

Life Church Sermon, Jan. 23, 2022

By MD ^2



ACTS 24 PAUL
BEFORE KINGS
PART 4
OWN THE ROOM, AS
IF SOMETHING
URGENT IS
HAPPENING SOON!

Matt 24:10-12 ¹⁰ And then shall many stumble, and shall deliver up one another, and shall hate one another. ¹¹ And many false prophets shall arise, and shall lead many astray. ¹² And because iniquity shall be multiplied, the love of the many shall wax cold.

ACTS 24: 10-21

- After being accused by a fancy Lawyer the Jews hired (Tertullus) of stirring up dissention among those who were of the sanctioned Roman religion- Judaism, accusing him to actually not represent jews but another sect-Nazarenes (Jesus followers) Paul Responds to the accusation to the governor Felix...
- Acts 24:10-21 NASB “Knowing that for many years you have been a judge to this nation, I cheerfully make my defense, ¹¹ since you can take note of the fact that no more than twelve days ago I went up to Jerusalem to worship. ¹² And neither in the temple did they find me carrying on a discussion with anyone or causing a riot, nor in the synagogues, nor in the city *itself*. ¹³ Nor can they prove to you *the things* of which they now accuse me. ¹⁴ But I confess this to you, that in accordance with the Way, which they call a sect, I do serve the God of our fathers, believing everything that is in accordance with the Law and is written in the Prophets; ¹⁵ having a hope in God, which these men cherish themselves, that there shall certainly be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked. ¹⁶ In view of this I also do my best to maintain a blameless conscience *both* before God and before *other* people, always. ¹⁷ Now after several years I came to bring charitable gifts to my nation and to present offerings, ¹⁸ in which they found me *occupied* in the temple, having been purified, without *any* crowd or uproar. But *there were* some Jews from Asia— ¹⁹ who ought to have been present before you and to have been bringing charges, if they should have anything against me. ²⁰ Or *else* have these men themselves declare what violation they discovered when I stood before the Council, ²¹ other than in regard to this one declaration which I shouted while standing among them, ‘For the resurrection of the dead I am on trial before you today!’”



IN ACTS 24, PAUL WAS NOT IMPRESSED WITH PEOPLE'S TITLES, ONLY WITH HIS MISSION TO TELL PEOPLE WHO AND WHERE JESUS IS SO THEY CAN FIND HIM

- Paul's Identity was based on What God had said about him... He Owned any room he was in because he represented God who was above ALL and His Son, who died for all, even Kings!
- Jesus' Return is Imminent- and therefore Urgent and therefore we must own the Room- telling everyone who will listen, where/how to find Jesus in Rooms of their lives.

Matt 24: 3-9 (NASB)

- ³ And as He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things happen, and what *will be* the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"
- ⁴ And Jesus answered and said to them, "See to it that no one misleads you. ⁵ For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and they will mislead many people. ⁶ And you will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for *those things* must take place, but *that* is not yet the end. ⁷ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places. ⁸ But all these things are *merely* the beginning of birth pains.
- ⁹ "Then they will hand you over to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name. ¹⁰ And at that time many will fall away, and they will betray one another and hate one another.



IS CHRIST COMING BACK IN
YOUR LIFE TIME?

TRUE or FALSE?


This is a trick Question... We don't know, but Christ Calls us to live as if he was coming back SOON!

WHAT YOU BELIEVE IMPACTS HOW YOU ACT AND HOW URGENT YOU ARE!

A REAL SIMPLE AND SHORT SYNOPSIS OF WHAT WE BELIEVE AS CHRISTIANS IS IN THE NICENE CREED

The Nicene Creed


- I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
- I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.
- I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
- I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

A quote by NeNe Leakes is displayed on a background of a sunset over the ocean. The text is white and centered. Below the quote, the name 'NeNe Leakes' is written in white text inside a dark red rectangular box. At the bottom center, there is a small, faint logo.

When I walk into
the room, I own it!

NeNe Leakes

IF I SAY
SOMEONE
OWNS THE
ROOM, WHAT
DOES THAT
LOOK LIKE TO
YOU?

A decorative graphic consisting of several overlapping, wavy lines in shades of blue and cyan, located in the bottom right corner of the page.

ACTS 24 PAUL'S CONFIDENCE AND URGENCY ALLOWED HIM TO OWN THE ROOM- WE CAN TOO!

- **How to own the room: Adapted from:**
<https://magneticspeaking.com/5-simple-ways-to-own-the-room/>
- **1. HOLY SPIRIT/URGENT/RELATIONAL CONFIDENCE**
- **2. DELIVERY**
- **3. STORYTELLING**
- **4. IMPROVISE WELL**
- **5. PRACTICE IN SAFE SPACES...**
- **6. KNOW YOUR MESSAGE IS IMPORTANT**
- **7. KNOW YOUR MESSAGE IS URGENT**



1. HOLY SPIRIT /URGENT/RELATIONAL CONFIDENCE

- **We are not alone, The Holy Spirit is with us, and has an agenda for us to be empowered to share what needs to be said... Listening and being open to the Holy Spirit means you never have to go without confidence...**
- **Luke 12: 11-13 (NASB)**¹¹ Now when they bring you before the synagogues and the officials and the authorities, do not worry about how or what you are to speak in your defense, or what you are to say; ¹² **for the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say.**
 - It's hard to command your audience's attention if you lack Authority & Confidence & a relationship to your audience. If a teacher that students have never seen before asks them to come outside they will be less likely to move versus if the principal comes in and says they need to talk to you outside because it is important. Paul was able to do this with Felix because he was not intimidated by him. Paul knew Felix needed what he had to offer more than he needed what Felix had to offer.

2. DELIVERY

Your movement, your gestures, and vocal modulation will either attract people or repel them. But know what you deliver is more important than how... If there is a fire in the building. Being strong is vital.

Acts 24: 21-Paul- "I am on trial for the resurrection of the Dead"

Energy: People want friends who is energetic. People are attracted to positive energy. Tearing people down and complaining does not draw people to you!

Acts 24: 10- Paul-"I **cheerfully** make my defense... "

Interactivity: People like you to interact them with a little when you present. Your audience does not like it if you speak "at" them; They want you to talk "with" them and respond to what they are dealing with.... Lord tell the people to go away... we have no food... Jesus got them some food...

Eye/Name/Relational contact (because you really care about them): Your audience wants you to connect with them. Looking at individuals will make people more engaged in your presentation. Acts 24: 10-Paul- "Knowing that for many years, you have been a judge"

Movement: Jesus owned an area by just writing on the ground with a stick while others were talking to him. (woman caught in adultery.

Dressing the part: This does not mean dressing up, but dressing so you can be heard, often connecting with your audience... not separating you from them. Jesus didn't dress like the pious Pharisees but like the ordinary people of his day.

3. STORYTELLING

- The third way to own any room is to tell good stories. The reason people are obsessed with shows like Game of Thrones, Vikings, House of Cards, and Breaking Bad is that they capture our imagination with their storylines. You can do the same when you communicate with your audience. How did Jesus impact your life in a real way!
- **In Discipleship, there are about seven storylines that you need to know.**
 1. **Your personal story:** How do you talk about your walk with Jesus.
 2. **Your church/life group story:** How do you talk about your church family
 3. **Biblical and real world Success Story:** How do you share Bible stories and of other Saints who have endured.
 4. **Objection destroyer:** How to tell a story to negate an objection your audience might have.
Person- I don't like church because it is full of Hypocrites... You- I felt the exact same way as you did, but I began to see people can be truly committed, though imperfect, just like me, but my focus has to be on God, not on wayward sheep.
 5. **Lessons Learned Story:** I learned that Jesus hears my prayers on His terms not my own, when I was in college, I prayed for a meal, and a friend called me and walked me through that process...
 6. **Hope Story:** How to tell a story that inspires and lifts up your audience
 7. **Study Story:** How to take a Bible study and turn it into an engaging story that connects to where someone is, and asks them questions about it.

4. IMPROVISE WELL

- The forth way to own a room is to improvise well. Charming with your spontaneity and wit is a great way to get and hold people's attention. This is the hardest way because it takes a lot of practice to be a good improviser. However, it is connected to hearing from the Holy Spirit, being sensitive to the needs of those around you, asking questions and building relationships.



PRACTICE IN SAFE SPACES

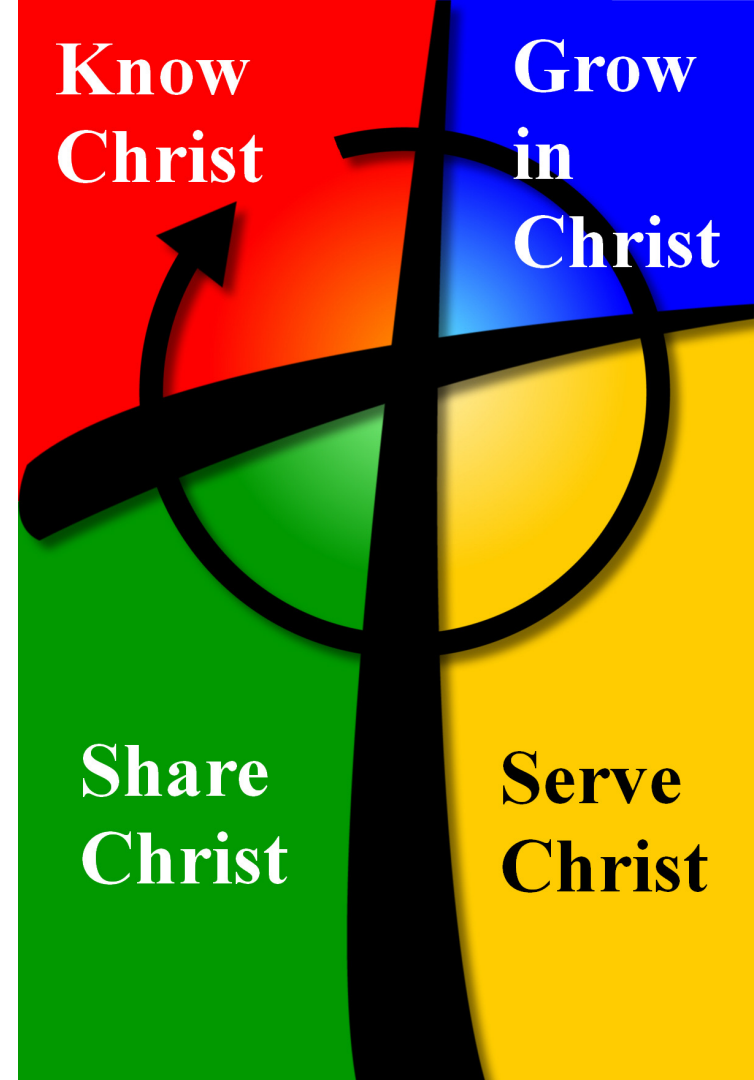
- One of the fastest ways to build your ability to own any room is to practice in safe spaces like Life Group, or Bible study...

**Know
Christ**

**Grow
in
Christ**

**Share
Christ**

**Serve
Christ**



6. KNOW YOUR MESSAGE IS IMPORTANT

- To own the room is to command your audience's attention and action from beginning to end, but this addresses the What, the How is keeping in Mind that Jesus is returning... SOON... That gives a sense of importance/urgency to the room. This is not a drill but a real emergency!...
- To own a room, you also need to understand that you have an urgent message...
 1. Like for an example going to classes to let them know there is an active shooter.
 2. A Fire alarm OWNS a room when it goes off.
 3. If you have feedback on an audio system or on Zoom... that makes someone address it quickly.

7. KNOW YOUR MESSAGE IS URGENT

- How do we know Jesus is returning soon?
- Matt. 24: Where Jesus says, it is like being ready for childbirth...
 1. **Wars and rumors of wars.** Russia on the border of Ukraine, China and US not accepting each other's flights, Israel and Palestine...
 2. **False Messiahs-** People following after idols versus the real Jesus
 3. **Famines...** With global warming and all that goes with it, that is happening.
 4. **Earthquakes** (Volcanoes, Tsunamis, Asteroids coming close, Pandemics, etc.)
 5. **Disciples will be hated** for Christ's sake (even by other false disciples).
 6. **People will snitch on** (cancel Culture, abortion bills, etc.) **and hate each other.**
 7. **Iniquity being multiplied**
 8. **Love will become cold.**
 9. **The kingdom shall be preached to the whole world.**
 10. **Like with Childbirth**, a mother's water breaks at an unknown time...you just need to be ready...



WILL YOU BE READY WHEN THE TRUMPET SOUNDS? QUESTIONS FOR TODAY

1. What are some examples of urgent sounds, messages, etc. that get your attention? Why?
2. Can you think of a time when you had to give an urgent message? How did it go?
3. Jesus generally only went to places once in his years of ministry, so everyone of his messages/healing sessions, etc. were important and urgent. How did he own the room, and minimize stress?
4. From the 7 parts of owning the room, what sticks out to you? What are you good at, what do you need work with? Do you get nervous in front of “important” people (Like Felix and Paul’s Kings) How can you get over that, and treat everyone as Very important?
5. How do we treat Christ’s return as soon, without being overbearing?

LET'S REVIEW/PREVIEW:

- In My Last sermon series- I talked about how God's upside down Kingdom is His People- Reaching them to make Disciples is our mission. Looking at how Paul does this in Acts 24 is seen below...

- **WEEK 1: Principles of Song development** going from the egocentric dependent cry to the independent identity to the interdependent Kingdom concert! These are done in the Key of G: **Gratitude, Goals, & Grace.**

- **WEEK 2: Principles of Shepherding:** authentically leaving the 99 to go after the 1.

- **WEEK 3: Seeking First the Kingdom & The Producer of our Group Song**

- **WEEK 4: Owning the room- Fearing God more than Kings**

- **Week 5: Armor of God- Truth is Key so we don't sink together but hold each other up.**