



# Why Are People Struggling to Preach the Gospel



**Scripture: Romans 1:16**

To preach the gospel is not just a suggestion or a recommendation but it's a command given by the Lord Jesus Christ. But still we struggle to share the gospel with our friends and relatives.

There are various reasons why people struggle to preach the gospel and some of them are as follows.

### 1. Fear

Many people fear rejection because their ego is hurt. When people reject the gospel they are not rejecting us but they are rejecting Christ. Everyone with whom we share the gospel need not respond to it. Jesus being God shared the gospel to the young ruler (**Matt 19:22**). However, the ruler rejected the gospel, because he could not part with his wealth. Jesus was rejected by the world, He came for His own, but they rejected him. Some people fear that as a result of sharing the gospel they may be disapproved by the society around them. As long as we want to please people we cannot be servant of God (**Gal 1:10**). Some other people fear that they may not be able to handle the various questions that people ask regarding faith. We need not know the answers to all the questions that people ask us. And even if we know the answers we need not answer them all. Only God is omniscient and knows everything. We are all finite beings and this keeps us humble to depend on God and not on ourselves (**Lk 12:11-12**). If God can speak through a donkey (**Num 22:28**) then surely He can use people like you and me to proclaim the gospel.

### 2. Cares of the World

The cares of the world dries up our passion for sharing the Gospel (**Lk 8:14**). All the time people are worried about various issues of life such as health, wealth, kids, job etc and this takes a major portion of our time. These worries will also choke our passion for souls. We begin to shed tears always for these issues of life and we have no time or tears left for the souls. But the solution for all this cares of the world is to **cast our burden on to Jesus who cares for us** (**Pet 5:7**). Jesus said take my yoke upon you and learn from me (**Matt 11:28-30**). Keep first things first and prioritize your life (**Matt 6:33-34**).

### 3. Comfort of the World

Some people are very comfortable in this world and their only purpose of life is to make money and have fun (**Lk 8:14**). Self-indulgent religion is a cross denying religion. The one

thought that has oppressed these people is how they can make some more money so that their lives on earth will be very comfortable and they want to indulge in all the pleasures of this world. They will not count the cost or sacrifice their time and money to share the gospel with someone. Because sharing the gospel requires sacrifice of time and money. For some people giving money for evangelism will be an easy thing than a costly commitment of sharing the gospel. Don't get too comfortable in this world and miss the opportunity to share the gospel with the lost.

### 4. Impatient to see the results

Many people get discouraged very fast when they do not see immediate results of sharing the gospel. We are called to share the gospel, and transformation is the work of the Holy Spirit. Some people may be transformed immediately while some may take time. We must wait patiently for God to work. Paul says, *I planted, Apollos watered but God made it to grow. Growth comes from God and God alone.* During harvest season, a farmer's success is measured by the empty bags of seeds he brings back, and celebration is only after the harvest season. No one celebrates during the sowing and the watering season. Sharing the gospel requires both sowing and watering, and God will give the increase. Sometimes we may reap the hard work of other people and at other times, other people may reap our hard work. Ultimately, we all have one purpose to see the kingdom of God grow. So let us persevere in sharing the gospel.

### 6. Not feeling qualified

Many people feel inadequate to share the gospel because they are in a mess or struggle with secret sins and feel hypocritical about sharing the gospel. In **John 4**, once the Samaritan lady was transformed by the power of God, she immediately went back to her village and introduced Jesus to all the people. The whole village came to meet Jesus. When Jesus turned back and looked at the entire village coming towards him, he remarked, the harvest is plenty but the laborers' are few. The gospel had the power to transform lives.

May the Lord Jesus Christ help us to overcome all the struggles in our life and to share the gospel with boldness and with the power of God.

God bless you!

- Pastor Frani

# PRISCILLA'S CORNER



## Parenting Preschoolers

By Pastor Frani

Here's the continuation of the last month's issue on parenting preschoolers.

### 3. Be sensitive to the warning signals.

Be sensitive to the warning signals of your child, such as hunger, fatigue, sleep, boredom, because that's when the child throws a temper tantrum. Moreover, when you try to calm the child during the temper tantrum, the child will not comply. For instance, avoid shopping during the nap times. Don't discipline the child while he is throwing a tantrum because of fatigue, hunger, sleep etc.

### 4. Discourage whining.

Sometimes the child may start whining and crying and saying "I want to go out", "I want to eat a toffee" and you as a parent may be tempted to give into the demands of the child. But you should ignore such demands and keep working. The child is trying to assess if you will comply with his demands. If you do, it will be reinforcing the attention seeking behavior of the child. But, then, if you don't comply, the child will understand that even if he pushes this winning button, you will not give in.

### 5. Importance of free play.

The most enriching time of a preschooler is free play. During free play the child's brain develop best. In free play the child gives himself to right amount of challenge not too easy and not too hard. Give the kids time and space for free play. Free play indicates the things that they choose to do in their own time and space. For example, the child may want to sweep the floor, arrange the utensils, fold the clothes, etc, but they do it as a play and not as a chore because it is fun to do that activity. Let them have this time for themselves where they involve in the activity of their choice.

### 5. Get involved in child's play.

Many parents are too busy to play with their children. Every day you need to get on to the floor and play with your child a game of his choice. This has to be an unhindered time of play, when you switch off the TV, smart phones, computer.

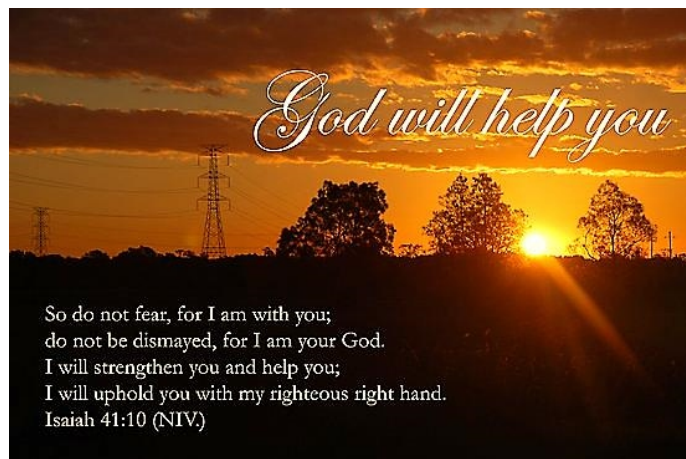
If you are able to play with your child at least for half an hour, it is more worthwhile than providing him with the latest gadgets that are so impersonal. The child will cherish this moment of the day all the days of his life.

### 3. Don't overreact to lies.

The child at this stage has not yet learnt to differentiate between fact and fantasy. But at this stage of their life they are developing a very creative ability within themselves. So when the child talks about his fantasy that a snake came into the house and he played with it for some time, don't immediately get angry and say that you are lying because this cannot be real. Listen patiently and they try to explain that it may not be safe to play with a snake. Understand this behavior as experimentation and not as a moral at this stage.

Effective parenting takes time, patience, and lot of love. It also takes remembering that changes may not happen overnight.

Nevertheless, as the old saying goes, "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again and again."







## The RAINBOW and the PROMISE

Noah did a strange thing. At least it would seem very strange to us today.

The ark was safely on dry ground again. A few minutes before, it was filled with growling, barking, honking, purring animals. Now the door was wide open and the giant boat sat on a mountaintop, all empty and quiet. All the animals had rushed out the door to fill the earth again. And, Noah was picking up rocks. He was so thankful to be alive, he was going to build an altar to God. So, Noah piled up the rocks to build a fire on them. Then, he took the best of some special animals he had kept aside, killed them, and burned them on the altar. This was a sacrifice Noah offered to God to thank him for saving his life.

It might seem like a strange thing to do. It couldn't have been an easy thing to do either. But that's what people did in those long ago days. That way they would know that dealing with God is a very serious thing.

God was pleased with Noah's sacrifice. But, most of all, God was pleased that Noah was truly thankful. And, so God made this promise to Noah, "Never again will I destroy the world with a flood. I make this covenant with you and with all creatures. From this day on, there will always come a time for planting, and a time for gathering up what was planted. Day will always follow night, the warm days of summer will always follow the cold and snow of winter, as long as the earth shall be."

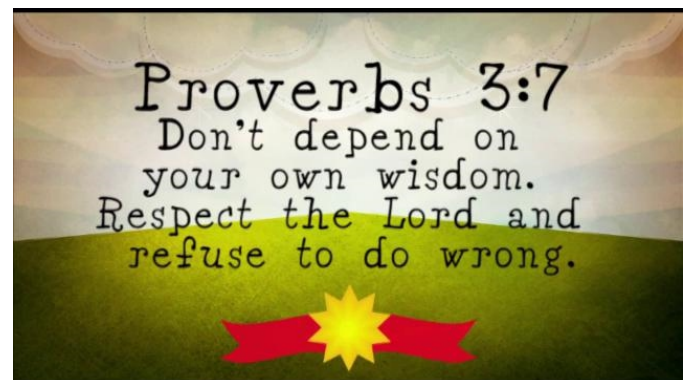
God knew that there is something inside each of us that tries to keep us from doing what is right. That is what causes all the trouble in the world. God also knew that one day he would send his Son to save us from that. God saved Noah and his family to show us that he has the power to save us all, and one day bring us to a new life with him in heaven.

So, God blessed Noah and his family. He told them to have many children and fill the earth with people again. He gave them the plants and the animals for food. And, he made people the boss of everything on earth. And, then, God said to Noah, "Look up in the sky." Noah looked up. The storm clouds were drifting away, the bright sun was shining against Noah's back. And against the dark grey sky, God made a

brilliant rainbow appear. God said to Noah, "You see, I have set my rainbow in the sky. This will be the sign of the covenant I have made with you and all creatures, never again to destroy the earth by a flood. It will always remind us of the promise between you and me."

So, the next time you see a rainbow, think of Noah and the flood. Remember that God loves you, and that no matter how bad the storm, there will always come a bright new day.

That is God's promise, and God always keeps His promises.



**Bangalore South Church**

**Time: Sundays at 4:30 pm**

**Age Group: 4 to 18 years**

**Experience: Lively worship, God's Word, and Fellowship in Kannada and English**

# News & Notes

## How can we develop burden for unbelievers?

I believe there are two primary keys to developing a passion for souls—prayer and proximity.

### **PRAYER—Get close to God**

The first key ingredient to developing a passion for souls is prayer. Evangelism—the process of helping people far from God get close to God—should always begin with prayer. Talk to Jesus about your friends before you talk to your friends about Jesus. When you spend quality time with Jesus, His burdens will become your burdens and His values will become your values. Jesus declared His life's mission in **Luke 19:10**: "*Indeed, the Son of Man has come to seek and to save people who are lost.*" Jesus was all about people, and the closer you get to Him, the more His passion for souls will consume you and become the driving force in your life.

**Acts 4:13** reveals that Peter and John's boldness in sharing their faith came from spending time with Jesus: "*When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.*" Intimacy with Jesus develops within us a passion for souls and the courage to share our faith with them.

John Hyde, a well-known missionary to India, experienced this firsthand. When he arrived on the mission field in 1892, he discovered there were only one other missionary and three Christian women in the state of Punjab, which had a population of about 1 million people at the time. Winning India for Christ seemed like a daunting task.

In 1908, after 16 years of missionary work with very little fruit to show for his labors, Hyde drastically changed his strategy. He felt challenged by the Holy Spirit to pray for a whole year for one soul to be saved every day in India. Many of his fellow missionaries thought that was utterly absurd. It seemed impossible, but over 365 people got saved over the course of the next 12 months. The following year, the Holy Spirit challenged Hyde to stretch his faith and pray for two souls every day. He would often pray all night until he felt confident that two people had surrendered their lives to Christ that day.

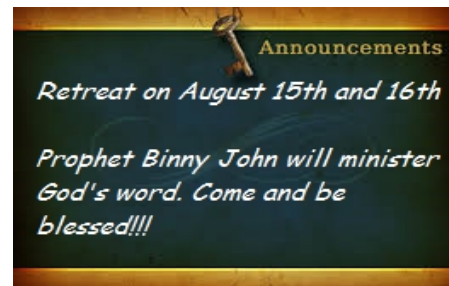
John shocked his fellow missionaries when he announced in

1910 that he was going to double his goal yet again and pray four souls into the Kingdom every day. He doubled his prayer target once more the following year—*eight souls a day!* Hyde's faith and prayers sparked a revival in the state of Punjab that spread to the rest of India. What was the secret to his power in prayer? People who knew John personally witnessed him pray passionately for the salvation of the lost. He would repeat this simple and yet powerful phrase over and over again with tears streaming down his face: "Give me souls, oh God, or I die!" I pray that this prayer will become the deepest cry of your heart.

*...to be continued*



- \* Revival through retreat held on Aug 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>.
- \* Breakthrough in Bangalore South Church.
- \* Couples to serve God full time.
- \* Healing for all those who are sick.
- \* For own place of worship.



## Sermons for this month on the topic—**“Larger Through Evangelism”**

**07.06.15—“God's rescue project” by Pastor Benny**

**14.06.15—“Preach the good news” by Bro. Vinoth Natesan**

**21.06.15—“Word, Works, Wonders” by Pastor Benny**

**24.06.15—“Why are people struggling to preach the Gospel?” by Pastor Frani**

*These messages are available in MP3 format. Please contact the church office for the same.*

### **OUR VISION:**

To reach Karnataka and the globe with the compassionate heart of Jesus Christ.

### **OUR MISSION:**

To establish self-propagating, self-governing, self-supporting spirit-filled churches with equal focus on prayer, worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry, and evangelism.

## Contact Us

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