

# WHY SHARE JESUS FOR LIFE?

## Talk 2 – Reverence – 2 Corinthians 5:11

### Small group questions

Leaders – Choose *some* from the following. Don't feel the need to work through each one!

If the questions make no sense or you don't know the answer,  
please contact [bishop@bathurstanglican.org.au](mailto:bishop@bathurstanglican.org.au)

What are some common reasons people hesitate to share their faith? Are these *your* reasons?

Read 2 Corinthians 5:11-14

- i. In our strategic plan we said that “we are a missional church that is lovingly connecting with their community and effectively sharing Jesus”. Do you think that has been put into practice in *your* church? How? Or – why not?
  - ii. Mark mentioned that while God gives the growth, he uses us in his work. Are we being strategic in making the most of the resources and opportunities God has given us? Can you share a specific example where you felt you *used* or *missed* an opportunity to share your faith?
  - iii. Mark shared about the compassion people had when he lost his car key down a storm-water drain. Why do we feel for people in those circumstances more readily than we feel for those ‘harassed and helpless’ people who do not know Jesus?
1. **How clearly are you seeing?** - read 2 Corinthians 5:11
    - a. Given that Christians are assured of their salvation, why will they still have to stand before the judgement seat of Christ and give account for what how we've lived out lives?
    - b. Read again Luke 19:12-27. What does this have to teach us about giving an account of our lives?
    - c. Mark said “we're not saved BY good works, but we are saved FOR good works. Why do we sometimes think that it doesn't really matter how we live our lives?
  2. **What's your response to what you are seeing?**
    - a. What are some of the things group members have tried to persuade someone else about over the last two weeks?
    - b. Why do we get passionate about persuading people about things that don't really matter, but remain silent about the Lord Jesus?
      - a. Is it because we don't really fear the Lord?
      - b. Is it because we don't really believe that we will have to give an account?
      - c. Is it because we don't really believe that those who don't love and serve Jesus will be separated from him in eternity?
      - d. Something else?
    - c. What are some practical ways we can be more persuasive in sharing our faith?
  3. **How's your reverence?**
    - a. Does the thought of standing before the judgement seat of Christ and giving account for what we have done with the resources and opportunities he has given us, make us tremble?
    - b. How can we cultivate a deeper reverence for God that naturally leads to sharing our faith with others?
    - c. Mark said “when you fear God – when you revere him, then you will persuade others... it won't be something you do because I told you... it will be something I won't be able to **stop** you doing!! Discuss.

*Lord, give us such reverence for you that we long to use well all the resources and opportunities with which you've entrusted us. Help us also to see clearly, that those who do not love and know you now, will be separated from you in eternity, unless they turn to you. Help us to use our persuasive powers to talk*

*someone into joining us in church someday. In Jesus' name. Amen.*

## **Briefing Notes**

### **1. Why Share Jesus for Life?**

a. What are some common reasons people hesitate to share their faith? How do these reasons resonate with your own experiences?

- Fear of rejection, lack of knowledge, and personal comfort can hinder sharing our faith. Recognizing these obstacles can help us overcome them.

b. Read 2 Corinthians 5:11-14

- This passage emphasizes the importance of sharing Jesus, as it is a matter of eternal life and death.

### **2. Reverence and Accountability**

a. How clearly are you seeing the importance of sharing Jesus with others? (2 Corinthians 5:11)

- We must recognize the urgency of sharing Jesus, as people's eternal destinies are at stake.

b. What does it mean to give an account of our lives to God? (Luke 19:12-27)

- We will give an account of our actions, including our efforts to share Jesus with others.

c. How can we cultivate a deeper reverence for God that leads to sharing our faith with others?

- We can cultivate reverence through prayer, studying Scripture, and recognizing God's sovereignty in our lives.

### **3. Living Out Our Faith**

a. Are we being strategic in making the most of the resources and opportunities God has given us to share Jesus with others?

- We must use our resources and opportunities wisely, recognizing the eternal impact we can have.

b. How can we use our persuasive powers to share our faith with others?

- We can share our personal experiences, the gospel message, and the love of Christ with others.

c. What are some practical ways we can share Jesus with others in our daily lives?

- We can share Jesus through intentional relationships, outreach events, and everyday conversations.