

Proclaiming the Gospel

by Erlo Stegen

The sermon calls for a deep repentance and understanding of God's love to experience true revival in the Christian life.

Duration: 49:55

Scripture: Psalm 119:105, Matthew 6:6, Acts 3:19, Romans 12:2, 1 Timothy 2:12, James 5:16, 1 John 1:9

Topics: "The Gospel"

Description

In this sermon, the speaker discusses the contrast between the older generation in Romania who serve the Lord in a lawful way and the younger generation who have rejected legalism and embraced worldly ways. The speaker emphasizes the importance of receiving the truth and walking with God obediently. They highlight God's promise of streams of living water that bring health and vigor to those who walk with Him. The speaker also mentions the simplicity of the gospel message and expresses gratitude for fellow Christians.

Transcript

Before that, I had been on a search mission, finding out how I can live to be a better Christian. Despite every effort and all my praying, I just couldn't find real proper fruit in my life. I read in the book of Acts how every day the Lord added to the church and how the apostles were full of the Holy Spirit.

He was stunned by my question, for I had been one of his best co-workers. I said, you know, I can repeat that name hundreds of times but no power comes. I decided to drop all my frivolous piety because it had become like a circus to me.

It was about two weeks later that I was invited to attend a service where Erlo Stegen was going to be there in Darmstadt. It had been through an uncle of mine who was once here. I thought, well, you can listen to this man again but then you won't go with me.

So, upon being invited, I said, all right, I'll go listen to the man and then that's the end of it. When I heard the message about the exceeding greatness of God's love, it just showed up my need. I realized this is what I want.

An illustration was used that night of a girl who had been chased away from home, stripped of everything, but she said, mom, you can take everything away from me but you cannot remove the love that I have

towards you. I had such a desire for this love and could not wait until the service was over. And when all the people got up to pray to our Father, I looked to see if all the eyes were closed, and then I walked through the church to this great man.

He said to me, I am a man of great love. On a physical level. You have to explain.

You know on the airport in Johannesburg, a man asked me, who are you? Where are you from? I said I'm from a mission station. Oh, what do you do there? I said, I'm the youngest there. I work in the garden.

He said, oh, that must be... God has a place for them too, who work in the garden. And there are such people even in paradise. He said, but there is a man there, who is called, I think, Kehluk.

And God works through him. So now I just wanted to explain, to add, you said a big man. Here are perhaps men who say, oh, he is big.

I say, what do you mean by big? Yes, she meant physically tall, big. Now I have been questioning her, what do you mean with big? Because all these people are not my friends. And if you say, he is a big man, then they say, oh my.

And then I told them when we got to the airport, to the airport in Johannesburg, I heard a man speaking to somebody. He was actually speaking to somebody in Australia. And he said, look, I'm trusting the Lord.

I thought, oh, that's a good point. So I stood next to him and I waited till he finished. When he had finished, he turned away.

But to the other side, I thought he turned to me. He turned to the other side and I said, look, excuse me, I just want to congratulate you. He says, what for? I said, for saying such a good thing, that you trust the Lord.

You need to be congratulated. I do the same. Oh, so we started chatting.

Where do you come from? He said, Costa Sabanto. Oh, he said, I must go there. They're doing such a good work.

Not only for that place, the whole of South Africa. We respect them. And there's a man.

I forgot his name, I think it's Gelo. Gelo, I said. He said, now who are you? What's your function there? I said, well, I'm the smallest there.

I'm working in the garden. He says, well, there's a place for everybody. Even in paradise, there must be some that work in the garden.

And I say, yes, that's true. I would like to say a few words. I'm not one of those people who are in a position to say, I don't want to work in the garden.

What I would like to say is, I would like to say, I'm not one of those people who are in a position to say, I don't want to work in the garden. I'm from Costa Sabanto. What I would like to say is, I'm not one of those people who are I don't want to work in the garden.

What I would like to say is, I'm not one of those people who are I don't want to work in the garden. What I would like to say is, I'm not one of those people who are I don't want to work in the garden. What I would

like to say is, I'm not one of those people who are in a position to say, I don't want to work in the garden.

I think about what I need to do, So, when he comforted me, he comforted me, he said, don't worry, even garden boys are necessary. Good luck, so I stood then next to this He looked at me and I said to him, I lack this love. I had a total bankruptcy with my life.

He said, pay attention to the fruit and he prayed a very short, simple prayer. And so he just prayed a very short prayer with me. I went home and I didn't tell a soul, neither my husband nor my children, what had happened.

In my family, prayer was very common and I also prayed very often. But never before has a prayer had such an effect in my life as this. But never has a prayer had such an effect like that short prayer.

When I woke up the next morning at five o'clock, my whole past was in front of me in my lovelessness. The next morning, I woke up at five o'clock and I could see my whole life of lovelessness before my eyes. I cried like a little baby and asked my husband for forgiveness that I was such a bad wife.

My two sons, Jochen was thirteen and Michael was eight years old, I also asked for forgiveness that I was a bad mother. Jochen was thirteen and Michael was eight years old, I also asked for forgiveness that I was a bad mother. I went to both my children, my two sons Jochen who was thirteen at the time and Michael who was eight, and I said, forgive me for having been such a bad mother.

Never again. Never again. Michael said to me, Mom, don't go back to this Olo Stegen, otherwise you are going to weep continuously.

He made the connection between my profuse tears and last night's meeting. He made the connection between my profuse tears and last night's meeting. But I said, he who cannot weep properly cannot rejoice properly.

Later, the Lord showed me what else was in my heart apart from lovelessness. It did not stop. Besides my lovelessness, God showed me all manner of other sins which he just kept on revealing to me.

It was like a stream, it did not seem to stop. But the Lord forgave me all and I thank him with my life. Now in the church I was known with a good reputation as a good woman.

But the brethren in leadership felt that they could not find any fellowship with me in this, and so there was a growing disconnection. They did not want to work with me anymore and said that I should not teach the women and not the children. I said, this which you have got, we are going to now make a rule for you that we forbid you to teach or to give lessons or bible studies to the women or the children.

I said, that is fine, I will just be completely silent in church and just pray. But three months later, six men came to see me. They said, now we are commanding you to send away these young people that come and meet in your house.

I said, in my bible it says to be hospitable, do not forget that. And they all come alone. You have to tell them that they are not allowed to come.

So I said to them, the bible commands me to be hospitable, so if you do not want them to come, then you command them. So I said, well look, I am under authority and that is my husband and he is happy to have these young people. But I said, if this is such a problem, then it is better that we separate.

But I said, if it causes such division, such a problem, then it would be better if our ways would part. They were very glad. But I cried and prayed and said, Lord, I need a church, please help me.

And then he said, where two or three are one in my name, then I am among you. I cried much those days, but as I sought the Lord about my need for fellowship, he spoke to me and said, where two or three are gathered, there am I. I said, thank you Lord, we are already more than two or three and I knew that this little circle is my community. I said, well thank you Lord, because there are more than two or three and I know that this is my congregation.

Since then, the Lord has never left us. He has always led us closer together with the awakening and with the brothers and sisters in Germany. And since that time, the Lord has never forsaken us, but there has only been a continued getting closer together with the brethren here at the mission and in Germany.

And I would like to thank you all for your prayer. When I heard that a congregation was going to be officially opened there in Bensheim in Germany, there was a picture that stood before me. And before me I saw this lady and her two children who have been following with us for a long time, known her from before.

No, in Germany when we had the services, she would follow as we had the different services, she would always be there. So, when seeing that picture and then... And then knowing that it was just wonderful the way it came together that this was now the official opening of this congregation and together with her sons, one of them Michael, is also a leader of the young people there in Europe. Not only of the young people, but in leadership there in Germany.

And I am so grateful personally because from their congregation I received two into my family, Maria and Frank. And they have been such a blessing to us. When Maria was still alive, what a blessing she was.

When we went to places where communists had ruled, I learnt something else. There was the visible influence of communism which just spoils everything, the mentality, it just is total destruction. Now that they have had a liberation from communism, one finds that instead of them following the Lord, they are just being swept away down the river with the world.

And now seeing on Western TV all the habits and all the things that they do, they have now gone even further in their immorality. In Poland there are huge billboards advertising that people should come to their nightclubs. And huge photographs of naked women.

In Romania we found that the older generation are still serving the Lord, but in a conservative and very lawful way. And the children, rejecting the legalism of their parents have just gone to the other extreme with the world and if you see the way that they dress like in summer, it is just astonishing. And I thought about the fact that we who receive the truth and are enabled to walk with him in this world and be obedient to him.

There are four rows of cars that park on either side of the road with just a little bit in between for cars to go by. And so I realise that here's just one single example of the foolishness of communism trying to build for the people and not being able to think ahead. Not a single garage and now it's just chaos.

Now it is foolish, spiritually speaking, for a person to leave that which is the real thing, that which is of real worth, and follow after that which is worthless. It's the first time in our life that we hear such a thing. All they know except Jesus Christ as your saviour.

He loves the sinner. And it's just nonsense. Their lives are full of sin and they don't know that Jesus can take that sin away.

It breaks the heart. And I thought of Louis Harms that he said the gospel is going to die out in Europe and the Africans will need to come to bring them the gospel. People don't know that Jesus came to save you from your sin.

They are Christians but they gossip, they are loveless, they can talk about others. And you see, they are damned with their Christianity. We had services usually two hours in length at each place.

And we really spoke seriously. Say what you like. And after an hour he said, people of Romania, Christians, this is what you need.

That's why we've got no revival. We need revival. We need to repent of our sin.

We need to confess our sin. That's why we are in such a state. We pray that our land will be healed.

It will never be healed. We've got to repent and turn to God away from our sins. I've never heard a person speaking like that over the radio.

He just swallowed it hook line and sink it. He says now I can understand why the world has got no revival. It's sin in the Christian's life.

It's so simple. And yet people pray for revival. They'll die, they'll never get it.

Unless they repent of their sin and bring it to light. And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him. What do you do? You talk behind his back.

And you claim to be a Christian. You've accepted Christ. There are many Christs.

You've accepted the wrong Christ. The Christ I know, he won't allow me to do such a thing. And why does he allow you? The Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him.

And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him. And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him. It's no secret.

It's so simple, so easy. Sometimes you just feel like taking the Christians and shaking them. Why are you so blind? Why are you so dead? You want revival.

That's the normal thing for Christians. The normal thing. But sin blinds people and they go the way of death.

Straight for hell. The Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him. And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him.

And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him. And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him. And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him.

And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him. And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him. And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him.

him, speak to him.

And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him. And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him. And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him.

And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him. And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him. And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him.

And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him. And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him. And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him.

And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him. And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him. And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him.

And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him. And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him. And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him.

And the Bible says if you see your brother sinning, go to him, speak to him. And the Bible says it and how it's still going on today. When they had come together at Mapumulu any day of the week, a hundred, two hundred, three hundred people were standing outside, weeping, saying we want to repent.

And can God forgive us our sins? And then I prayed, O Lord, be merciful to them, forgive them their sins, et cetera. When I finished, they said, no Mfundisi, not like that. Give every one of us an opportunity that we can confess our sin one by one, by name.

We don't just want a general prayer, we want to confess our sin. And the minister said, brother, why didn't you tell them to go home and confess to God alone in their bedroom? Then I said, when a person goes into his bedroom and comes out, we say, what did you hide in your bedroom? He says, no, I confessed my sin. I said, oh, is that how you confess your Lord? Do you go into the bedroom and you confess Him there alone? Then he was quiet.

I said, I told them, I prayed a general prayer, but they said we want to name our sin by name. I don't know how a person in this world can call himself a Christian, believe that the Bible is God's Word, and he goes against confession. He must be blind.

Take your Bible, read it. Read it during the day, not when it's dark, when it's light. If you can, read it on your knees.

We could speak till tomorrow about things we experienced, great things. Some things we've never experienced before in Europe. Never.

So we praise God for what He did. They had waited for 12 years. 12 years ago, they invited us.

And I said, well, they invited us again. I said, will it take 12 years? Then I'll be 82. So, age plays a role as well.

When I was in Germany the other day, the little, my grandchildren said, we want to go with you to Europe. I said, look, children, you can't, you're still too small, you've got to grow up. In 20 years time, you can go with me.

One of my daughters said, Papa, what are you saying? I looked at them, why? Yeah, what did you say to the children? I said, in 20 years, how old will you be then? You'll be over 90. Well, who knows? Most probably I'll be in heaven. I don't think I'm in Mesuzarah.

Moses started with 80. He got to 120 in spite of the fact that he said the age of a man is 70 years. Let us pray.

We thank you, Lord, that we are gathered here today. We thank you, Lord, that we could meet here this morning. We pray also for Francis' uncle, that he would have a blessed home flat.

Lord, be with him as family, that he and the whole country would be blessed through your working in him. And Lord, we pray that your work will go forward in strength. And that your holy word in these evil times of ours will conquer nations.

Amen. Now, friends, let's get down to business. Let's not fool around.

If you want to play church, there are many churches in the world that will open their doors to you. Go and join them. But I don't need you here.

I'm not the only one. There are quite a few who are determined to go God's way. We've tasted revival.

We're not prepared to sacrifice it. We're not prepared to turn our backs on God's working. If you do it, you can go.

But we want to be faithful to the end with the message which the world needs today. There's no other message. The Lord be with you.

Audio: <https://sermonindex1.b-cdn.net/14/SID14385.mp3>

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/erlo-stegen/proclaiming-the-gospel/>

Grow in Your Walk with Christ

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

www.sermonindex.net