

November 14, 2021
La Jolla Christian Fellowship
TAKING IT TO THE STREETS // Evangelism Series
Episode 7: Ready, Willing & Able
Pastor Adam Stadtmiller

Acts 28:23-31

²³They arranged to meet Paul on a certain day, and came in even larger numbers to the place where he was staying. He witnessed to them from morning till evening, explaining about the kingdom of God, and from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets he tried to persuade them about Jesus. ²⁴Some were convinced by what he said, but others would not believe. ²⁵They disagreed among themselves and began to leave after Paul had made this final statement:

“The Holy Spirit spoke the truth to your ancestors when he said through Isaiah the prophet:²⁶“Go to this people and say, “You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving. ²⁷For this people’s heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.’

²⁸“Therefore I want you to know that God’s salvation has been sent to the Gentiles, and they will listen!” ²⁹³⁰For two whole years Paul stayed there in his own rented house and welcomed all who came to see him. ³¹He proclaimed the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ—with all boldness and without hindrance!

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?”
And I said, “Here am I. Send me!” **Isaiah 6:8**

Willingness: The cheerful readiness to do something.

Preparation: The action or process of making something ready for use or service.

1. **Willingness: Vs. 23** *They arranged to meet Paul on a certain day, and came in even larger numbers to the place where he was staying.*
 - **Paul did not let his circumstances define his witness:** Paul was under house arrest:
 - **Willingness begets opportunity.**
 - **Vs. 30** *For two whole years Paul stayed there in his own rented house.*
 - **Vs. 28** *“Therefore I want you to know that God’s salvation has been sent to the Gentiles, and they will listen!” and welcomed all who came to see him.*

2. **Preparation:** Paul was equipped and prepared to share:
 - a. **Vs. 23b** *He witnessed to them from morning till evening, explaining about the kingdom of God, and from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets he tried to persuade them about Jesus.*
 - b. **Vs. 31** *He proclaimed the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ—with all boldness and without hindrance!*

For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works,
which God prepared in advance for us to do. **Eph. 2:10**

Small Group Questions: Use these questions and exercises for community group discussion or going deeper in personal reflection and growth.

1. When it comes to doing the work of God, do you have a “send me” attitude? Why or why not?
2. When it comes to speaking to people about the salvation and God’s word, do you feel prepared or unprepared?
3. How could we prepared ourselves for answering God’s call to go to the lost?
4. Paul did not let circumstances define his willingness to serve God. How can we rise above our circumstances to always be ready to serve when the opportunity comes?
5. Are there any ministry opportunities that you have not yet stepped into? What are they and are you willing to step into them now?