

***“The Shoes of Readiness  
for the Gospel of Peace:  
Part II”***

Ephesians 6:10-20

June 28, 2009

# Four Lessons from Last Week

1. The gospel of peace is the good news that God, in Christ, has reconciled us to himself, others, and the created order.
2. The gospel of peace must make war because sometimes war is necessary to make peace (see Rom 16:20).
3. The passion for the gospel of peace comes from the gospel of peace.
4. The command of Eph 6:15 is to make ourselves ready to go with the gospel of peace.

# Four Ways to Put on your Shoes!

1. Learn to love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul and mind and strength.

“There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear” (1 John 4:18).

“If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!” (Luke 11:13)

# Four Ways to Put on your Shoes!

1. We must learn to love the Lord our God with all our heart and soul and mind and strength.
2. We must always grow in our understanding of the gospel of peace.

## 2 Timothy 2:15

*“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.”*

# Hebrews 6:1-2

*“Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, and of instruction about washings, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment.”*

# Mark Dever

“Among resources pertaining specifically to the actual gospel, I know of nothing better (outside the Bible) to suggest to you than the canons of the synod of Dort. Look them up, then read them and meditate on them slowly, carefully, paragraph by paragraph. Be amazed at God’s love for us in Christ” (*The Gospel & Personal Evangelism*, 113-14).

# Four Ways to Put on your Shoes!

1. We must learn to love the Lord our God with all our heart and soul and mind and strength.
2. We must always grow in our understanding of the gospel of peace.
3. We must learn to articulate the gospel of peace so that others can understand and believe.

# 1 Peter 3:14-16

*“But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.”*

## 2 Corinthians 10:3-6

*“For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete.”*

# Four Ways to Put on your Shoes!

1. We must learn to love the Lord our God with all our heart and soul and mind and strength.
2. We must always grow in our understanding of the gospel of peace.
3. We must learn to articulate the gospel of peace so that others can understand and believe.
4. We must learn to enflame within us an eagerness of heart that God may call on us at any moment to share the gospel of peace.

# Closing Questions

- Are you prepared for the gospel of peace?
  - Are you learning to love the Lord your God through daily communion with him? Do you have a plan for this, and if not why not?
  - Do you understand the basics of the gospel? Are you moving beyond the elementary things and pressing on toward maturity?
  - Are you growing in your ability to articulate the gospel to others?
  - Are you breeding eagerness for being used of God in your soul?