



**October 9, 2011 • Pastor Justin Ross**

**Part 4 — Outreach**

**II Corinthians 5:17-21**

**In order for us to truly reach out we have to...**

**1. Accept the challenge.**

“This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to Himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to Him.” ~ II Corinthians 5:17-18 (NLT)

Top reasons why people don't share their faith:

- Fear & insecurity.

“After this prayer, the meeting place shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. Then they preached the word of God with boldness.” ~ Acts 4:31 (NLT)

- Unprepared & uninformed.

“Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord in your life. And if someone asks about your Christian hope, always be ready to explain it. But do this in a gentle and respectful way.” ~ I Peter 3:15-16a (NLT)

- Too busy & uninterested.

“Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and He will give you everything you need.” ~ Matthew 6:33 (NLT)

**2. Be bridge builders.**

“And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to Himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to Him. For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And He gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making His appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, “Come back to God!” ~ II Corinthians 5:18-20 (NLT)

Being a bridge builder means we are intentional and even strategic in building relationships with others.

A little help:

Strategic consumerism

Use your hobbies

Upcoming message series

“Matthew parties”

Serve your neighbor

Step out & do something!

**3. Destroy the Enemy**

“For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.” ~ II Corinthians 5:21 (NLT)

Satan wants us to be ineffective and not take anyone to heaven with us.

**Things we can do:** Write out your story. Pray for specific people. Pray for opportunities. Keep your eyes open!



**(970) 247-5934 • www.lifeingrace.org**