

man all have one thing in common: they all need the gospel! Even some on whom we might look down: the individual who is openly homosexual, the guy with the purple mohawk and tattoos, the homeless man on the corner. They all need the gospel. When the Bible tells us that EVERYONE needs the gospel, it means just that! Let's

do everything in our power to give EVERYONE the gospel!

Conclusion

Who needs the gospel? Look around and ask yourself that question. The Scriptures clearly teach us that everyone needs the gospel. It is our responsibility to give everyone the gospel. This doesn't necessarily involve deep theological discussion, it simply means starting a conversation, leaving a note, or saying hello.

There is a short hymn I remember singing out of a supplement entitled, "People Need The Lord." The end of this short hymn simply asked, "When will we realize, people need the Lord?" Brethren, we need to wake up to the fact that we are surrounded by people who are traveling the road to destruction. Let's work harder every day to give these people what they so desperately need: the gospel!



Faithful Sayings Issue 17.19 May 17, 2015

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We are so glad that you joined us today. Please come again.

Let us know if you have any questions.

ISSUE

BULLETIN OF THE OLSEN PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST FAITH SAVINGS

May 17, 2015

Sunday: 9:30 AM 10:20 AM 6:00 PM

Wednesday: 7:00 PM

Elders:

Pat Ledbetter Jeff Nunn **Kyle Pope**

Deacons:

Steve Dixon Jack Langley Neil Ledbetter Brady McAlister Walker McAnear **Lance Purcell Rusty Scott**

Evangelists:

Kyle Pope **Andrew Dow**



Who Needs the Gospel? By Andrew Dow

Tho needs the gospel? The answer to this question may seem like a no-brainer. Concerning this subject, just as Peter said, "I will always be ready to remind you of these things, even though you already know them" (2 Peter 1:12, NASB). In keeping with our theme for this year (planting the word), we would do well to remind ourselves of this important question and its answer. Let's consider the question: who needs the gospel?

What Does Scripture Teach?

Our answer to this question must not be based upon what we have always heard, or what we think the right answer should be. Rather, our answer must be a conviction we derive from the inspired Word of God. Only when we base this answer on God's Word will it truly impact our lives. So, who needs the gospel according to Scripture? Consider a few passages:

Romans 1:16 – "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek." Notice what this verse tells us about the gospel. The gospel is God's power for

salvation. In other words, the gospel is the means by which "everyone who believes" can be saved. So, who is it that needs the gospel? Everyone who needs to be saved! That naturally leads us to another well-known verse in the book of Romans.

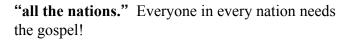
Romans 3:26 — "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." This short statement tells us in no uncertain terms the plight of mankind outside of the gospel. Previously in this same context Paul stated that "both Jews and

Greeks are all under sin; as it is written, 'There is none righteous, not even one'" (Romans 3:9-10). Who is it that needs the gospel? If all men have fallen short of God's glory, then all men need the salvation offered in the gospel!

2 Peter 3:9 — "The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance." Consider what this verse teaches us about whom God desires to receive the gospel. It is God's desire that "all... come to repentance." That cannot be accomplished unless all men have the gospel preached to them (cf. Romans 10:14).

1 Timothy 4:10 — "For it is for this we labor and strive, because we have fixed our hope on the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of believers." In this text, Jesus is described as the Savior of all men. We know from other passages that Jesus can offer this salvation because He became the perfect sacrifice for sin (cf. Hebrews 10:11-14). For whom did Jesus die? His death was so that He might save "all men." Therefore, "all men" need the salvation offered through the gospel!

Matthew 28:18-20 — "Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, '...Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them..., teaching them to observe all that I commanded you..." Lest we neglect the importance of spreading the gospel, some of Jesus' final words are instructions to teach the lost. Notice to whom the disciples are to go:



From the standpoint of Scripture, the answer to our question is simple: everyone needs the gospel. There is not a person alive who is not in desperate need of the gospel. You and I need the gospel, as well as every other man and woman created in the image of God!

What Does Scripture Mean?

We've addressed a few passages that teach us that everyone needs the gospel. We read these verses and we understand them on an intellectual level. We are mentally aware that everyone is in need of the gospel. Sometimes we understand perfectly what scripture TEACHES without fully grasping what it MEANS for our own lives. So, what does God's Word mean when it teaches us that everyone needs the gospel? Consider some very practical thoughts:

Your family needs the gospel. Parents, are you giving your children the gospel? Husbands, are you teaching your wives the gospel (and vice versa)? Are you teaching your parents, siblings, and cousins the gospel? These souls need its salvation!

Your friends and co-workers need the gospel.

Often times our friends from work, school, or elsewhere are the best candidates for Biblical conversations. We have already built up a rapport with them, and they already (hopefully) know our love for their souls. Let us never neglect to share the gospel with these individuals!

Your neighbors need the gospel. Have you shared the gospel with your next-door neighbor? What about the elderly woman who lives a couple of doors down? Does the family across the street know about your love for God? These people need the gospel!

Your waiter/waitress needs the gospel. When being served it is not always easy to think of the needs of the server, but they need the gospel too! Why not start a conversation, or leave a note on the table inviting your server to worship?

We could go on with a list like this forever! The person who delivers your mail, the teenage girl who babysits your kids, the guy sitting across from you in the waiting room, the mom sitting next to you in the bleachers, and the repair



Olsen Park church of Christ