A Heart for the Lost

Romans 10:13-15 (NIV)

For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. 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? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'" (Romans 10:13-15, NIV)

- Evangelism is essential for people to hear and respond to the gospel.
- Preaching and sharing the message of salvation is crucial for people to believe in Christ.
- Believers are sent to bring the good news, and those who do so are blessed.
- Evangelism flows from a heart of love for God and for people.
- True love for others compels believers to share the gospel with them.

Romans 10:17 (NIV)

Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

Evangelism is empowered by the Holy Spirit

Acts 1:8 (NIV)

But you will receive power when **the Holy Spirit** comes on you; and you will **be my witnesses** in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth

- Evangelism is not done in our own strength, but through the power of the Holy Spirit.
- The Holy Spirit equips believers to be effective witnesses.
- Evangelism is both local and global—beginning where you are and extending to the entire world

Jesus gave His followers **the command to go and make disciples** of all nations. This is one of the clearest biblical foundations for evangelism

Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV)

Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age

- Evangelism is a command, not an option.
- Discipleship includes both sharing the gospel and teaching others to obey Christ's commands.
- Jesus promises His presence and authority as believers go out to evangelize.

John 14:15 (NIV)

If you love me, keep my commands.

Evangelism is also seen as an **urgent ministry of reconciliation**. Believers are called to be ambassadors for Christ, calling people to be reconciled to God

2 Corinthians 5:18-20 (NIV)

"All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God."

- Evangelism is a ministry of reconciliation, where we call people to be reconciled to God through Christ.
- Believers act as Christ's ambassadors, speaking on His behalf.
- The message of reconciliation is urgent—people's eternal destinies are at stake.

Prayer plays a vital role in evangelism, as we seek God's help and open doors for the gospel to be shared

Colossians 4:3-4 (NIV)

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. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should."