Our Responsibility 我們的責任

Romans 羅馬書 9:30-10:21 James Barnett 詹姆斯·巴內特 24th July 2022 年 7 月 24 日

I could never do that. 我永遠做不到。

They pray for 2 hours a day, and when they say they've been praying for me I know it's not a lie.

他們每天祈禱兩個小時, 當他們說他們一直在為我祈禱時, 我知道這不是謊言。

They're the parent who reads the bible with their kids every day and they look like little saints. 他們是每天和孩子一起讀聖經的父母,他們的孩子看起來像小聖徒。

They have just completed reading the bible from cover to cover for the 4th time this year. 他們今年剛剛完成了第四次從頭到尾的聖經閱讀。

They talk to everyone they've ever met about Jesus. 他們與他們見過的每個人談論耶穌。

I've had people say to me, you pray to God for me, he's more likely to hear you than he is to listen to me. We can make this separation between people we think are good Christians and bad Christians.

我曾有人對我說, 你為我向上帝祈禱, 他更可能聽到你的聲音, 而不是聽我的。我們可以把我們認為是好基督徒和壞基督徒的人分開。

We can see Christians that look amazing, and think I can't be like that kind of person, I don't have the time or the effort, or maybe I don't want to be like them, that's a little too intense and weird.

我們可以看到基督徒看起來很棒,並且認為我不能像他們,我沒有時間或精力,或者我不想像他們一樣,他們是有點太激烈和詭異了。

I wonder if we see some Christians and compare ourselves, 'is that what a real Christian is to look like'? I wonder if that makes us get depressed about our lives and relationship with God, I'm not nearly as holy as them! Does it make us strive harder to be a 'real' Christian or feel that the bar is set so high we don't even try.

我想知道我們是否看到一些基督徒並比較自己, "這就是真正的基督徒應該是什麼樣子"?我想知道這是否會讓我們對我們的生命和與上帝的關係感到沮喪, 我不像他們那麼聖潔!它是否讓我們更加努力地成為一個"真正的"基督徒, 或者覺得標准設置得如此之高, 我們甚至都沒有嘗試。

We've been going through the book of Romans and seen that we have been Made New by God's grace in Jesus. All deserve punishment for our sin. He has forgiven it freely at the cross. To have relationship with him.

我們一直在閱讀《羅馬書》,並看到我們已經因上帝在耶穌裡的恩典而被更新。所有人都應該為我們的罪受到懲罰,而他在十字架上白白地赦免了它們,讓我們可和他有關係。

And as Steve showed last week, this is all at his sovereign control. We don't do anything to deserve it.

正如主任牧師上週表明的那樣,這一切都在他的主權控制之下。我們沒有做任何事情使我們配得。

Paul again shows his love and concern for the Jews. Those who Jesus came from. But now the reality of the impact of a free gospel comes to bear. It comes to people who have no history of relationship with God. It has gone to the Jews first, and then to the gentiles.

<u>保羅</u>再次表現出他對<u>猶太</u>人的愛和關懷。與耶穌一樣的出身的人。但現在自由福音的影響的現實開始顯現。臨到在歷史上與上帝沒有關係的人。它首先傳給了<u>猶太</u>人,然後傳給了外邦人。

But for the Jews, we'll see today that their challenge was that they worked really hard, they were very faithful and passionate. But we'll see in Romans that Paul will question who they are trusting in.

但對於猶太人來說,我們今天將看到他們面臨的挑戰是他們工作非常努力,他們非常忠誠和熱情。但我們會在《羅馬書》中看到,保羅會質疑他們所信賴的是什麼。

Challenge will be similar for us. Are we actually trusting in Jesus, and is our life shaped but that.

這挑戰對我們來說也是類似的。我們是否真的信靠耶穌, 我們的生命是否被所信來塑造。

1. Belief is Not Enough 信是不夠的

Paul has just explained that God is sovereign. He chooses those who he calls. Being chosen by him has got nothing to do with us! So Paul answers the question of why those outside God's family get chosen and not all of God's people.

<u>保羅</u>剛剛解釋說,神是至高無上的。他選擇他召的人。被他選中與我們無關!因此,<u>保</u> <u>羅</u>回答了為什麼上帝家庭以外的人而不是所有上帝的子民都被揀選的問題。

Verse 30 第 30 節

30 What then shall we say? That the Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, have obtained it, a righteousness that is by faith; 31 but the people of Israel, who pursued the law as the way of righteousness, have not attained their goal.

這樣,我們要怎麼說呢?那不追求義的外邦人卻獲得了義,就是因信而獲得的義。31但以色列人追求律法的義,反而達不到律法的義。

Those who live such wicked lives were more open to the gospel compared with those who had pursed righteousness. The Jews knew they had a deep need for righteousness. But everyone else outside of God's people had no idea they needed anything from God.

與那些追求正義的人相比,那些過著如此邪惡生活的人更願意接受福音。<u>猶太</u>人知道他們非常需要公義。但是除了上帝子民之外的其他所有人都不知道他們需要從上帝那裡得到的任何東西。

But even though the Jews knew they needed to be right before God, they pursued it the wrong way. Why haven't they attained their Goal? Verse 32.

但即使猶太人知道他們需要與上帝和好成義,他們卻以錯誤的方式追求它。為什麼他們沒有達到他們的目標?第32節。

32 Why not? Because they pursued it not by faith but as if it were by works. They stumbled over the stumbling stone. 33 As it is written: "See, I lay in Zion a stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall, and the one who believes in him will never be put to shame."

32 這是甚麼緣故呢?是因為他們不憑著信心,而是憑著行為,他們正跌在那絆腳石上。33 就如經上所記:「我在<u>錫安</u>放一塊絆腳的石頭,使人跌倒的磐石;信靠他的人必不蒙羞。|

A stumbling block has been put in their way. As a parent of kids who leave lego on the floor, and plenty of literal stumbling blocks around, they're the worst.

一個絆腳石已經放在了他們的路上。作為將樂高積木留在地板上的孩子的父母,並且在周圍有很多實際上的絆腳石,他們是最糟糕的。

But this stumbling block has stopped them from getting the righteousness of God. Jesus is the stumbling block. And believing in him requires that we put our works down. Faith in him demands that we humble ourselves before him to be raised up to life.

但這塊絆腳石卻阻止了他們得著神的義。耶穌是絆腳石。相信他需要我們放下我們的工作。信靠他是要求我們在他面前謙卑自己,才能複活。

As long as anyone pursues faith by works, as verse 32 says, they will stumble in pursuit of the goal, being right before God.

只要任何人通過行為追求信仰,正如第 32 節所說,他們在追求目標,在上帝面前為義,的過程中就會跌倒。

Imagine you were to die today and stand before God, and he asked you "Why should I let you into my heaven?" What would you say?

想像你今天死了,站在上帝面前,他問你「我為什麼要讓你進入我的天堂?」你打算說什麼?

Would it be that 'I have loved God, I've followed him, I've been a good student, parent, worked hard.' Would it be any of those that starts with the letter I? That's what the Jews were doing, they were trying to say to God that their righteousness could be found in them. The Jews would say their zealous life, their energy and effort in following him.

會不會是「我愛上帝,我跟隨他,我是一個好學生,父母,努力工作。」會是那些以「我」作開頭的回應嗎?這就是<u>猶太</u>人所做的,他們試圖對上帝說,他們的義可以在他們身上找到。猶太人會說他們熱心的生活,以他們的精力和努力追隨他。

God has placed a rock before us. Jesus can either be the foundation which our lives are built on, or he can be the rock we stumble over.

上帝在我們面前放置了一塊石頭。耶穌可以是我們生命的基石,也可以是我們絆腳的石頭。

The Jews had everything they needed for salvation but they've tripped over their desire to follow their path to salvation.

猶太人擁有救贖所需的一切, 但他們卻因渴望以自己的方式得救贖而絆倒。

Last week we saw that Paul puts the responsibility of belief and unbelief to God's sovereign control. And it seems that this is contradictory. How can any person like the Jews be responsible for stumbling.

上週我們看到保羅將信和不信的責任置於上帝的主權控制之下。這似乎是矛盾的。像猶太人這樣的人怎麼能對絆腳負責。

But both things are true.

但這兩件事都是真的。

God's sovereignty and human responsibility stand together. They seem like a contradiction, but work.

上帝的主權和人的責任並存。它們看起來很矛盾, 但很有效。

"We are responsible for our rejection of the gospel, but we are not responsible for our acceptance of it." Martyn Lloyd-Jones

「我們對我們拒絕福音負責,但我們不對我們接受它負責。」馬丁·勞埃德-瓊斯

But this is not just a piece of cold doctrine to Paul. You can see Paul's pain and his heart for them in 10:1.

但這對保羅來說不僅僅是一個冷冰冰的教義。你可以在 10:1 看到保羅的痛苦和他對他們的心意。

Brothers and sisters, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved.

弟兄們, 我心裏所渴望的和向上帝所求的, 是要以色列人得救。

For us when we talk about 'the Jews' it is just as a group of people, some of whom rejected Jesus. But for Paul, these are family, brothers and sisters, cousins. People he worked with, cared for, and continues to care for. For Paul, it's just like us being concerned for our family and friends that don't know Jesus. It's just heightened because they have been longing for him. They follow the God that sent Jesus.

對我們來說,當我們談論「<u>猶太</u>人」時,他們只是一群人,其中有一些拒絕了耶穌。但 對<u>保羅</u>來說,這些都是家人、兄弟姐妹、堂兄弟姐妹。與他一起工作、關心並繼續關心 的人。對<u>保羅</u>來說,這就像我們關心我們不認識耶穌的家人和朋友一樣。這只是因為他 們一直渴望他而變得更加強烈。他們跟隨派遣耶穌的上帝。

And he sees how much passion they have towards God. 他看到了他們對上帝的熱情。

- 2 For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God,
- 2 我為他們作證,他們對上帝有熱心,

Zeal can be defined as – 'great energy or enthusiasm in pursuit of a cause or an objective.' They see the goal of righteousness before God, and they have been pursuing it with great energy and enthusiasm.

熱心可以定義為…「在追求事業或目標時的巨大能量或熱情」。他們在神面前看到了公義的目標,並且一直以極大的精力和熱情去追求。

They've been so zealous! They were willing to go to any lengths to obey God. Think of the Old Testament laws. They were very close in following them. Food laws, sabbath, cleansing, sacrifices. They were extremely focussed on pleasing, honouring, and serving God.

他們太熱心了! 他們願意不惜一切代價服從上帝。想想《舊約》的律法。他們非常接近地跟隨著。飲食的法、安息日、潔淨禮、祭祀。他們非常專注於取悅、榮耀和侍奉上帝。

But! The rest of verse 2. 但! 第 2 節的其餘部分。

but their zeal is not based on knowledge. 3 Since they did not know the righteousness of God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. 4 Christ is the culmination of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.

但(他們的熱心)不是按著真知識。 3 因為不明白上帝的義, 想要立自己的義, 他們就不服上帝的義了。 4 律法的總結就是基督, 使所有信他的人都得著義。

This is the complete opposite of the modern thought "It doesn't matter what you believe as long as you believe it". The Jews were sincere. They were devout. They believed and they believed and obeyed far 'better' than many Christians. The same could be said of Buddhists, or Muslims. There are those who seem to do more than us.

這與現代思想「信什麼都無所謂,只要你信」完全相反。<u>猶太</u>人是真誠的。他們很虔誠。 他們相信,他們的信和服從遠比許多基督徒「更好」。佛教徒或穆斯林也可以這樣說。 有些人似乎比我們做得更多。

But Paul is saying that it doesn't matter how hard you believe, it doesn't matter how committed you are, it doesn't matter how much of your life you give or money you give – if it is all a mistake.

但<u>保羅</u>是說,不管你多麼努力地信,不管你有多忠誠,不管你付出了多少生命或金錢··· 如果這都是一個錯誤的話。

The truth is that zeal without knowledge or understanding is just fanaticism, or at it's very worst it is terrorism.

事實是,沒有知識或理解的熱心只是狂熱,或者最壞的情況是恐怖主義。

It is Alisa's birthday next week. And out of my love for her I make her a cake. What a good husband! And it's get's to her birthday, and I've made an amazing cake, sponge and cream, and it's got heaps of cream, because that's what I like. And as she's eating it, the look on her face changes, getting more concerned with each chew. Alisa says, this doesn't have dairy in it does it. You know I'm allergic to dairy. And I've ruined her day, and next couple of days.

下週是我太太 Alisa 的生日。出於對她的愛, 我給她做了一個蛋糕。多麼好的丈夫! 到了她的生日, 我做了一個很棒的蛋糕,海綿和奶油,裡面有很多奶油,因為那是我喜歡的。當她吃它的時候,她臉上的表情發生了變化,對每一次咀嚼都更加關心。 Alisa 說,這裡面有沒有奶製品。你知道我對奶製品過敏。我毀了她的一天,還有接下來的幾天。

In that situation I had passion, zeal, love, works. But not knowledge. And the result is disastrous.

在那種情況下,我有激情、熱情、愛和工作。但不是知識。結果是災難性的。

Belief is not enough. 信是不夠的。

They pursued the wrong thing. It doesn't matter how hard you run down the path if it's the wrong path.

他們追求錯誤的東西。如果它是錯誤的路徑, 那麼你在這條路上跑得有多努力都沒關係。

What is your life built on? Will Jesus be a stumbling block or the foundation of your life? 你的生命建立在什麼之上? 耶穌會成為你生命的絆腳石還是基石?

It is possible to come to church, to have all outward appearance of following Jesus, but to still be like the Jews, trusting ourselves. When we come with humility, and see that we bring nothing except our need. We can answer that question God might ask — Why should I let you into heaven truthfully. There is no reason, I don't deserve it. But Jesus, the man on the cross said I could come in.

來教會,表面上是跟隨耶穌,但仍然像<u>猶太</u>人一樣,相信自己是可能的。當我們議卑地來到這裡,看到除了我們的需要,我們什麼也沒有帶來。我們可以誠實地回答上帝可能會問的問題···我為什麼要讓你進入天堂。沒有理由,我不配得。但耶穌,在十字架上的那位說我可以進來。

2. Belief is Enough 信就夠了

Just believing really hard in something is not enough. 僅僅真的很努力地信某事是不夠的。

And yet, belief is more than enough. 然而,信也是綽綽有餘的。

Paul says we don't need works to save us. And he uses language from Deuteronomy, in verse 6. 保羅說我們不需要工作來拯救我們。他在第6節中使用了《申命記》中的語言。

'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) 7 "or 'Who will descend into the deep?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).

誰要升到天上去呢? (就是說,把基督領下來。) 7 或說: 誰要下到陰間去呢? (就是說,把基督從死人中領上來。)

We don't have to be good enough to get into heaven, or deal with our sins to keep us out from hell. But instead it is near. Verse 9 spells it out.

我們不必足夠好來讓我們進入天堂,或者處理我們的罪以使我們遠離地獄。但相反,它就在附近。第9節說明了這一點。

9 If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

你若口裏宣認耶穌為主, 心裏信上帝叫他從死人中復活, 就必得救。

I love this explanation of the gospel. Because believing in Jesus is enough. 我喜歡這種對福音的解釋。因為信耶穌就夠了。

To say that Jesus is Lord is a such a significant claim. The word for Lord here the word used in the Greek Old Testament for Yahweh, the name of God. So to call Jesus Lord, is not just that he has some authority. It is that he has a supreme claim over all the world.

說耶穌是主是一個如此重要的聲明。這裡的主這個詞在希臘《舊約》中用於表示耶和華, 上帝的名字。所以稱耶穌為主,不僅僅是他有一些權柄。就是他對整個世界擁有至高無 上的主權。

And then to believe that God raised him from the dead. To believe that he was raised is to believe that he died for our sin, was found not guilty by God, and so was raised.

然後相信上帝使他從死裡復活。相信他復活了,就是相信他為我們的罪而死,被神認定為無罪,因此復活了。

So when Paul says to believe that Jesus is Lord, and God raised him from the dead. These 2 little phrases wonderfully capture what Jesus has done.

所以當<u>保羅</u>說要信耶穌為主,信神使他從死裡復活。這兩個小短語奇妙地捕捉到了耶穌 所做的一切。

Now you might baulk at this when Paul says all you need to do is say some words and believe in our hearts. We may recoil slightly as if all Paul is saying to do is say a magic formula. If that was the case we could trick people into it. Hi there, could you please read this sign – Jesus is Lord. Yes, you're saved!

現在,當<u>保羅</u>說你需要做的就是口裏宣認並心裏信時,你可能會猶豫。我們可能會稍微 退縮,好像<u>保羅</u>所說的只是說出一個神奇的公式。如果是這樣的話,我們可以欺騙人們。 你好,請你看一下這個標誌···耶穌是主。是的,你得救了!

But these are 2 sides of the same coin. Speaking and believing. Confessing with the mouth and believing in the heart are not different things. Anyone who does believe expresses their belief. 但這是同一枚硬幣的兩個面。宣認和信。口裏宣認和心裏信不是兩件分開的事。任何信的人都會表達他們的信。

Paul is not adding a work, as if saying Jesus is Lord is a work. 保羅並沒有添加一項工作,好像宣認耶穌為主是一項工作。

But it's a picture of the Christian who hand all hopes out of hands to Jesus. 但這是一幅把所有希望都交給耶穌的基督徒的照片。

No longer like the Jews trying to seek their own righteousness apart from God, but handing that over to Jesus, and trusting that he is The Lord, and his death is sufficient.

不再像猶太人在神之外尋求自己的義, 而是把它交給耶穌, 相信他是主, 他的死就夠了。

This is wonderful. It is also for everyone. 這太棒了。它也適用於所有人。

Verse 13 – 第 13 節 -

> "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." 因為「凡求告主名的就必得救」。

The Jews life was shaped by their belief. They had to do things to make them righteous. 猶太人的生命是由他們的信仰塑造的。他們必須做一些事情來使他們成為義。

But what does the Christians life look like? If we don't need to do anything, let alone can do anything to be saved. What does a Christians life look like?

但是基督徒的生命是怎樣的呢?如果我們不需要做任何事情,更不用說可以做任何事情來得救了。基督徒的生命會是怎樣的?

It looks like one responding to the call, which goes out to others. 看起來像是一個人響應了呼召,而又傳給了其他人。

If all anyone needs to do to be saved, which was the setup for the passage, is to call on the name of the Lord – then Paul pushes the absolute necessity of evangelism for the Christian.

如果任何人需要做的就是宣認主的名來得救,這就是這段經文的設置,那麼<u>保羅</u>就強調 了對基督徒傳福音的絕對必要性。

Let's look at verse 14 and 15, and then I'll take it backwards. 讓我們看第 14 和 15 節, 然後我將它倒過來。

14 How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? 15 And how can anyone preach unless they are sent?

14 然而,人未曾信他,怎能求告他呢?未曾聽見他,怎能信他呢?沒有傳道的,怎能聽見呢?15 若沒有奉差遣,怎能傳道呢?

And backwards – send people to go and preach, so that people would hear, to believe in Jesus. Paul makes evangelism really simple. Go, speak, explain, and people will believe.

反過來···差派人去傳道,這樣人們就會聽到,相信耶穌。<u>保羅</u>使傳福音變得非常簡單。 去,說話,解釋,人們就會相信。

The gospel must be heard, that means it's more than just passively hearing, but actually understood. God invites us into the work of seeing people saved. We don't work to save ourselves, but God invites us to be involved in seeing others saved.

福音必須被聽到,這意味著它不僅僅是被動地聽到,而是真正被理解。上帝邀請我們參與看到人們得救的工作。我們不是為了拯救自己而工作,但上帝邀請我們參與到看到他人得救的過程中。

People will not hear about Jesus unless someone does the work though. 除非有人做這項工作, 否則人們不會聽信耶穌。

This might sound daunting. My father, before he went into ministry heard this part of the bible, and God used it to call him to be trained to go and call others to follow Jesus. And I'm so thankful he did!

這聽起來可能令人生畏。我的父親,在他開始傳道之前聽到了聖經的這一部分,上帝用它來呼召他接受訓練,去呼召其他人跟隨耶穌。我非常感謝他做到了!

But that's not exactly the job it's describing. It's not just full time minister of the gospel. But the word for preaching here was done by heralds. And they would go to towns to make announcements. They were like a living newspaper going around the streets and towns shouting 'the Emperor is dead', or whatever the news was.

但這並不是它所描述的工作。這不僅僅是全職的福音傳道人。但是這裡傳道的話是由傳令官完成的。他們會去城鎮發佈公告。他們就像活生生的報紙,在街道和城鎮裡到處喊「皇帝死了」,或者不管是什麼新聞。

But we don't really have newspapers anymore. It's more like God is calling on Christians to be the twitter of the gospel, the Instagram to the world.

但是我們真的沒有報紙了。這更像是上帝在呼召基督徒成為福音的推特,成為全世界的Instagram。

Be the thing that people are scrolling. Don't go to an Instagram chef or fitness influencer, go to the Christian to be influenced. It's a much more normal everyday picture of those who are to be calling.

成為人們看的東西。不要去找 Instagram 大廚或健身影響者, 而是去找基督徒接受影響。這是那些將要求告他的人的日常照片。

And the messenger must be sent. 並且傳道者必需是奉差遣的。

Think of people like Sam and Sally Low. They were from this church, and they were sent to the Gold Coast to call people to believe in Jesus.

想想像<u>Sam</u> 和 <u>Sally Low</u> 這樣的人。他們來自這個教會,他們奉差遣往<u>黃金海岸</u>呼籲人們信耶穌。

But tomorrow, this church is also sending all of us. We're all going. I wish it was to the Gold Coast. But we're all going to our families, and our uni's and schools, and our work places. 但將來,這個教會也差派我們所有人。我們都去。我希望是去黃金海岸。但是我們都會去我們的家庭,我們的大學和學校,以及我們的工作場所。

Now we're not supposed to go and shout it like a herald in the street, but talking to someone about church, and why you go, because you believe that Jesus is Lord is a start. 现在我們不應該像傳令官一樣在街上大喊大叫,而是與某人談論教會,以及為什麼要去,因為您相信耶穌是主是一個開始。

And there's a wonderful picture of the impact of those who share the gospel. Verse 15. 分享福音的人所產生的影響是一幅美妙的圖畫。第 15 節。

As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" 如經上所記:「報福音、傳喜信的人,他們的腳蹤何等佳美!」

That sounds pretty nice. Until you remember that these heralds were going from town to town in the ancient world. With cobblestone paths, and dusty roads, and horses and camels. They're

feet would have been anything but beautiful. More likely they were some of the grossest, cracked, smelly feet you've ever seen.

聽起來不錯。直到你記得這些先驅在古代世界從一個城鎮到另一個城鎮。有鵝卵石小路,塵土飛揚的道路,還有馬和駱駝。他們的腳本來就不佳美。它們更有可能是你見過的最粗、裂、臭的腳。

Yet can imagine receiving the best news! Set free! The news is so good it makes something disgusting amazing!

然而可以想像得到最好的消息! 給予自由! 這個消息太好了, 令作嘔的事情也變成佳美!

The hard part of the remaining verses is what happens if the beautiful message goes unheard, like from the Jews. Verse 21.

剩下的經文中最難的部分是如果美麗的信息沒有被聽到,如一些<u>猶太</u>人,會發生什麼。 第21節。

"All day long I have held out my hands to a disobedient and obstinate people." 「我整天向那悖逆頂嘴的百姓招手。 |

Not all of Israel will accept the news. Not all those who hear the gospel will understand, not all will believe.

並非所有<u>以色列</u>人都會接受這個消息。不是所有聽到福音的人都會明白,也不是所有人都會相信。

And that's the heartbreaking reality of the gospel. We know from the outset that all are responsible for rebelling against God, and God is responsible for bring in who he chooses. But we never know who that is when we share the gospel.

這就是福音令人心碎的現實。我們從一開始就知道,所有人都在背叛上帝上有責任,而上帝有責任將他選擇的人帶進來。但是當我們分享福音時,我們永遠不知道那是誰。

But it is absolutely necessary to share the gospel. Not for us to be right with God, not out of compulsion to be forgiven by him. But for them! How else will people get to know God! 但絕對有必要分享福音。不是為了我們與上帝和好,也不是因為要被他寬恕而強迫我們自己。而是為了他們! 若我們不這樣做人們將如何認識上帝!

It requires a willingness to speak it. 它需要願意說出來。

It requires people to hear it, so explain so that they can understand. 它需要人們聽到它,所以解釋一下,以便他們能夠理解。

I read a story about former US President Jimmy Carter recently. He is an Evangelical Christian. As a Christian before becoming the President shared one of his issues when it came to being zealous for God or himself.

我最近讀了一篇關於<u>美國</u>前總統<u>吉米卡特</u>的故事。他是福音派基督徒。在成為總統之前 作為一名的基督徒,他分享了一個為上帝或他自己熱心的問題。

As part of his church, he would visit a few homes on a Sunday, read some scripture, pray and then leave. He said he was always proud of his efforts and it left him with a clear conscious. He counted up his visits one day and figured that in fourteen years he had done 140 visits.

作為他教會的一部分,他會在星期天拜訪幾個家庭,閱讀一些經文,祈禱然後離開。他 說他一直為自己的努力感到自豪,這讓他有清晰的良心。一天他計算了訪問的次數,併 計算出十四年來他的訪問了140次。

In comparison he reflected when he was running as governor in 1966, he spent 16-18 hours a day trying to reach as many voters as possible. In the end of his campaign, he had met more than 300,000 people.

相比之下,他在1966年競選州長時反映,他每天要花費16-18小時試圖吸引盡可能多的選民。在他的競選活動結束時,他會見了超過300,000人。

He said, "the comparison struck me... 300,000 visits for myself in three months, and 140 visits for God in fourteen years!"

他說:「這個對比讓我很震驚……我在三個月內為自己探訪了 300,000 次,在 14 年內為上帝出訪了 140 次! |

Now we can very easily start to think that evangelism earns our place in heaven, as if it some how makes us more righteous. Don't hear that from me.

現在我們可以很容易地開始認為傳福音為我們贏得了在天堂的位置,好像它使我們更加正義。我不是這個意思。

Brothers and sisters. Where is your zeal? 兄弟姐妹。你的熱心在哪裡?

Is our zeal for ourselves, like Jimmy Carter. So we spend all our time and effort making ourselves look good.

是對我們自己熱心,像<u>吉米卡特</u>一樣。把所有的時間和精力都花在了讓自己看起來很好上。

Is it that we're afraid of looking like the zealous crazy person always talking about religion, unaware of how beautiful are the feet of those who bring the good news.

難道我們害怕看起來像一個熱心的瘋子,總是談論宗教,不知道那些報福音、傳喜信的人,他們的腳蹤何等佳美!

God is calling you to trust in Jesus as Lord, and to call others to this same Lord because he is good.

神呼召你信靠耶穌為主,並呼召其他人信靠這位主,因為他是美好的。