

PERSONAL EVANGELISM

4. The Need of our Community



Introduction

We have been learning about how to pray and witness to those who are closest to us, our community. Why is it so important to share with them? Some may say, 'They have their own religion', or 'They seem happy the way they are', or 'They are not bad people'. However as we look at the Word of God we see that those without Christ have a great need.

- ☉ Jesus told three stories in Luke 15 about things that were lost. Each one gives us a picture of what a person is like without Christ, and the value of each person in God's sight. How would you describe the condition of each of these lost things?

Luke 15:4-6

Luke 15:8-9

Luke 15:13-17

- ☉ What value does God place on the soul of each person? See Luke 15:7, 10, 22-24

Jesus said, "What does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses his own soul." Without Christ a person is lost – without hope, purpose, forgiveness or eternal life. In fact Jesus' return has been delayed so more people will have the opportunity to come to know him and be able to enter Heaven.

- ☉ What is the only way a person can enter Heaven? John 14:6
- ☉ What responsibility do we have as Christians? Luke 14:23
- ☉ Just as Heaven is a real place, so is Hell. There is no in-between. If a person rejects Christ what will be the consequences?

John 3:18

John 3:36

Revelation 20:15

- ☉ What words describe the urgency of sharing Christ in these verses?

Acts 2:40

Acts 20:31

2 Corinthians 5:11

2 Corinthians 5:20

Conclusion

As we have seen, it is during this life that men and women must make their choice. There will not be another opportunity after death. If your neighbour's house was burning down, you would rush over the help save them! Yet people are facing something far more terrible, so we must warn them.

The first step is to pray for them, and ask God to open their hearts. Then be ready for the nudge of the Holy Spirit when it is the right time to share with them. What a privilege it is to do that!

(Pray together again for those on your list, and pray for one another to be bold to share when opportunities arise.)