

John 17:20-26

Community and Evangelism

Sermon Notes for October 27, 2013, by Pastor Dennis R. Tuuri

Intro - John 17:21 and Our Current Sermon Series

Six Questions From Acts 17

1. What authorities does Paul cite indirectly? Which ones directly?
2. Do the subjects of your evangelism know the structure by which the "Gospel" can be known?
3. Does Paul use a "story" to present the Gospel?
4. Are any unsaved people following you?
5. Creator, Provider, Sustainer, Transcendence, Immanence, Judge - Which of these attributes of God do you need to study more, so that you can speak of them to your neighbors and friends?
6. Discern, Expose, Destroy - which of these actions towards idolatry do you most need help doing?

Diagram of Paul's Evangelistic "Method" - (Attached)

- I. Today's Text in Context - Glory, Knowledge and Life (see attached)
- II. Today's Text
 - A. A Text for Us - v. 20
 - B. A Prayer for Our Unity - v. 21-23
 1. He Asks for Unity - It Is **Gift**, First and Foremost
 2. This Unity Images the **Inter-Trinitarian Unity** (Perichoresis)
 3. This Unity is **Evangelistically Effective**
Thomas Manton - Divisions in the church always breed atheism in the world
 4. This Unity Comes From the Gift of **Glory** - v. 22
 5. This Unity Visibly Manifests the **Love of God** - v. 23
 - C. Ending with an Oath That We Can Rely On - v. 26
 - D. Eliciting, as Gospel, Our Response - Eph. 4:1-3
Clearing the Little Gray Cells
- III. Concluding Observations
 - A. Unity and Our Evangelistic Vision - Practical and Pastoral Links
 - B. Unity and the Word - Pastoral Search
 - C. Unity, Diversity and Community Groups
 - D. Unity and Kook Points - What the Gospel Isn't (Distinguishing Root and Fruit)
 - E. Grace, Humility and Unity - James 3:17 (3:13-4:6)
James 3:17 (NKJV)
¹⁷But the wisdom that is from above is
first pure,
then peaceable,
gentle,
willing to yield,
full of mercy and good fruits,
without partiality
and without hypocrisy.

Confident, "Biblical," Censorious Ditch, Gen., 3:12

Follow-up Questions

1. How would you rate yourself on ministering glory to others?
2. How would you rate yourself at bringing your knowledge to others, and joyfully receiving theirs?
3. Do you go out of your way to engage with those who attend RCC, but who are not like you?
4. Can you think of an example from this past month in which you were "willing to yield"?
5. Have you made progress this year on Bible-reading and prayer?
6. Are there people at RCC you are at odds with (not at unity with)? What are you going to do about it?