



General Topics :: Take This - It's Good For You

Take This - It's Good For You - posted by ArthurRosh (), on: 2013/11/8 11:46

Bad news, old news, no news, unexpected news, good news. Most of us are so hooked on irrelevant news that it's hard to tell one from the other. Name one piece of mainstream media news in the last 12 months that radically changed your personal life or guided you in a major decision. (I thought so.) We're seldom able to extract relevancy or significance from the ocean of news noise at our door.

Then there's the "Good News", the Gospel, the revelation from God Almighty that He deemed necessary to deliver, not via prophet, but in person through His Son, Jesus Christ. Evangelism is the proclamation and demonstration of God's message is the Christian's response to that gift; the strings attached. Every one of us who has received by faith the forgiveness of God through the atoning sacrifice of Christ on our behalf is, like it or not, an evangelist. For some, that might seem bad news or certainly unexpected news, depending on the model we reference.

Can we tone it down a bit?

If you gag at the thought of "professional" TV evangelists—the suit, the smile, the sappy sanctimony—be encouraged, because God has a better road for your obedience. If you're an introvert or otherwise averse to getting in people's grilles about something as personal as religion, be encouraged. "You will be my witnesses," said Jesus (Acts 1:8)—not attorneys arguing His case, just unflappable witnesses to truth. Stick to the facts of what God has done and is doing in your life. Hearers might not like the implications of your testimony, but they cannot deny your experience. "As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard." (Acts 4:20)

Love: an unstoppable force

Nothing rejuvenates your life like seeing God at work. Participating in and supporting evangelism is where it starts. OM is known for its passion for sharing the Gospel, whether verbally in public or, as the situation warrants, through quiet love and compassion. The goal is the same: people who walked in darkness now walk in the light of God.

A colleague in the Middle East recently wrote, "The work we do is dead serious: we are challenging entrenched religious thinking and cultural worldviews, calling people to an entirely new way of life." As Paul put it, "We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ" (2 Corinthians 10:5). "But," my colleague continued, "as there are so many ways to share that message with the certainty of God Himself within us, it's great fun as well!"

Turning intentions into actions

We've all made great promises to God and ourselves about sharing our faith. And we've all failed repeatedly. In that sense, evangelism is for our benefit as much as recipients'. Trade fear and fatigue for faith and fun through short- or long-term ministry with us. Whether you're looking to re-start your walk or you're still on the outside looking in, we say, "Have we got news for you!"

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