

God Provides Courage To Do What Is Uncomfortable And Inconvenient



To get us started

"It was worth it." Almost without fail, that phrase follows some sort of discomfort or inconvenience. And yet, "it was worth it." Take five minutes to share a few "it was worth it" stories. (Second-hand stories are allowed. Personal experiences are even better!)

Read Luke 7:36-50

Some in this room are probably more like the sinful woman than they are like Simon. Others in this room are probably more like Simon than they are like the sinful woman. Satan's goal is that no one in this room be saved. Identify strategies Satan might use in his efforts to drag the "sinners" in this room away from Jesus. Then identify the strategies Satan might use in his efforts to drag the "Pharisees" away from Jesus.

Sinners

Pharisees

In what ways did Jesus address any attack Satan could dream up in this section? Take 5 minutes to develop as long of a list as possible! (hint: It might be helpful to re-read the section as you consider this question)

Digging Deeper

In Session One, we heard about the confidence Joann had "on the day of judgment" because she knew what Jesus had done for her. Her husband Richard had this same confidence. This made all the difference in the world for them as they faced Joann's death. For those of us still alive, we have the same peace of forgiveness. It's this same peace of forgiveness, that provides the courage to do what is uncomfortable and inconvenient.

"And we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us."

1 John 4:16a Christian Standard Bible

Compare the translation of 1 John 4:16a above to the bible you're reading. What jumps out at you? What is God communicating to us in this verse?

Now read 1 John 4:16-5:4. In small groups, identify as many blessings that flow from the truth above as you can.

One By One: God Provides Courage To Do What Is Uncomfortable And Inconvenient

Pastor David Rosenau

Pastor David Rosenau is a second career WELS pastor with a very unique story. This week's video is a little under 7 minutes long and provides priceless insight into the gift of God that provides courage to do what is uncomfortable and inconvenient.

[watch video](#)

Application

We need courage to do what is uncomfortable and inconvenient. We need comfort when guilt plagues us over missed opportunities or failed attempts to share the gospel. Do we realize these are different things? Do we realize how different these two things are? Let's list every excuse my sinful heart could dream up that could prevent me from sharing the Gospel.

These are the kinds of thoughts that often keep us from sharing the Gospel with others. But dig a little deeper into your heart. What are the *real* reasons we often don't share the good news of sins forgiven and peace with God?

We need courage to do what is uncomfortable and inconvenient. We need comfort when guilt plagues us over missed opportunities or failed attempts to share the gospel.

Justification = Courage

Election= Comfort

Read 1 John 3:19,20

Remember, courage alone isn't the thing. The *source* of the courage is the thing. It's the gift of God's forgiveness, and the peace provided thanks to that forgiveness, which provides the courage to speak—even when it's uncomfortable—even when it's inconvenient. So then, if you're going to speak, because you're no longer afraid, what might you say? Of course, you'll share the peace of forgiveness!

What Jesus has done for me is the key. If I forget the impact of what Jesus has done for me, I'll find myself scared and stumbling over my words. When I realize the simplicity of evangelism, I'm liberated. There is nothing easier for a human being to do, than to tell their own story. I lived my story. Who could tell my story better than me? Your story as a Christian centers on what Jesus has done for you. When you realize that evangelism is as simple as saying, "This is what Jesus has done for me. And what he's done for me, he's done for you." This. Is. Liberating. It's not about "saying it right." Evangelism is as simple as saying, "This is what Jesus has done for me. And what he's done for me, he's done for you."

Right here, right now, let's see how many different ways we can come up with to share the peace of forgiveness. (If you're not in the habit of writing things down on these sheets, I encourage you to grab a pen and write these down!)

Challenge: If there's time create categories and then fill in each category. (Mothers to Daughters (vice versa) Fathers to Sons (vice versa). Sibling to Sibling. Friends. Co-workers. Acquaintance. Strangers. Feel free to create categories based on the relationships of the people in the session!)