♦SERMON NOTES **♦**

Sunday, July 8, 2012

"ALMOST"

(Acts 26:22-28)

Today we will share the good news of Jesus Christ and celebrate that good news through the Lord's Supper observance. Many people know the story of Jesus but their lives have not been captured by the story and they are still spiritually lost. Sadly, too many people will enter eternity having "almost" become followers of Jesus Christ. As a result they will "almost" spend eternity in heaven.

"As Jesus was starting out on his way to Jerusalem, a man came running up to him, knelt down, and asked, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" (Mark 10:17, NLT).

"He sent for Paul, and heard him speak about faith in Christ" (Acts 24:24, NASB).

"Then Agrippa said to Paul, 'You almost persuade me to become a Christian'" (Acts 26:28, NKJV).

1. Some people think they arelives to Jesus.	to give their
2. Some people think they arelives to Jesus.	to give their
3. Some people think they arelives to Jesus.	to give their
4. Some people think they arelives to Jesus.	to give their

5. Some people think they are	to give	their
lives to Jesus		

"Seek the Lord while you can find him. Call on him now while he is near. Let the wicked change their ways and banish the very thought of doing wrong. Let them turn to the Lord that he may have mercy on them. Yes, turn to our God, for he will forgive generously" (Isaiah 55:6-7, NLT).

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"As Jesus was starting out on his way to Jerusalem, a man came running up to him, knelt down, and asked, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" (Mark 10:17, NLT).

"Go and sell all your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me. At this the man's face fell, and he went away sad, for he had many possessions. Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, 'How hard it is for the rich to enter the Kingdom of God!'" (Mark 10:21-23, NLT).

"You will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles. When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour" (Matthew 10:17-19, ESV).

"He sent for Paul, and heard him speak about faith in Christ" (Acts 24:24, NASB).

"Today if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts" (Hebrews 3:7-8, NASB).

"Are you prepared to go up to Jerusalem and stand your trial before me on these charges?" (Acts 25:9, NASB).

"I appeal to Caesar!" (Acts 25:11, NASB).

"You have appealed to Caesar, to Caesar you shall go" (Acts 25:12, NASB).

"Now when several days had elapsed, King Agrippa and Bernice arrived at Caesarea and paid their respects to Festus" (Acts 25:13, NASB).

"When the accusers stood up, they began bringing charges against him not of such crimes as I was expecting, but they simply had some points of disagreement with him about their own religion and about a dead man, Jesus, whom Paul asserted to be alive" (Acts 25:18-19, NASB).

"I am on trial for the hope and resurrection of the dead" (Acts 23:6, NASB). T

"If Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins" (1 Corinthians 15:17, NASB).

"Why is it considered incredible among you people if God does raise the dead?" (Acts 26:8, NASB).

"Then Agrippa said to Paul, 'You almost persuade me to become a Christian'" (Acts 26:28, NKJV).

- 1. Some people think they are too smart to give their lives to Jesus.
- 2. Some people think they are too young to give their lives to Jesus.
- 3. Some people think they are too busy to give their lives to Jesus.
- 4. Some people think they are $\underline{\text{too successful}}$ to give their lives to Jesus.

5. Some people think they are <u>too happy</u> to give their lives to Jesus.

"Seek the Lord while you can find him. Call on him now while he is near. Let the wicked change their ways and banish the very thought of doing wrong. Let them turn to the Lord that he may have mercy on them. Yes, turn to our God, for he will forgive generously" (Isaiah 55:6-7, NLT).

[&]quot;Repent and turn to God" (Acts 26:20, NASB).