

Salt & Light

Jesus said to His followers, "Go everywhere in the world, and tell the **Good News** to **everyone**." [Mark 16:15]

We are Christ's **ambassadors**; God is making his appeal through **us**.
[2 Corinthians 5:20]

Be wise in the way you act towards outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always **full of grace**, seasoned with **salt**, so that you may know how to answer for everyone. [Colossians 4:5-6]

Always **be prepared** to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. [1 Peter 3:15]

1. **Connect** with people

For the Son of Man came **to seek and to save** what was lost. [Luke 19:10]

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man he could not, because of the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. All the people say this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner." But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord,** "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount" Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came **to seek and to save what was lost**." [Luke 19:1-10]

2. **Share my story** with people

"Let **your light** shine before others, that they may see **your good deeds** and glorify **your Father** in heaven." [Matthew 5:16]

"You will be my **witnesses**, telling people about me everywhere." [Acts 1:8]
Whoever has the most **hope**, has the most **influence**!

3. **Invite them** to a place where they can experience God.

You'll remember, friends, that when I first came to you to let you in on God's sheer genius, I didn't try to impress you with polished speeches and the latest philosophy. I deliberately kept it plain and simple: first Jesus and who he is; then Jesus and what he did—Jesus crucified. I was unsure of how to go about this, and felt totally inadequate—I was scared to death, if you want the truth of it and so nothing I said could have impressed you or anyone else. But the Message came through anyway. **God's Spirit and God's power did it**, which made it clear that your life of faith is a response to God's power, not to some fancy mental or emotional footwork by me or anyone else. [1 Corinthians 2:1-5]

Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "**Who do people say I am?**" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Peter answered, "You are the Christ." [Mark 8:27-29]

✓ A **Locked Gate**

Myth: God **can't be reached**.

He doesn't play hide-and-seek with us. He's not remote; he's near. [Acts 17:27]

✓ A **pile of luggage**

Myth: **God doesn't want me**.

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. [Romans 5:8]

✓ An **endless ladder**

Myth: God **requires a lot from me**.

Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?" Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to **believe** in the one he has sent." [John 6:28-29]

✓ A **free gift**

The **true picture** of God.