the Hebrew, means "save us, we pray."

The word seems to have become an utterance of praise rather than of prayer, though originally, probably, a cry for help. The people's cry at the Lord's triumphal entry into Jerusalem (Mat 21:9, 15; Mar 11:9, 10; Jhn 12:13) was taken from Ps. 118, which was recited at the Feast of Tabernacles (see FEAST) in the great Hallel (Psalms 113 to 118) in responses with the priest, accompanied by the waving of palm and willow branches. "The last day of the feast" was called "the great Hosanna;" the boughs also were called "hosannas."

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Blessed is the king of Israel!" <sup>14</sup> **Jesus found a young donkey** and

sat on it, as it is written:<sup>15</sup> **“Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey’s colt.”**

Zechariah 9:9

Do not be afraid . . .

<sup>16</sup> At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him.

<sup>17</sup> Now the crowd that was with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to spread the word. <sup>18</sup> Many people, because they had heard that he had performed this sign, went out to meet him. <sup>19</sup> So the Pharisees said to one another, “See, this is getting us nowhere. **Look how the whole world has gone after him!**”  
John 12:12-19 NIV

## **The fear of the Pharisees was the desire of God!**

<sup>37</sup> When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:

<sup>38</sup> “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!”  
“Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” <sup>39</sup> **Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!”**

**What was it with the Pharisees? Was it fear of the Romans and what Jesus was doing?**

**Was it some kind of recognition that He was gaining too much notoriety? Robbing them of their power...?**

**See their power was designed to leave people stuck and slaves to the doing of religion...always needing to do more of this, more of that, never able to be free from feeling like you are not quiet measuring up . . .**

**Maybe it was a decorum issue – they didn’t like people so excited...**

**Listen, if your faith in Jesus doesn’t cause a stir in your soul, doesn’t warm your heart, doesn’t make you want to speak up and out??? There is something deficient in your understanding or relationship with Him.**

<sup>40</sup> “I tell you,” he replied, “if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.”<sup>41</sup> As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it <sup>42</sup> and said, “If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes. <sup>43</sup> The days will come upon you when your enemies

will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. <sup>44</sup> They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God's coming to you." Luke 19:37-44 NIV

**Tell Everyone!  
Make Sure the Stones Stay Silent.**

**Keep Rocks & Stone's Silent**

**Tell Everyone How Amazing  
Jesus is!**

What Would the stones say????

It's the first thing you learn in a geology class – very briefly the **three types of rocks** are:

- **Igneous**; they form from the cooling of magma deep inside the earth. They often have large crystals (you can see them with the naked eye).

- **Metamorphic**; they are formed through the change (metamorphosis) of igneous and sedimentary rocks. They can form both underground and at the surface.
- **Sedimentary**; they are formed through the solidification of sediment. They can be based off of organic remains (such as limestone), or just form from the cementing of other rocks.

Spreading cloaks on the road is an act of homage as in 2 Kgs 9:13 (cf. also Josephus, *Antiquities* 9.6.2. [9.111]). Luke made no mention of the spreading of branches, perhaps due to the nationalistic overtones of such an act.<sup>1</sup>

**Some of the Pharisees in the crowd.** This is the last reference to the Pharisees in Luke. It was for Luke a demonstration of the parabolic picture in 19:14 and in 20:9–18. Whereas in some instances the Pharisees are viewed positively, or at least neutrally (see comments on 13:31; cf. Acts 5:34–39; 15:5; 23:6–9), here, as in most instances, they are portrayed negatively. Luke's readers

---

<sup>1</sup> Stein, R. H. (1992). *Luke* (Vol. 24, p. 479). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

would not have interpreted this as a Pharisaic attempt to save Jesus from the consequences of this messianic excitement. They would have interpreted this as an attempt to squelch the disciples' praise of God (cf. Matt 21:14–16).<sup>2</sup>

Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.  
Zechariah 9:9 NIV

“Remember...the greatest legacy is not leaving something for people – but it is choosing to leave something in people!” -**JOHN MAXWELL**

*“But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”*  
JOSHUA 24:15

---

<sup>2</sup> Stein, R. H. (1992). *Luke* (Vol. 24, p. 481). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

Tell Everyone  
**They Can Be Saved!**

Tell Everyone  
**They are Loved!**

Tell Everyone  
**They are Loved!**

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. <sup>3</sup> And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. <sup>4</sup> Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. <sup>5</sup> Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. <sup>6</sup> Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

Colossians 4:2-6 NIV

**What Do We Do?**

## Pray

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. <sup>3</sup>And pray for us, too,

-Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, -for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should. Ephesians 6:19, 20 NIV

- For Courage
- For Clarity
- For Opportunities (Chances)
- 

## C.H. Spurgeon

"Prayer pulls the rope down below and the great bell rings above in the ears of God. Some scarcely stir the bell, for they pray so languidly; others give only an occasional jerk at the rope. But he who communicates with heaven is the man who grasps the rope boldly and pulls continuously with all his might."

## Pay Attention

## Praise

## Invite: Take Opportunities

Open doors

## Pray for Clarity

## Pray for

[Romans 10:13-14](#) ESV / 50 helpful votes **Helpful Not Helpful**

For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?

## Clear Communication

### **4. Tell Everyone what's Happened!**

The necessity to Speak

### **4. Tell Everyone**

## Jesus is Seeking Relationship

Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup>For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

### **4. Tell Everyone Life Can Change**

All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner."

<sup>8</sup>But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

### **4. Tell Everyone through Your Praise**

When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: <sup>38</sup>"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"



## **Good gossip of the goodness of God**

### **4. Tell Everyone**

#### **Cause Silence is not Good News**

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!" <sup>40</sup> "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."

**Our job is to make sure the  
rocks and the stones can stay silent!**

Preach the gospel, and if necessary, use words  
*A false account and a blatantly not biblical statement*

### **4. Tell Everyone**

**it won't Always be Like Today**

**Being clear about your number one values . . . seek first the kingdom of God...what is your purpose? Mission? Reason?**

**The Apostle Paul – in prisoner in Rome and is thinking about his release... what does he think about?**

- Starbucks?
- Going to find a spouse?
- Finishing the last bit of work he left behind – fixing up the tents he was making?
- A new television?
- A new car or chariot
- What was it that occupied his mind as the first thing, or at least one of the first things, he wanted to do when the got out . . .

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. <sup>3</sup> And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. <sup>4</sup> Pray that

I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.<sup>5</sup> Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. <sup>6</sup> Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

**Colossians 4:2-6 NIV**

### **Obvious but not Obnoxious**

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. <sup>3</sup> And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. <sup>4</sup> Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.<sup>5</sup> Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. <sup>6</sup> Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

**Colossians 4:2-6 NIV**

### **2 Kings 6 & 7**

**a conquering army is attacking  
Ben Hadad - 40 or 50,000 troops  
Archers out front**

**Anyone who comes out of the city  
gates they are to kill -**

**Flocks and fields are not tended**

**People starving to death...**

**Animal parts  
Cannibalism**

### **4 Lepers**

**terminal illness  
starvation**

**I am going to the enemy camp**

**If I die, I die**

**We will go too**

**They get to the camp and realize everyone is  
gone - the whole camp is empty and the  
entire army is gone.**

**God - having mercy - noises in the night...  
soldiers take off for their lives.**

**Left all their food, clothes, etc...  
Gorge themselves.**

<sup>5</sup> At dusk they got up and went to the camp of the Arameans. When they reached the edge of the camp, no one was there, <sup>6</sup> for the Lord had caused the Arameans to hear the sound of chariots and horses and a great army, so that they said to one another, “Look, the king of Israel has hired the Hittite and Egyptian kings to attack us!” <sup>7</sup> So they got up and fled in the dusk and abandoned their tents and their horses and donkeys. They left the camp as it was and ran for their lives.

<sup>8</sup> The men who had leprosy reached the edge of the camp, entered one of the tents and ate and drank. Then they took silver, gold and clothes, and went off and hid them. They returned and entered another tent and took some things from it and hid them also.

<sup>9</sup> Then they said to each other, “What we’re doing is not right. This is a day of good news and we are keeping it to ourselves. If we wait until daylight, punishment will overtake us. Let’s go at once and report this to the royal palace.”            2 Kings 7:5-8 NIV

**Next Sunday we are going to be celebrating the Resurrection fo Jesus Christ**

**Your going to want to be there...watching as a friend, family member, friend, colleague at work, neighbor**

“What we’re doing is not right.  
This is a day of good news and  
we are keeping it to ourselves.”

2 Kings 7:9 NIV

## **1. Pray for Everyone**

**God I am willing to present Christ**

## **2. Strategically make yourself available**

- where is the place where will I be able to present Christ?

- Soccer families
- Restaurants
- Coffee shops
- Danger of hanging around in the church
- Look for tender times...
- 

## 1 Do versus Done

### Religion is spelt - do

Its stuff people do to appease a god.

We never know whether we are doing enough

...

No finality

This is a dead end path

### Christianity is DONE

Jesus died a substitutionary atoning death  
He makes us acceptable to God the Father

Through what He has done.

## 2. Moralistic Big Scale in Heaven someplace

If the good, outweighs the bad

We think God looks at behavior

Salvation is not about just behavior but  
ore about a belief in Jesus Christ... it is  
not fundamentally about belief not  
behavior....

It is not God so loved ...the who ever  
behaves right....

It is believe

## 3. Walk across on the Cross of Jesus Christ ...

Chasm.... Divide between  
themselves and God....

## 4. Your most powerful tool - Your Story

Put some thought into what life for

you was like before you found Christ

What did you discover about Jesus

Here is what he has been doing in  
me since I discovered Jesus

HIS-Story in You!!!

**This Sunday;**

**Easter – Invite friends, Relatives,**

**Baptism – Invite Others to watch you declare**

As Sam shared his painful experiences, I suddenly realized that he was not actually asking me an intellectual question. He wasn't really wondering if Jesus was the only way;

instead, he was wondering how I would treat him if he didn't agree with me or believe what I believed.

However, we must not miss the heart behind the questions people ask. Sometimes, the surface question does not clearly and accurately reflect the real concern that people are wrestling with. For example, each of the questions I encountered in campus ministry came down to trust: *Can I trust the Church or Christians to see me and value what I can contribute and who I am? Can I trust the Church or Christians to accept me? Can I trust that God is good?* In our research at the Billy Graham Center for Evangelism of unchurched people across the country, we have discovered that the biggest fear people have when they are considering visiting a church is the fear of being judged, and it is sometimes based off of negative past experiences. Resolving that broken trust often takes preeminence over finding rational solutions to intellectual questions.

Rick Richardson

<sup>14</sup>How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom

they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? <sup>15</sup>And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

<sup>16</sup>But not all the Israelites accepted the good news. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our message?”

Romans 10:14-16 NIV

Missionaries -- would go to a new part of the world and learn their language etc... everyone has a differences, some of the language -- some of the politics we espouse demands that they learn our language -- I am not commenting on long term language or the lack of it...what I am commenting on is what will you do to learn the uniqueness of someone around you so that they can hear the good news of Jesus

good news - a political victory or new announcement that was meant to illicit joy and gladness.....euangelion

## FactChecker: Misquoting Francis of Assisi

*Note: FactChecker is a new monthly series in which Glenn T. Stanton examines claims, myths, and misunderstandings frequently heard in evangelical circles.*

Christians use lots of quotes. Pastors use them in their sermons constantly. Writers illustrate their points with them. Nothing wrong with that. They are quite helpful and encouraging in making a point.

Save when the quote has no basis in fact.

We as evangelicals who claim we are committed to truth are certainly good at spreading falsehood, even if unintentionally. We can do better.

One very clever and popular quote we often knock around among ourselves is . . .

**Preach the Gospel at all times. Use words if necessary.**

It is always attributed to St. Francis of Assisi—founder of the Franciscan Order—and is intended to say that proclaiming the Gospel by example is more virtuous than actually proclaiming with voice. It is a quote that has often rankled me because it seems to create a useless dichotomy between speech and action. Besides, the spirit behind it can be a little arrogant, intimating that those who “practice the Gospel” are more faithful to the faith than those who preach it.

But here's the fact: Our good Francis never said such a thing. None of his disciples, early or later biographers have these words coming from his mouth. It doesn't show up in any of his writings. Not even close really. The closest comes from his [Rule of 1221](#), Chapter XII on how the Franciscans should practice their preaching:

No brother should preach contrary to the form and regulations of the holy Church nor unless he has been permitted by his minister ... All the Friars ... should preach by their deeds.

Essentially, make sure your deeds match your words. While there's a nice and good sentiment in the statement—be sure you live out the grace and truth of the Gospel—the notion as it is typically presented is neither practical, nor faithful to the Gospel of Christ. It does not align with St. Francis' own practice.

His first biographer, Thomas of Celano, writing just three years after Francis' death, quotes him instructing his co-workers in the Gospel thusly,

The preacher must first draw from secret prayers what he will later pour out in holy sermons; he must first grow hot within before he speaks words that are in themselves cold.

Mark Galli, senior managing editor at *Christianity Today*, wrote a [wonderful little book](#) on Francis as well as a clarifying brief [article](#) on the myth of this quote. He explains that Francis was quite a preacher, actually more along the lines of Jonathan Edwards or Billy Sunday than most of those who misquote him would like to think. Galli quotes Thomas' biography,

His words were neither hollow nor ridiculous, but filled with the power of the Holy Spirit, penetrating the marrow of the heart, so that listeners were turned to great amazement.

Our man clearly spent a great deal of time using his words when he preached, “sometimes preaching in up to five villages a day, often outdoors. In the country, Francis often spoke from a bale of straw or a granary doorway. In town, he would climb on a box or up steps in a public building. He preached to . . . any who gathered to hear the strange but fiery little preacher from Assisi.” He was sometimes so animated and passionate in his delivery that “his feet moved as if he were dancing.”

Duane Liftin, president emeritus of Wheaton College, recently addressed the trouble with this preach/practice dichotomy in an important [article](#). Of preaching the Gospel in deed, he explains,

It's simply impossible to preach the Gospel without words. The Gospel is inherently verbal, and preaching the Gospel is inherently verbal behavior.

And the “deed” proclamation of the Gospel is not biblical either. Paul asks the Church at Rome ([Romans 10:14](#)):

How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher?

So next time you hear one of your brothers or sisters in Christ use this quote to encourage or challenge you in your labors for our faith, gently guide them from the land of misinformation and make believe into truth.

**Glenn T. Stanton** is the director of family formation studies at Focus on the Family and the author of five books on various aspects of the family, including his two most recent, *Secure Daughters Confident Sons, How Parents Guide Their Children into Authentic Masculinity and Femininity* (Waterbrook, 2011), and *The Ring Makes All the Difference: The Hidden Consequences of Cohabitation and the Strong Benefits of Marriage* (Moody, 2011).