

OUTREACH

SHORT STUDIES

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Copies are available for download
Includes the article and questions

Outreach




A 3D rendered scene of a person standing in a dark, maze-like environment. The person is a simple, dark blue figure with a spherical head, standing in a narrow passage. The environment is composed of dark, rectangular blocks that create a sense of depth and shadow. A bright light source from the upper right casts long, sharp shadows across the floor and walls, highlighting the person and the surrounding architecture. The overall mood is somber and contemplative.

Reaching the Lost

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study

The Problem



**The gate to
destruction is wide,
and the road
that leads there is
easy to follow.**

MATTHEW 7:13

Separated from God by sin, we are destined to eternal destruction in hell.

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins
in which you once walked, following the
course of this world, following the prince of
the power of the air, the spirit that is now at
work in the sons of disobedience—

Ephesians 2:1-2

They are darkened in their understanding,
alienated from the life of God because of the
ignorance that is in them, due to their
hardness of heart.

Ephesians 4:18

A vertical image showing two hands reaching towards each other against a blue sky with white clouds. One hand is at the top, reaching down, and the other is at the bottom, reaching up. The word "Outreach" is written in large white letters across the middle of the image.

Outreach

- We should be moved with compassion to help those who are lost.
- If (when) you were lost, you would want someone to help you!
- It is the duty of the saved to reach out to others.

The Golden Rule

Matt. 7:12 “So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.”



2 Tim. 2:24-26 And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but **kind to everyone, able to teach**, patiently enduring evil, **correcting his opponents with gentleness**. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.

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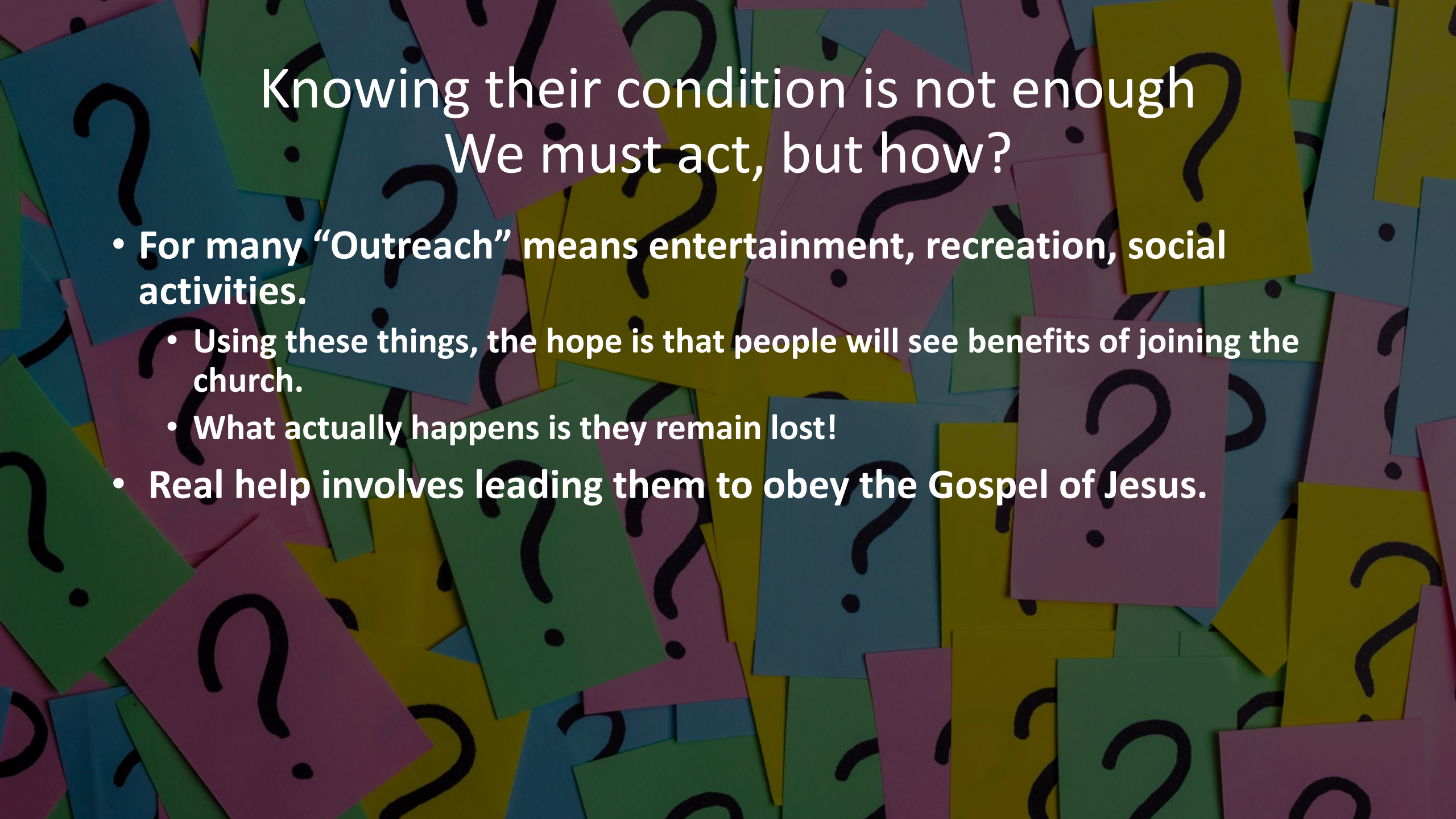
Reaching the Lost

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study

Knowing their condition is not enough We must act, but how?

- For many “Outreach” means entertainment, recreation, social activities.
 - Using these things, the hope is that people will see benefits of joining the church.
 - What actually happens is they remain lost!

John 6:26-27 Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal.”

The background consists of a dense, overlapping pattern of colorful sticky notes in shades of blue, green, purple, and yellow. Each sticky note has a large, black question mark printed on it, creating a visual metaphor for uncertainty or inquiry.

Knowing their condition is not enough We must act, but how?

- For many “Outreach” means entertainment, recreation, social activities.
 - Using these things, the hope is that people will see benefits of joining the church.
 - What actually happens is they remain lost!
- Real help involves leading them to obey the Gospel of Jesus.

Seek the Lost – First Step

- **Jesus is the perfect example to follow:**
 - **Luke 19:10** “For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”
 - **He actively looked for those that needed spiritual help.**
- **Actively seek those who do not have a relationship with God.**
 - **Interact with them, get to know them.**
 - **Talk to them about spiritual matters – invite them to learn about God.**
 - **Like Jesus, lead them to salvation.**



Matt. 9:37-38

Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”



Who are the lost?

- Neighbors
- Co-Workers
- Business partners
- Fellow students
- Waiters, Waitresses,
Store clerks
- Family

Mark 2:17

And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”

Who are the lost?

- Good people without God
- Those living immoral lives
- Religiously confused
- Atheist/Agnostic



Find a Common Foundation with the Lost

- The goal is to take them from where they are and lead them to the Gospel and salvation in Jesus. 1 Cor. 9:22

“To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some.”



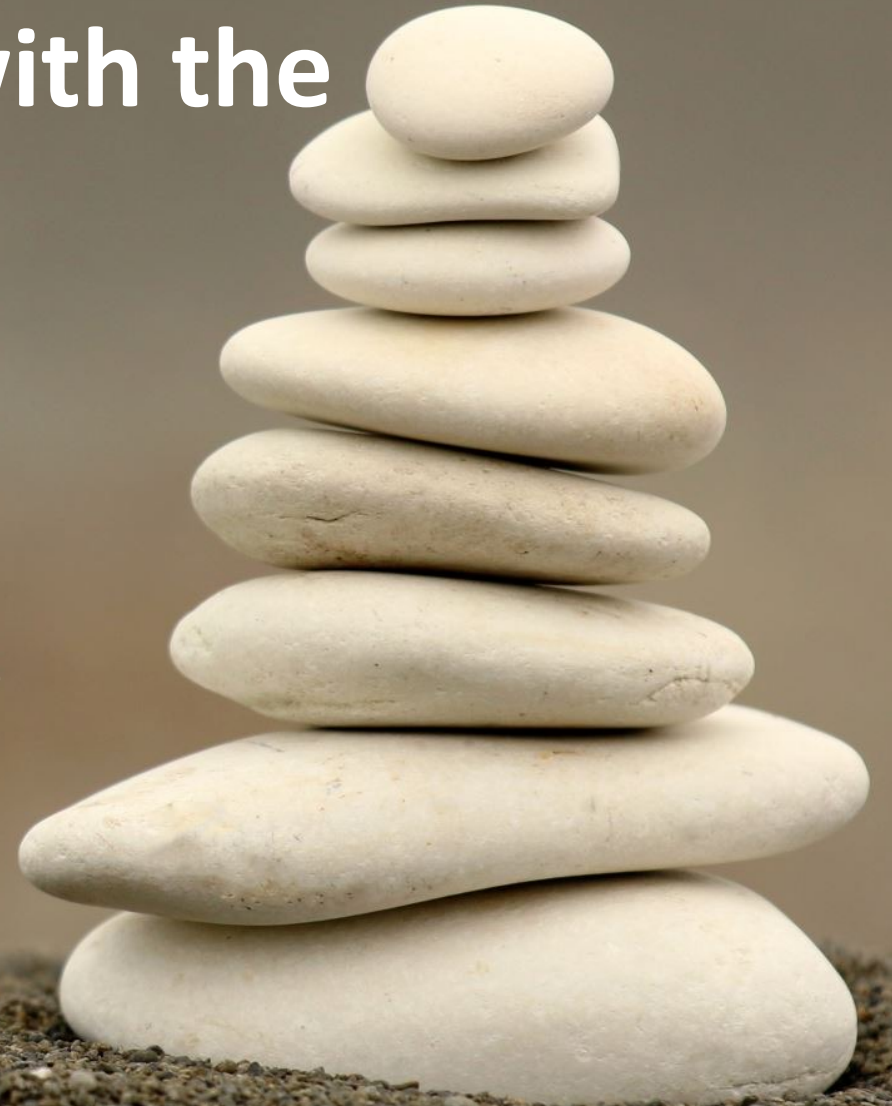
Find a Common Foundation with the Lost

- The goal is to take them from where they are and lead them to the Gospel and salvation in Jesus. 1 Cor. 9:22
- If you are talking with someone who already believes in God, you have a good foundation to build on.
- If they are not convinced that the Bible is God's Word, you will have to establish that truth first.
- In all cases it will require prayer and wisdom to lead them to God, so pray and study the Bible.



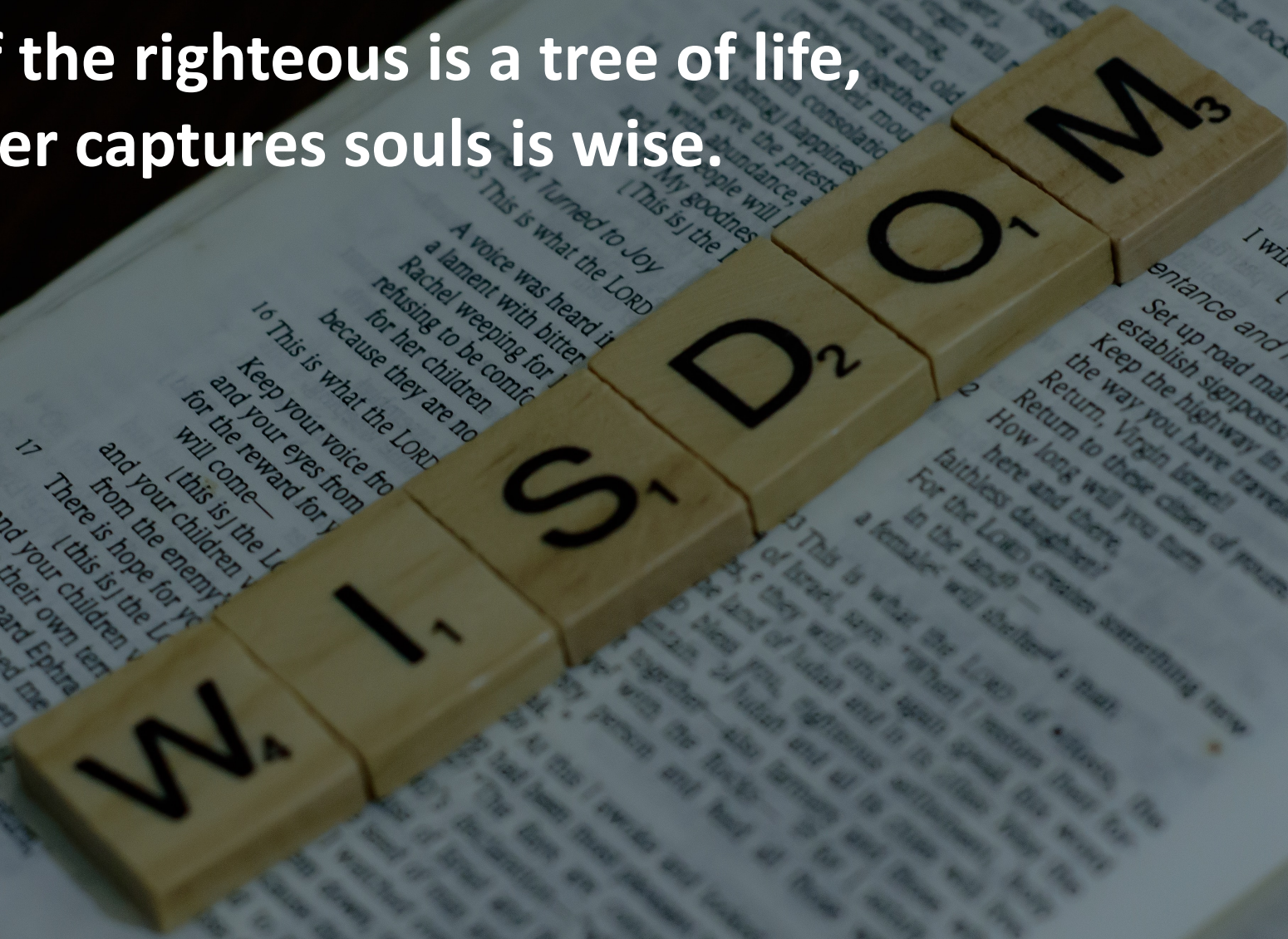
Find a Common Foundation with the Lost

- Everyone is not at the same place when it comes to religious knowledge.
- The Ethiopian nobleman – Philip began where he was reading. Acts 8:35
- In Thessalonica Paul began in the synagogue on Sabbath day. Acts 17:2-3
- In Athens Paul had to start with creation. Acts 17:24
- With Felix, Paul started with “judgment to come.” Acts 24:25
- Agrippa already believed the prophets, so Paul started there. Acts 26:27



Proverbs 11:30

The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life,
and whoever captures souls is wise.





For I am not ashamed

OF THIS GOOD NEWS ABOUT CHRIST.

ROMANS 1:16

Present God's Plan to the Lost

- For those that are truly seeking God, the Gospel is what they need.
 - We should never be ashamed of that or assume we could come up with anything better.
 - We are fooling ourselves if we think we can lead people to God without it.
- God's plan for salvation must be presented in a simple manner so people can understand and obey it.
 - Show them from Scripture how sin entered the world and how God planned to remove the penalty of sin.
- Show what the Bible says about sin, salvation, the church, two covenants, Bible authority, man's destiny.

Present God's Plan to the Lost

- It is our duty to help them understand that to benefit from Christ's sacrifice they must repent and be baptized into Christ.
Acts 2:38
- That the souls of sinners are purified "in obeying the truth."
1 Pet. 1:22

Conclusion

- No work we can engage in is greater or more urgent than that of teaching the lost about Jesus Christ.
- Let's all do our part seeking them, finding common ground and present to them God's plan for salvation.
- **Luke 15:10** "Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."