

How the Good News Spreads — The Power of Networks

Acts 18:1-11

Pastor Dave Bennett

Daily Bible Readings

March 23 - 29

Introduction

We believe that as followers of Jesus we have been sent into the world to be his witnesses, to tell the good news of forgiveness and new life through him. We believe that our first responsibility, and best opportunity, in sharing the good news is within the natural relationship networks of our daily lives. We believe that persuasive words and loving actions cannot be separated. Both are reflections of the love that inspired God to send Jesus into the world.

I. The Spread of the Good News in the First Century

A. Networks in Corinth

1. Ethnic networks
2. Vocational networks
3. Religious activity networks
4. Family networks

B. Other examples in Acts Acts 10, 11, 16

II. The Spread of the Good News in Ireland

George Hunter, The Celtic Way of Evangelism

III. The Spread of the Good News through Your Networks

- A. Notice the people in the networks you have
- B. Value the life experiences you have already had
- C. Look for opportunities to expand your networks
John 21:1-6
- D. Pray for people in terms of **their** networks

Follow-Throughs

What relationship networks can you identify in these chapters? What were the connections and circumstances through which the gospel spread? Each day review the four applications from the Sunday message:

- Notice the people in the networks you have
- Value the life experiences you have already had
- Look for opportunities to expand your networks
- Pray for people in terms of **their** networks

Monday **Acts 9:9-43**

Tuesday **Acts 10:1-48**

Wednesday **Acts 11:1-30**

Thursday **Acts 16:1-40**

Warm-Ups

Friday **I Peter 2:9-25**

What are God's purposes for us as we live in the world? How are we to be witnesses through our actions? How are we to be witnesses through our words?

Saturday **I Peter 3:1-12**

Many people find themselves in marriages where only one partner is a believer. What advice does Peter give to wives who find themselves married to an unbelieving husband?

What character qualities are listed in these verses? To what extent do these qualities describe you? In what ways can the cultivation of these qualities make our witness more credible?

Sunday **I Peter 3:13-16**

What is involved in being "prepared to give an answer" (verse 15)? What can you do to be better prepared?