

Bless the World – In Action and Words, 5.23.21
Series: Your Mission, Should You Choose to Accept It

Introduction

- Redemption Church lives to love God, prioritize people, and bless the world.
- Bless the world: We proclaim the Good News of Christ in actions AND WORDS in the community around us and invite them into abundant life with Jesus.

“When necessary, use words”

A popular meme says: “Preach the Gospel at all times and when necessary, use words.”

A couple of other Bible reasons why ‘telling’ (using words) matters.

- **So that the world may know:**
 - Jesus said:
 - Preach the gospel to all creation (Mark 16:15)
 - As the Father has sent me, so I send you (John 20:21)
 - God is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9)
 - 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? (Romans 10:14-15)
- **So that we may know:** Isaiah 43:10 - “You are my witnesses,” declares the LORD, “and my servant whom I have chosen, *so that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he*. Before me no god was formed, nor will there be one after me.

What makes it hard?

What we need

Ways to Tell the Gospel

- Video #1: The Village Church -- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3c7ay8Pp2Pw>

- Video #2: LeCrae -- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xt9VA3Cxdf0>
- Video #3: The Big Story -- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OvoYMvJDXg0>
- Bonus: Bible Project (about 5 minutes, but explains more; recommended for your own understanding) -- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HT41M013X3A>

Stories:

- Pastor Barry's
- Stories of your friends
- Your stories

The Need for the Power of the Holy Spirit

Luke 24:49 - I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.

Acts 1:4-5, 8: Before he ascended into heaven, he warned them again: Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.... You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Acts 2:1–12, 37-41 - ¹ When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ² Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. ⁵ Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. ⁶ When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. ⁷ Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸

Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome ¹¹ (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!” ¹² Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this mean?”...

³⁷ When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” ³⁸ Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.” ⁴⁰ With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹ Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

Acts 4:23-31 - “Sovereign Lord,” they said, “you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David: “ ‘Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the Lord and against his anointed one.’ Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.