

Pushing Out Grace
Mark 6:7-13

GRACE

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R.C. Sproul - Why did God save me?

- “I know of no more difficult a theological question to deal with than this one. I've been studying theology for many years, and I still can't come up with any exhaustive reason to explain why God would save me, or anyone else for that matter.”

R.C. Sproul - Why did God save me?

- “Some people give a very simple answer to this question. They say that God saved you because you put your trust and faith in Christ when you answered the summons of the gospel. On the surface that's certainly a legitimate answer because we are justified through faith and we are called to make that response.”

R.C. Sproul - Why did God save me?

- But the deeper question is, Why did you respond to the gospel when you heard it, but someone else who heard it -- even the very same presentation at the same moment -- did not respond to it? What was there in you that caused you to respond positively while others are caused to reject it? I ask that about my own life.”

R.C. Sproul - Why did God save me?

- I could say the reason I responded was that I was more righteous than the other fellow. God forbid that I ever say that on the Judgment Day.
- I might think I'm more intelligent than somebody else, but I wouldn't want to say that either.

R.C. Sproul - Why did God save me?

- “Some might say that I recognized my need more than somebody else recognized his need, but even that recognition is a mixture of at least some measure of intelligence and some measure of humility, most of which would find its ultimate roots in the grace of God.”

R.C. Sproul - Why did God save me?

- “I have to say with the ancient man, there but for the grace of God go I. I can't give any reason other than God's grace for why I am saved.”
- And since it is God's grace, we are not to horde it
- That's what the nation of Israel did

Why did God save me?

- I think we find a partial answer in **Matthew 10:7-8 NLT**
7 Go and announce to them that the Kingdom of Heaven is near. 8 Heal the sick, raise the dead, cure those with leprosy, and cast out demons. Give as freely as you have receive!
- Why did God save us? To push His grace along
- **Matthew 6:7-13**

Jesus' Mission - Luke 19:10 NIV For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost

- He came to open the door of God's grace to lost mankind
- He came to provide the key to unlocking that door
- **Matthew 27:50-51 NIV** 50 And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. 51 At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.
- That was grace

John 6:70 NLT Then Jesus said, “I chose the twelve of you”

- Why did He chose these 12 men? Grace
- **Deuteronomy 7:7-8 NIV** 7 The Lord did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples. 8 But it was because the Lord loved you – that’s grace

God longed for the nation of Israel to shine His grace outward to a lost and dying world that others would have a chance to see grace in action, receive it and push it on

- Same for us today
- Jesus is pushing out grace in today's scripture
- There are 4 words that will help us see how we can push God's grace out

The first word is – Prepared

- **vs. 6b** Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village.
- Jesus' game plan for Christians is very simple – “Come, follow me and I will make you”

The first word is – Prepared

- We hear this same phrasing in **Matthew 11:28-29 NIV**
28 “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened,
and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you and
learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is
easy and my burden is light.”

The first word is – Prepared

- Jesus was teaching them the answers to life's basic questions
 - Who am I and who is Jesus?
 - What is really important in this life?
 - How do I live life to achieve what is truly important?
 - Can Jesus be trusted?
- Jesus is basically saying, “Go and do likewise.”

The second word is – Enabled

- **vs. 7, 13 NIV** 7 Calling the Twelve to him, he began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over impure spirits. 13 They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them.

The second word is – Enabled

- Jesus enabled them to represent and speak for Himself
 - He sent them in His name, just as if Jesus was speaking to them
 - He gave them His message to speak, His words
 - He gave them His authority to imitate the works of Jesus at that time, just as Jesus did – authentication
 - Do their words match Jesus'? Do their actions match Jesus'? Does their life match Jesus'?

The second word is – Enabled

- Jesus enabled them to do what He had called them to do, at the time He called them to do it, and it is same with us today

The second word is – Enabled

- **Matthew 28:18-20 NLT** 18 Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. 19 Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. 20 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.”

The second word is – Enabled

- These 11 men couldn't do the work alone
- They were to pass grace to others, and they, in turn, pass this same grace to others and on and on....
- We have been enabled by the cleansing power of salvation and the filling of the Holy Spirit to be Jesus in every event He leads us through

The third word – Unencumbered

- Unencumbered = not having any burden or impediment, free of to move forward or advance
- **vs. 8-9 NLT** 8 He told them to take nothing for their journey except a walking stick—no food, no traveler's bag, no money. 9 He allowed them to wear sandals but not to take a change of clothes.

The third word – Unencumbered

- This carries a sense of urgency
- Don't get bogged down planning how, just go, just do it
- God has sent you, God has prepared you, God has enabled you – trust God
- They were not to waste their time trying to convince towns that were not open to their message

The third word – Unencumbered

- They were not responsible for the reception of those they presented the gospel to
- State your message, give evidence, if not accepted, move on
- **Matthew 7:6 NLT** “Don’t waste what is holy on people who are unholy. Don’t throw your pearls to pigs! They will trample the pearls, then turn and attack you.
 - I will add the words, continually to the exclusion of others

The third word – Unencumbered

- Do you have a cumbered life?
 - Failures/Successes of the past
 - **Philippians 3:14b-15 NLT** Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.

The third word – Unencumbered

- Do you have a cumbered life?
 - Are you set in your ways?
 - **Isaiah 43:18-19 NIV** 18 “Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. 19 See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.
 - Is there any room left in your life for God and his work?

The fourth word – Be Truthful with the gospel

- **Matthew 4:17 NLT** From then on Jesus began to preach, “Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near.”
- Only the Word of God, under the Spirit of God, can change a person into the image of God

The fourth word – Be Truthful with the gospel

- We must be people of **Ephesians 4:15**, “Speak the truth in love”
- If you are bashing them over their heads, that’s not love
- If you are altering the gospel to make it more acceptable, that’s not love
- If you are shading the gospel to keep from hurting their feelings, that’s not love

The fourth word – Be Truthful with the gospel

- If you speak the gospel and do not consistently live the gospel, that's not love
- **Acts 4:12 NIV** Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”

Summary

- You cannot give away or pass on what you do not possess, and you cannot inherit what has not been promised
- Revival is a very simple process
 - You ask God to begin with you
 - You ask God to give you an excitement for Him and His word

Summary

- Revival is a very simple process
 - You ask God to break your heart for the separate brother/sister, for the hurting, those separated from God grace
 - You give Him time to work in you and others and keep praying
 - You look for opportunities to push out grace

Summary

- When you get enough grace pushers, revival must come to a family, congregation, city, school, nation

**ALL OF THIS TO THE PRAISE AND
GLORY OF GOD ALONE--AMEN**

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