

The Unrestricted Gospel - Session 2

1 Peter 3:20 God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved...

1. "God waited patiently"

God's perspective on mercy

- Romans 2:4, Rom. 9:22, 1 Tim. 1:16
- 2 Peter 3:9

✓ We are ambassadors of God's mercy, even when they don't respond.

2. "in the days of Noah"

God's perspective on a resistant audience

- Gen 6:5, Jonah, The ark, a reminder of God's judgement & love, Ezekiel 33:11, 2 Cor 5: 11 (fear) & 14 (love)

✓ We let God's judgement & His love drive us when we feel resistance.

3. "while the ark was being built"

God's perspective on time

- 2 Peter 3:8-9

✓ We let God set the timetable with people when it seems slow & pray!

4. "In which only a few people, eight in all, were saved"

God's perspective on results

- Luke 13:23-24
- Matt 7:13-14
- Luke 15: 1-32

✓ We leave the results with God when the numbers seem small.

Discussion Questions for Session 2

1. How patient and merciful are you with the difficult or even vulgar people in your world?
2. Do you have something (an object lesson, key verse, etc.) that keeps God's judgement and His love motivating you to reach out to the lost?
3. Are you persisting in prayer even though the response or progress of someone you are sharing with seems slow?
4. How many people have found Christ through your life? If the answer is "small", how do you keep a balance between feeling guilty and giving up and feeling concerned and trying to do more?