

I had a friend say that she loves telling her children about Jesus. Stop and think about that. She **LOVES** telling them about her Savior! She has been so moved by Jesus' loving sacrifice for her, that she wants to share it. She knows how deeply she needs Him, and she wants to tell others. I believe she understands that each of us hungers for something, and she has had that need filled through her relationship with Jesus. She knows her children will hunger for something too, but she wants them to "taste and see that the Lord is good" so they will desire a relationship with Him.

I recently finished the parenting book *Give Them Grace: Dazzling Your Kids with the Love of Jesus*. In it the authors wrote: "All the typical ways we construct to get things done and get others to do our bidding are simply obliterated by a gospel message that tells us that we are all (parents and children) both radically sinful and radically loved." I'm a mess and I need a Savior. And when I read God's Word, I also know I'm deeply loved. Knowing that you're loved changes people. It changes lives. This is the message that people need to hear, and yet I can't say that I love telling them. Why not?!?

Scott shared that members of the underground church are hungry for the Gospel. Many are spending hours studying the Word while risking their lives. Like members of the persecuted church, I want that kind of desire for God's Word. Like my friend, I want to love telling others about Him. Scott asked, "How do we begin to develop this hunger for what really sustains us, this hunger for the God of the Bible, for His Word and all that He is?" He answered, "SAY YES!" then continued:

Right now, He is inviting you into a loving, personal, intimate relationship with him, say Yes.
 When he asks you to have college kids to your house for lunch, say Yes.
 When he asks you to take in a mom and her 3 kids, say Yes.
 When he asks you to move your family into a less expensive house, say Yes.
 When he asks you to get baptized, say Yes.
 When he asks you to cut back on work hours to spend more time with your family, say Yes.
 When he asks you to take in a homeless teenager, say Yes.
 When he asks you to host Young Life in your barn, say Yes.
 When he asks you to financially bless someone because he has financially blessed you, say Yes.
 When he asks you to start a movement, say Yes.
 When he asks you to serve the poor, say Yes.
 When He asks you to spend more time with him, say Yes.
 When he asks you to be there for a hurting friend, say Yes.
 When he asks you to put yourself aside and worship him, say Yes.
 When he asks you to quit coaching to spend more time with your family, and with him, say Yes.
 When He asks you to pray with someone, say Yes.
 When He asks you to organize meals for a single mom who is going through chemotherapy, say Yes.
 When He asks you to lead a Bible study at a homeless shelter, say Yes.

When He asks you to sell everything and give it to the poor, say Yes.
When he asks you to take a homeless guy out to eat, say Yes.
When he asks you to trust him even when it seems like your world is caving in, say Yes.
When he asks you to invite your neighbor over for dinner, say Yes.
When he asks you to tell someone about him, say Yes.
When he asks you to move overseas and bring hope to a lost and broken world, say Yes.
Whatever God asks of YOU, say Yes. ----- THIS IS RADICAL.

Questions to Consider:

The Greatest Commandment is “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. And love your neighbor as yourself.” (Matthew 22:37, 39) Have I said “yes” to God? Have I asked Him to help me love Him more? Have I asked Him to help me love my neighbors more?

What is God asking me to do? Am I willing to say Yes? If not, why not?

Am I broken for those that are hurting? Am I moved to help? Am I urged to pray?

Do I love telling others about Jesus?

Have I asked God to give me a hunger for Him? Have I asked Him to help me be bold and tell others what He’s done for me?

What do I give up to learn about God’s Word? (p. 24)

Is Jesus enough for me? Is His Word enough? Am I hungry to learn more about Him? Do I have a desire to study His Word more? If we lost all of our comforts, would his Word still be enough for his people to come together? (p. 25)

What is it about God’s Word that creates a hunger to hear more? And not just to hear the Word but to long for it, study it, memorize it, and follow it? What causes followers of Christ around the world literally to risk their lives in order to know it? (p. 28)

If you want to see the A. W. Tozer quotes that Scott used, you can click [here](#).

This month’s memory verse: “Anyone, then, who knows the good they ought to do and does not do it, sins.” James 4:17

Additional verses: Matthew 7:21, Malachi 1:6, Hebrews 1:3, Isaiah 50:4, Psalm 4:2, 18:35, 34:8, 51:10-13, 54:4, 55:22

Reminders:

1.22 –The Gathering at SHU at 10am!!! “R A D I C A L -chapter 3”

This week we look at relying on God’s power...often the true beginning of our spiritual journeys won’t happen until we are at the end of ourselves.

***This month's "4 the City" is with Project Homeless Connect. We are gathering coats, hats, and gloves that will be distributed to the homeless. Please bring them to The Gathering on Sunday, January 22. Also, there will be a free event on Wednesday, January 25 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Human Services building for anyone that is homeless or in a housing crisis. If you are able to serve there please call Melinda at 264-0782 or Gay at 265-6776 to get signed up to help. Let them know the times you are available, and they will plug you into a spot to serve.

1.29 –The Gathering at 10am & FAMILY FUN DAY!!! "R A D I C A L -chapter 4"

The great 'why' of God...God's global purpose from the beginning till today.