The Success of Paul's Failures

Greg Kline · Romans 10:14–17

INTRODUCTION

- Evangelism is an effort that's not just for those who are well accomplished, those who spend their life in a trade called being an evangelist or a preacher of the gospel.
- In Romans chapter 10, we read of an important truth in verse 16 the bad news, and in verse 17, the good news.
- I want to consider the success in Paul's failures.

1 Three of Paul's Failures

Acts 24:22–26; Acts 13:42–51; Acts 26:24–29

- As he reasoned about righteousness and self-control and the coming judgment, Felix was alarmed and said, Go away for the present.
- When the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy, and began to contradict what was spoken by Paul, reviling him.
- And Agrippa said to Paul, in a short time, would you persuade me to be a Christian?
- In the case of Felix, in the case of the Jews in Acts chapter 13, and even Agrippa here in Acts chapter 26, the case of the story did not end well.

2 Paul Was a Success in Every Case

Acts 26:29; Romans 10:17

- Whether short or long, I would to God that not only you, but also all who hear me this day might become such as I am.
- We know that Paul was a success in each and every one of these cases. And why is that? Because he preached God.
- That is evangelism. Telling people who are lost, who have no hope that God offers it.
- It is always a success when the Word of God is faithfully preached.
- I wonder who your AJ is. Who is someone that you and you uniquely have access to?

3 Teach the Message of Christ

Acts 8:1–4; Acts 8:29–35

- The first thing, and this is obvious that we can do, is we can teach the message of Christ.
- Now those who were scattered, that was everyone except the apostles, went about preaching the word. We can do this, we must do this.
- Our job as Christians is to spread that message, to sow the seed and allow God to provide the increase.
- Beginning with this scripture, he preached the good news about Jesus.
- It's time to start learning. It's time to learn from those who do know. Be taught so that you might teach.

4 Be Involved in Inviting

Acts 13:42–44; Acts 16:25–34

- The next Sabbath, almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord.
- Then he brought them out and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?
- We as Christians have that answer.
- Are we willing to share them with anyone who will come across?

5 We Need to Be Praying About This

Romans 10:1; Romans 9:1–3; Matthew 9:35–38

- Here's one thing we can all do, and there is absolutely no excuse.
- Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved.
- I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh.
- Do you love others enough to have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in your heart?
- The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.

THE CHALLENGE

If you consider yourself a Christian, if I consider myself a Christian, I must evangelize. I must be involved in teaching, inviting, and/or praying.

MY NOTES