

Unleashing the Power of God in Our World

Romans 1:14-17

1. Recognize your debt to the world around you – “I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise” (14).
 - a. To those of high social standing
 - i. The well-off
 - ii. The well-educated
 - iii. The well-connected
 - iv. Jesus chose Saul, the chief opponent of Christianity, to be the chief proponent of it (Acts 9:15).
 - b. To those of low social standing
 - i. The poor
 - ii. The uneducated
 - iii. The social outcast
 - iv. Jesus deliberately went out of His way to minister to the Samaritan woman (John 4).

2. Prepare to declare the Gospel – “So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also” (15).
 - a. By learning Gospel (17)
 - i. The problem of sin is that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23).
 - ii. The penalty for sin is death and eternal separation from God in hell (Romans 6:23; Revelation 21:8).
 - iii. The payment of sin has been made by Jesus Christ on our behalf (Romans 5:8; 1 Peter 2:24; Isaiah 53; John 19:30).
 - b. By believing the promises of God
 - i. Believe that harvest is plenteous (Mat. 9:37).
 - ii. Believe that greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world (1 John 4:4).
 - iii. Believe that Jesus has promised to be with us to the end of the world (Matthew 28:19-20).
 - iv. Believe in the laws of the harvest (Galatians 6:7-9).
 - c. By planning for giving the Gospel (Romans 1:8-13)
 - d. By surrendering yourself to the task (Rom. 12:1-2)

3. Declare the Gospel boldly (16-17).
 - a. Because salvation is the primary need of every individual – “it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek” (16).
 - i. Every person, both Jew and Gentile, are under the wrath of God (18).
 - ii. Every person, both Jew and Gentile, are accountable before God (19-23).
 - b. Because the gospel is the power of God unto salvation (16).
 - i. Without the power of God, sinners have no hope of earning salvation (Ephesians 2:8-9).
 - ii. Without the power of God, sinners have no way of atoning for their own sins.
 - c. Because the gospel reveals the righteousness of God (17).
 - i. The gospel reveals to us that we fall short of God’s righteousness (Romans 3:23).
 - ii. The gospel reveals that the righteousness of Christ is our only hope of justification (Romans 5:9).
 - d. Because the gospel is received by faith in the Word of God (17).
 - i. The only way to justification is by faith (Romans 4:5).
 - ii. Every person must be given the chance to believe, but how can they believe if they haven’t heard (10:14; 2 Corinthian 4:3-4).
 - iii. We unleash the power of God to save sinners as we declare it to all who need to hear it.

Conclusion:

1. Has your life been changed by the power of the Gospel?
2. Are you willing to acknowledge the debt you have to those around you?
3. How are you preparing to declare the Gospel?
4. Are you unleashing the power of the Gospel in the world around you?