

SERIES: CHURCH 101
SERMON #7

GETTING STARTED

Hopefully, you are meeting in a house with internet access. Assuming you can access the web, run a Google search for “Penn Says: A Gift of a Bible”, or type <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7JHS8adO3hM> in your browser to watch the video. The video was released by Penn Jillette of the well-known duo of eccentric magicians named Penn & Teller.

- What arguments does Penn Jillette make *for* proselytizing (trying to convert someone to your religious views) or evangelism?
- In his mind, what’s the only reason a believer would *not* share what he or she believes about Jesus?
- What can we learn from his presentation about the manner in which we should share our faith with others?
- What was the most personally convicting thing that was said?

DIGGING IN

Read Romans 1:16. Why might we be ashamed of the gospel? Is there any good reason to be ashamed?

The gospel is the good news about Jesus and all that’s he’s done for us. Do you often think about the good news as “powerful”? Why or why not?

- What is achieved by the power of the gospel? One word answer: _____
- Who can access the power of the gospel? One word answer: _____
- How does one access this power? One word answer: _____

Read Matthew 4:18-22. When Jesus approaches Peter, Andrew, James and John they are commercial fisherman at work in the Sea of Galilee. How does Jesus connect his mission with their work as fishermen—what is similar and what is different in the two tasks? What does it mean to be a fisher of men?

What is the one condition mentioned to becoming a fisher of men? Another way to say this is: if you are a follower of Jesus, what will you become? Do you think these two always go together? Why or why not?

According to Matthew 4:19, how will a person become a fisher of men?

LIVING IT OUT

Do you feel that you live as a fisher of men? What is the greatest barrier to your development as a fisher of men?

Can you think of three people who are far from God that you see regularly (write their names on this sheet)? Would you be willing to pray daily for these three individuals to come to know Jesus? Will you commit to serve them and help them take a next step toward knowing and following Jesus?

These sermon notes are produced each week for further study and discussion in our small groups. If you are interested in joining a small group, please contact Leslie Ann Yell at smallgroups@chathamchurch.org or 545-9589.