

Challenge

by Mark Cahill

Mark Cahill emphasizes the urgent call for Christians to actively share their faith and make a difference in the world around them.

Duration: 7:54

Scripture: Matthew 28:19

Topics: "Evangelism", "Discipleship"

Description

This sermon emphasizes the importance of actively sharing one's faith and making a difference in the world by spreading the message of Jesus Christ. It challenges Christians to move beyond personal salvation and to impact the lives of those around them. The speaker highlights the urgency of sharing the gospel, the need for Christians to care about the eternal destiny of others, and the call to take action in spreading the light of Christ in a dark world.

Transcript

I just spoke in Minnesota. I was glad I left too. I'm sure you're glad you left too.

Too cold. Is the sound okay? Got okay back there? I was in Minnesota speaking. I did a retreat for a church.

I'm at this church. Most of the kids went to one public high school at this church. They went home from the retreat after four days.

They made a commitment. This is what they did. I found out about this later.

They went back to their church youth room. They put up poster boards on all the wall in their youth room. They put each class at the school and all the students in each class, every single grade, ninth through twelfth grade.

They put another poster board up there, and they put every administrator and every teacher's name on that poster board. Within three months, every single student, every single teacher, every single administrator, every single principal had a one-on-one conversation about Jesus Christ from one of those teenagers in that youth group. See, what they did on Wednesdays and Sundays, they talked about who they had witness to.

They prayed for those seeds to grow. They talked about who they were going to chat with the coming days. They prayed for God to soften those hearts, and they decided, that's it.

I'm going to go home. I'm going to make a difference at my school. I don't care what anyone thinks about me.

My simple question is, I wonder if any of those youth groups sit out here, or are these the types of youth groups, we just want to go to the next convention, to the next conference, to the next conference, we jump up and down, we mosh pit, we go home, and we're just like everybody else. I've got to tell you, that's not what Biblical Christianity is about. Biblical Christianity is, you get Jesus Christ, you then take that Jesus Christ, and you change the entire world around you because of that.

What many of us want is just enough Jesus Christ to get to heaven, but not enough Jesus Christ to change the world we live in. Let me tell you something. God is in the business of sending wake-up calls.

September 11th was a wake-up call, I believe, for Christians. We've got to get our tails in gear. We've got to do what matters.

We need to make our stand no matter what. No matter what. It's a sad thing to think about, that this many Christians, well, I'll just ask the question.

If you've had a one-on-one conversation with someone at your hotel, a waiter, a waitress, someone that's lost since you've been here for two days here in Pigeon Forge, you've had a one-on-one conversation about Jesus Christ with a lost person, raise your hand up for me since you've been here. Okay? About four hands up. Okay? Let me tell you something.

That's the problem with the American church today. You trying to tell me this many Christians come to this town and we don't rock this town for Jesus Christ? I don't think so. Panama City Beach, Florida, just did a retreat for a church who went out there.

Saturday night, we hit the streets. Hit the beach one night when all the people were out, kicking it for the Lord. We had so much fun.

Let me tell you something. People are so... I sat down with three seniors in college the other day. I met them at a retreat.

Senior boys, just like this, bowed up for Jesus Christ as seniors in high school. They all go off to public colleges, bowed up. Bowed up as seniors.

They're sharing their faith. They're bowed. We sat and had lunch.

We start witnessing with the waitress. This was a week ago. Her name was Dixie.

Earlier in the year, her eight-day-old baby died. Three months after that, her father committed suicide. Okay? She's sharing all this with us at the table.

We're talking about different things. She said, I want to know what you believe. One of the most phenomenal conversations I've ever had with just the waitress.

Why? Because before I go to a restaurant, I pray, God, give me the right waiter or waitress to talk to today. And I don't take it by chance that who he sends to that table. Yesterday, plane flight from New York to Atlanta before I came here, sat next to a 27-year-old gentleman from New York.

Lives in Orlando now. His six-year-old daughter lives in New York. We talked almost the whole plane flight things about, God, we're going to teach you how to share your faith, okay? We talked almost the whole time about it.

Guess what? I finally shared. Can I ask you a question? He said, yeah. I said, have you ever heard about the sins that you've committed and then heard about what Jesus Christ did for you on the cross? He said, I've never heard this one single time in my life.

27 years old, had never heard the gospel one time. Is that right? That's wrong. That's our job to do something about it.

Every second, seven people die. By the time you put your head on your pillow tonight, 600,000 people have walked off planet Earth and would have stood in front of the throne of Almighty God. By the time your three days are over with here, 1.8 million people will have died and gone off into eternity.

I've got a simple question for you. Do you care? I've got a much tougher question for you all. Do you care enough to do something about it? Because trust me, if you don't care enough to do something about it, remember these words, you don't care.

And that's the problem we've got in the American church and today is the day to change that. There are people in your life that need to hear that truth that you've got and the question is, are you going to stand up for what you believe? Every second, seven people die. 600,000 people by the time you put your head on your pillow today.

Do you care? But do you care enough to do something about it? And that's what we're going to talk about tonight. Let's pray. Heavenly Father, thank you so much for a chance to be here to glorify your name.

Father God, do one thing in this session, glorify your name. Glorify your son's name. And Father God, give us the tools, give us the equipment, give us the passion to walk outside these doors and start glorifying your name outside this theater.

Glorifying it everywhere we go and taking that light and putting out that darkness. And I thank you so much for that. We ask in the great name of your son Jesus Christ.

Amen. Okay, first thing. Now, think about something.

Change your mindset real quick, okay? Sometimes we get to praise and worship time and you're like, oh my goodness, I've got to praise and worship God. Not that you've got to praise and worship. I said you've always got the wrong vowel.

Not that you've got to, but what? I get to. I get to praise and worship God anywhere and anytime I feel like it. Why? Because he's God.

That's why. If you do not have a good singing voice, raise your hand up for me. If you don't have a good voice.

Okay? Excellent. I've got two hands up. I can't sing a lyric.

I'm terrible, okay? I'm terrible. But this is what hit me one day. I was worried about what other people thought about this man's voice.

Does your opinion of this voice matter? By the way, when you're singing, who are you singing to? You're singing to God. Do not let anyone next to you decide what you do as far as being a Christian believer in Jesus Christ. You'll have Pharisees try to hold you back more than lost people will.

Think about that. I've had lost people buy me dinner. I've had lost people do all kinds of stuff for me just because I witnessed to them.

I've had saved people tell me, no one's listening to you tonight. They weren't walking in the same shoes I walk in. I can't sing.

I just spoke in Kentucky. I'm a single guy. I was staying at a house.

I like to say people's house. I was staying at someone's house with five boys in that house. That was fun, man.

Ooh, that was crazy. Okay? Got up one morning. I just, the lady, the mom of the house plays worship music all the time.

So I'm just walking around singing. I'm taking a shower. I'm just singing because I'm single.

I just sing around my apartment. I just sing. We sit down to have breakfast.

Three-story house. Two of the boys come in. Sit down for breakfast.

Hey, thanks a lot, Mr. Cahill. I said, what? Thanks for waking us up this morning. Waking you up? I said, what do you mean waking you up? We heard you singing this morning when you were in the shower, man.

You woke us up upstairs and stuff.

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