



Responsibility to the Lost

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal dotted lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a guide for handwriting or typing. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

- Growing up, what did you want to be? Why?
- Have you been tasked to take care of a younger family member or friend? Describe your experience.
- Which domestic skill (e.g., cooking, cleaning, budgeting) would you like to excel in? Why?

WORD

... and thus I make it my ambition to preach the gospel ... **ROMANS 15:20**

As followers of Jesus, we are not just called to love and be in unity with our fellow believers—God’s Word compels us to preach the gospel to the lost. Like the Apostle Paul, this should be our *ambition*. What does it mean to uphold this kind of responsibility? Here are three important truths we need to understand as believers.

1 We are not ashamed to preach the gospel.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. **ROMANS 1:16**

Every Christian has a duty to preach the gospel. Because of what God has done for us, we must be bold and ready to preach this good news. Why do you think we should not be ashamed of the gospel? How have you learned not to be ashamed of the gospel?

2

We preach the gospel by the power of the Holy Spirit.

... by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God—so that from Jerusalem and all the way around to Illyricum I have fulfilled the ministry of the gospel of Christ . . . **ROMANS 15:19**

We need the Holy Spirit to empower us when we preach the gospel. Otherwise, we cannot do so with boldness and conviction. How does the Holy Spirit empower us to be effective witnesses? (Acts 1:8)

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3

We preach the gospel to those who have not heard it.

²⁰ . . . and thus I make it my ambition to preach the gospel, not where Christ has already been named, lest I build on someone else's foundation, ²¹but as it is written, "Those who have never been told of him will see, and those who have never heard will understand." **ROMANS 15:20,21**

We must make it our ambition and goal to preach the gospel to the lost, especially those who have never heard it. Our lives must be a testament to God's faithfulness and grace in our lives. Recall a time when you presented the gospel to a family member or friend. What happened?

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APPLICATION

- What do you think is keeping you from preaching the gospel to your family or friends? What can you do to overcome this?
- How can you be ready to preach the gospel, when an opportunity arises? What do you think you can do to prepare for it?
- Who can you preach the gospel to this week (e.g., a family member, friend, classmate, or colleague)? Pray for more opportunities to do so.

PRAYER

- Thank God for giving you His Holy Spirit to help you be bold and courageous in preaching the gospel.
- Ask God to use your life and example to draw others to Him. Pray for boldness and sensitivity in preaching the gospel to the people around you. Pray that you would never be ashamed of the gospel.
- Believe God for the salvation of your family members, friends, classmates, and colleagues who do not know Jesus yet.



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