

# Every Saint Sent

## Objectives (Part 2)

Luke: All Things New



### Series Goal

That Mercy Hill Church would be made new as we follow the One who is making all things new!



### Sermon Text

Luke 9:1-6



### Big Idea

We need an approach to evangelism that can scale and flex and shift depending on the person or people we are talking to. Like Jesus and the early church, we too want to always preach the same gospel and yet never do it in quite the same way.

### (1) Know The Story

(1) Creation - (2) Fall - (3) Redemption - (4) Consummation

### (2) Know How The Story Touches Our Own Story

In between the past and future realities of the gospel, there often remains a massive gap in our understanding. The gospel is relevant with reference to the past, relevant with reference to the future, but utterly irrelevant to the stuff we face day in and day out. With this gap in place we will present to the world a past and future but presently irrelevant gospel. We won't know how the gospel touches what they are really facing in the moment—the fears and longings, sorrows and joys. We will talk about the gospel as if it is only relevant for the person's afterlife when truly it holds out the offer of abundant life for them in the here and now.

Truly, the gospel speaks with profound relevance into the whole spectrum of human experience. It has something to say to us in our fears and in our longings, in our sorrows and in our joys. It meets us in our friendships and in our families, in our work and in our play, in our wins and in our losses, in our celebrations and in our sufferings, in our life and in our death. We desperately need to close the gap for ourselves so that we can begin to learn how to close that gap for others. We want the gospel to be more than a few truths we've memorized or a few words we speak. We want it to be a world, a Story, we live in. Only then can we meaningfully invite others into it.

### (3) Know How The Story And Our Own Story Touch Their Story

However God leads us to go out from here and proclaim the kingdom—whether we are preaching on street corners, approaching strangers, or talking with old friends—may we do it all with a listening ear, with authentic curiosity and compassion for those we are speaking with, in hopes that we might identify their longings and fears and deep needs of their heart and bring Christ to them there! May we always preach the same gospel but never in quite the same way!

### Reflection Questions



- Spend time in prayer asking God for just one person you might reach out to in the next week or two—maybe an unbelieving family member, a coworker, a neighbor. And then attempt to spend some meaningful time with them. Schedule a hike, a coffee date, a lunch. Just ask questions and listen to their story, all the while praying: “God how does The Story and my story connect to their story? What are their struggles? What are their joys? What are their fears? What are the longings of their heart? Who do they need you to be for them right now in what they are facing?” You might feel comfortable sharing with them right there—asking if they would let you pray for them, expressing how God cares about them and can help. Or you might not say anything at the time at all. Just love them, laugh with them, put your arm around them. But then go home. Pray on it. And then text or email them with a verse or something God puts on your heart. “I’m not wanting to be weird, but after our time I was praying for you and I just wanted to share x, y, z. I hope we can get together again soon!”

