

**Pray for Them.... That They May Be Saved**  
**Romans 10:1**

- **John Knox:** “Give me Scotland or I die”?
- **George Whitefield:** “O Lord, give me souls or take my soul”
- **Henry Martyn:** “I cannot endure existence if Jesus is to be so dishonored”
- **Spurgeon:** “The grand object of the Christian ministry is the glory of God . . . Our great object . . . is, however, to be mainly achieved by the winning of souls. If we do not, our cry should be that of Rachel, ‘**Give me children, or I die.**’ If we do not win souls, we should mourn as the husbandman who sees no harvest, as the fisherman who returns to his cottage with an empty net, or as the huntsman who has in vain roamed over hill and dale. Ours should be Isaiah’s language uttered with many a sigh and groan – “Who hath believed our report? And to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed?” The ambassadors of peace should not cease to weep bitterly until sinners weep for their sins.” - on conversion as our aim

<b>#1: Burden: Do you long to see people saved? (10:1a, 9:1-3)</b>
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***A. The Need for a Burden for the Perishing (9:1-10:1)***

**Brothers, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved.**  
**Romans 10:1**

<sup>1</sup> I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit— <sup>2</sup> that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. <sup>3</sup> For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh.  
**Romans 9:1-3**

***B. The Nature of Paul’s Burden for the Perishing (Romans 9:1-3)***

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**Romans 9:1-3**

**Why should we have sorrow?**

- God takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked – neither should we.
- God values everyone made in his image – so should we.
- We don’t deserve salvation any more than our unbelieving neighbors.

**Surely it is unthinkable that we should be drug from the bottom of the lake, resuscitated at the cost of another's life, handed the instruments of rescue, and then just sit down and play cards on the beach while others are drowning. Is that not unthinkable in your own life? (Piper)**

## How can we increase our concern for lost people?

- Meditate on the grace and sufficiency of Jesus to save sinners (1 Tim 1:15)
- Meditate on the eternal state of the unconverted (John 3:36)
- Meditate on God's convicting & drawing power (Jn 16:8; 6:44; 2 Tim 2:25-26)
- Act on your desires (1 John 3:18)
- Pray for God to increase your love for lost people (2 Thess 3:12)

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**Romans 9:1-3**

### **#2: Intercession: Are You Praying for People to Be Saved? (10:1b)**

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#### ***A. The Simplicity of this Prayer – For what are we praying?***

**Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved.**  
**Romans 10:1**

#### ***B. The Scope of the Prayer – For Whom Are We praying?***

**Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved.**  
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#### ***C. The Steadfastness of the Prayer – For how long are we praying?***

**Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved.**  
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**"Now gone from my sight, who for years had wept over me, that I might live in your sight."**  
(Augustine)

I am now, in 1864, waiting upon God for certain blessings, for which I have daily besought Him for 19 years and 6 months, without one day's intermission. Still the full answer is not yet given concerning the conversion of certain individuals. In the meantime, I have received many thousands of answers to prayer. I have also prayed daily, without intermission, for the conversion of other individuals about ten years, for others six or seven years, for others four, three, and two years, for others about eighteen months; and still the answer is not yet granted, concerning these persons [for whom I have prayed for nineteen years and six months] . . . Yet I am daily continuing in prayer and

expecting the answer . . . Be encouraged, dear Christian reader, with fresh earnestness to give yourself to prayer, if you can only be sure that you ask for things which are for the glory of God. (*Autobiography*, p. 296)

### **#3: Proclamation: How are they to hear without someone preaching? (10:5-17)**

<sup>5</sup>For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. <sup>6</sup>But the righteousness based on faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' " (that is, to bring Christ down) <sup>7</sup>"or 'Who will descend into the abyss?' " (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). <sup>8</sup>But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup>because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. <sup>11</sup>For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." <sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

<sup>14</sup>How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? <sup>15</sup>And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" <sup>16</sup>But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?" <sup>17</sup>So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.