



I. INTRO

- A. Christianity is simple

John 3:16 (NLT) “For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

- B. Christianity is simple, but it’s not easy

Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV) But without faith *it is impossible* to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

II. IT ALL STARTS WITH HEARING

- A. It all starts with faith

Romans 10:17 (NKJV) So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

- B. Words are containers

Proverbs 4:20-22 (NLT) My child, pay attention to what I say. Listen carefully to my words. Don’t lose sight of them. Let them penetrate deep into your heart, for they bring life to those who find them, and healing to their whole body.

- C. The Word of God is the power of God

Romans 1:16 (NIV) For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.

III. WHEN THEY HEARD

- A. Blind Bartimaeus heard about Jesus

Mark 10:46-47 (NIV) Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus (which means “son of Timaeus”), was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”

Mark 10:51-52 (NIV) “What do you want me to do for you?” Jesus asked him. The blind man said, “Rabbi, I want to see.” “Go,” said Jesus, “your faith has healed you.” Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.

- B. The woman with the issue of blood heard about Jesus

Mark 5:25-27 (NIV) And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak,

Mark 5:30-31 (NIV) At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, “Who touched my clothes?” “You see the people crowding against you,” his disciples answered, “and yet you can ask, ‘Who touched me?’ ”



Mark 5:32-34 (NIV) But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering.”

C. John the Baptist

Luke 7:20-22 (NIV) When the men came to Jesus, they said, “John the Baptist sent us to you to ask, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?’” At that very time Jesus cured many who had diseases, sicknesses and evil spirits, and gave sight to many who were blind. So he replied to the messengers, “Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor.

IV. HOW DID THEY HEAR?

A. Go back and tell

John 7:22a (NIV) So he replied to the messengers, “Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard...”

Romans 10:9-10 (NLT) If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. (I love this, so simple) For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved.

B. Before people can believe, someone has to be willing to tell them!

Romans 10:14-17 (NLT) But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, “How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!” But not everyone welcomes the Good News, for Isaiah the prophet said, “Lord, who has believed our message?” So faith comes from hearing, that is, hearing the Good News about Christ.

C. Celebrate MN

- People are going to hear that something happened

V. BE READY TO TELL

A. We need to let people know!

1 Peter 3:15 (NIRV) But make sure that in your hearts you honor Christ as Lord. Always be ready to give an answer to anyone who asks you about the hope you have. Be ready to give the reason for it. But do it gently and with respect.

B. Listen for the three “nots”

- 1 – NOT going well
- 2 – NOT prepared for something
- 3 – NOT in church

John 20:21 (NLT) Again he said, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you.”