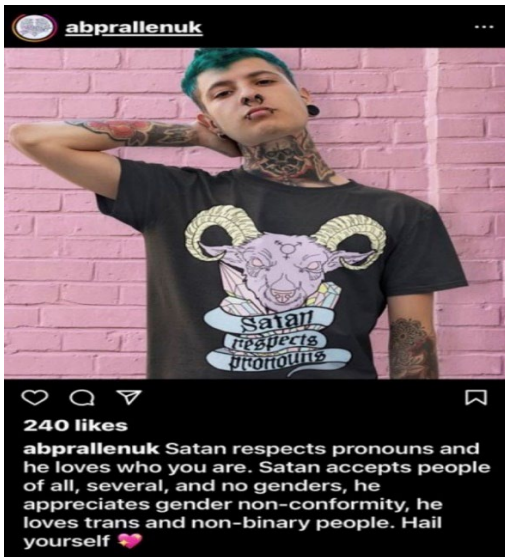


LIVING BOLD AND APPROACHABLE

Read Silently as Group: Let's be honest how many opportunities have we missed to spread the "Good News" of Jesus? In truth, we miss opportunities throughout the day, all day everyday of the year. But why? What's keeping us from opening our mouths when conviction is telling us to act? The answer is quite simple, it's Satan. That's right, the same Satan the bible tells us was the "father of lies" in John 8:44. You see, shame and embarrassment are one of the many tools of Satan that causes us to be more afraid of what people think of us than our Heavenly Father. You see, when God cast Satan out of heaven, he didn't confine him to hell. Revelation 12:7-9 tells us that he cast Satan and his army of broken angels to the earth. They are here among us right now! It's time for the Christian men to stand boldly with God's word AND ACT. We are part of God's army, it's time we start thinking and acting like we are.

Current Event Example of What We Are Up Against:



- Remember men, we allowed this to happen by not being bold enough.
 - In the first picture, how could you approach this gentleman? Remember, we are all sinners and honestly, we are one missing Godly mentor from dressing just like this. The Word of God is spread from Christians, so when that doesn't happen Satan steps in to fill that void.
 - In the second picture, this in reference to the recent Target controversy with the company selling a self-proclaimed satanists merchandise in the store. What can we do stand against this while not coming across as self-righteous. God created everyone of us with an internal desire to seek him, so when someone doesn't find him they are alone in the wilderness and become a product of the world. Do you remember where God cast Satan to? Earth.
- **Ezekiel 33:11 "As I live!" declares the Lord GOD, "I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn back, turn back from your evil ways! Why then will you die, O house of Israel?"**
 - God clearly states that He is not glad when the wicked die. That reveals He loves the wicked, but He still hates their sin. He wants the wicked to turn away from their sin. This is a great lesson for everyone, that we are to hate sin, including the sin in our own lives and love everyone. We can take great comfort and joy that God loves us and the wicked too as without that love we would all be lost.

Group Discussion Questions:

- How long does it take a man to be excellent at something?
 - Name things that take a long time to perfect as a group.
- What can we do to "perfect" the art of spreading the Gospel?
 - Do you pray with conviction daily?
 - What is conviction? Why is this a useful tool for our growth on the road to perfecting our walk?

- i. **1 John 5:14: “And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to His will, he hears us.”**
 - ii. When our hearts are aligned with God in faith, he tells us to pray with **boldness**, expecting that our prayers will be answered.
 - Have you dedicated yourself to educating yourself on things of the bible you really don’t understand? In other words, have you answered your own whys?
 - **Philippians 1:14: “And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.”**
 - When we are bold for Christ, enduring hardships for our faith, others are provoked to do the same!
- How can we share the Good News if we don’t understand?
 1. **Faith – Hebrews 11:1 – “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”**
 - a. Putting your faith in Jesus finished work on the cross!
 2. **Repentance – Acts 3:19-21 - “Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.”**
 - a. What is Repentance?
 - i. The turning away from one’s sin, with the commitment to never go back (even if he may fall again, it isn’t planned or accepted beforehand)
 3. **Holy Spirit Comes to Live Within Us – (This happens as soon as we put our faith in Jesus)**
 - a. **1 Timothy 1:7-8 - “God fills us with the Holy Spirit, who is bold and courageous.”**
 - b. **Romans 8:14-17 - “For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, ‘Abba, Father.’ The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.”**
 - c. **Ephesians 4:30 - “And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.”**
 4. **Water Baptism (Public Profession) – Mark 1:4 - John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.**
 - a. This is the outward expression, and celebration, of the inward change! Baptism doesn’t save, but we should want to do it to show what God has done in our heart!
 5. **Continuance – Following Jesus as Lord – Luke 8:15 – “And that in the good ground: These are they, who in an upright and good heart, having heard the word, do retain it, and bear fruit in continuance.”**
- How can we approach someone who doesn’t know Jesus in a way that comes across as loving while still being bold?
 - **“Early in the morning he came again to the temple; all the people came to him, and he sat down and taught them. The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery and placing her in the midst they said to him, “Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such. What do you say about her?” This they said to test him, that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, “Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.” And once more he bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. But when they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the eldest, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. Jesus looked up and said to her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” She said, “No one, Lord.” And Jesus said, **“Neither do I condemn you; go, and do not sin again.”** -John 8:2-11**
 - **“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16**
 - God came down to this earth to pursue each and every one of us. He still does today by the Holy Spirit through others. Do not get in His way for the conviction He lays on you to pursue others!
- **WE DO SO IN PURSUING & SACRIFICIAL (Unselfish) LOVE! THERE IS NO CONDEMNATION IN CHRIST. LOVE IS THE ONLY TOOL WE HAVE TO SHOW OTHERS HOW GOD LOVES ALL OF US!**