

Monday, 29 June 2015 Romans 10:8-11 [1]

But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame."

The Word is in my mouth to be shared and in my heart to put into action. Two places where the proclamation of the Gospel is often stymied.

I believe that the root of the problem is that core of my being, my heart, that God has labeled as deceitful above all other things. (Jeremiah 17:9) But God has inserted the Holy Spirit into my heart to lead the transformation process; guiding me into the needed message and the passion to speak it (Luke 12:11-13); opening my eyes to opportunities to be Him and addresses the ills of the world around me. Hallelujah, what a Savior!

Tuesday, 30 June 2015 Romans 10:8-11 [2]

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Repeat the Sinner's Prayer after me No Problem!

Now vow that every moment of of your life will be lived in complete obedience to the Word of God; that you will trust Him in everything; that you will seek to draw closer to Him through prayer, study of the Scriptures and faithful practice of spiritual disciplines; that He will be preeminent in your life; and that you will proclaim His goodness to all around you.

Say what????????? Now look, I'm just saying a set of words so that God will think I'm an OK guy and not be too mad at me. Can I go now?

Wednesday, 1 July 2015 Romans 10:8-11 [3]

But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame."

Driving a car in my youth and early adulthood was a task requiring a small degree of dexterity and coordination. The primary challenge was one of getting my left foot to communicate with my right hand when it was necessary to shift gears. The two were at odds frequently resulting in considerable noise and lurching. But practice did its work and that task became one that was totally ingrained and effortless.

Salvation is likewise, a process with two aspects. The belief of the heart and the confession of the mouth are both needed to move the life of the individual along the King's Highway in the here and now. James puts it very succinctly in James 2:17 "So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead." Or in my paraphrase, "Faith without results is useless" Paul also counsels in Philippians 2:12 to apply our faith.

The combination of coordination/consistency between mouth and heart results in a transformed life that lives and acts according to the Word of God.

Thursday, 2 July 2015 Romans 10:8-11 [4]

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Now we get to another of those precious promises, a 'take it to the bank' promise. How frequently have I succumbed to the fear of humiliation and held my tongue when I should be bold? When will I trust Him? Be bold for the Lord and do not fear the ridicule of man. Speak boldly! Live boldly! Be bold for the Lord Jesus Christ.

Friday, 3 July 2015 Romans 10:14-15 [1]

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent?

As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"

We are planning to attend a reunion this coming weekend in our old neighborhood in Connecticut. A neighborhood that knew us BC. Will they see a change? And will they recognize its source? Will they hear a change and give God the glory?

Pray for boldness.

Saturday, 4 July 2015 Romans 10:14-15 [2]

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"

Who does not treasure an 'Atta boy' from their earthly father? Who does not long to hear their Lord say those precious words, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant" (Matthew 25:23, 25)

So, let us be ready at all times to preach the Word, (2 Timothy 4:2) and to do so with gentleness and respect (1 Peter 3:15)

Are you considering how to carry the Good News to those in your Personal Mission Field? Download the guide from the Fellowship to help you in this task.

Lord's Day, 5 July 2015 Psalm 119:143

Trouble and anguish have found me out, but your commandments are my delight.

Even though life does not follow the path I think it should; that frequently my best laid plans come to naught; that others do not see the logic and beauty of my reasoning, and that the results of a project are disappointing, even then, You are with me. Oh, that I would remember to turn to You and Your word for solace and guidance.

Or better yet, to turn to You for guidance before I set out on my best laid plans.

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Psalms



June 29-July 5, 2015

Voices Together is extracted from my daily meditations and is shared in the hope that others will be encouraged to turn to the Psalms as a rich source of guidance for prayer and meditation.

It is published daily on the website of the Fellowship of Ailbe, www.ailbe.org; along with material by other writers to encourage and assist in our walks as disciples of Jesus Christ.

These messages can also be received as daily emails or in a monthly printed version by sending a request to:

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