

**Session 6: Becoming
a Messenger for
the Good News
Lenten Bible Study •
April 15, 2019
First Church of
Squantum
Rev. Doug Gray**

**“But let justice roll on
like a river,
righteousness like a
never-failing stream.”
—Amos 5:24**

**I. Welcome.
Introductions and
Prayer**

II. Teaser: What's the best news anyone ever shared with you?

III. Decoding the “Christian-ese” — How do you feel about each word?

- a. Sins (Greek, hamartia, immoral)
the things we do out
of the brokenness and
neediness in each of
our lives that leads us
down dark paths**
- b. Good News (Greek, euangelia, can also be**

**translated as gospel
or “God story”) So
evangelism is sharing
Good News, an
evangelist is someone
who shares that Good
News, evangelical
describes someone**

**who believes sharing
Good News matters
c. Salvation (Greek,
soterios, lit. saving) in
a life-giving,
transformational,
personal relationship
with God. Finding true
wholeness and lasting**

**peace that comes
from that relationship.
d. Redeemed. Being
saved. Knowing to
Whom we belong and
how that makes our
lives different. Living
out of the wholeness**

and trust of a life with God.

**e. Justification (Greek, dikaio, making right)
Through Jesus' death,
we are justified—
made right—with God.
Our brokenness is
healed and our sins**

**are forgiven and
blotted out.**

**f. Grace (Greek, charis,
gift...note that joy is
charas) the unearned
gift of God's love and
mercy. Grace comes
before we are ready
or deserve it.**

IV. Video Segment

a. What are some of the things that stood out for you in the video?

b. In the video, Mark tells the story of Anita. From what he

says, what would you say are things Anita is good at?

c. Mark began with three key points

i. God wants people saved.

- ii. It's God who saves people, not us or our efforts.**
- iii. We have some role in this, even if it's small.**

V. 1 Peter 3:8–22

a. What is the first part of the passage about?

b. The idea of sharing one's faith is a little scary. Peter talks about it as “sharing the hope that you have”? Does that

**make it sound easier
to you?**

**c. Peter goes on to add
how one should do the
sharing. What are
those qualities? Why
do you think Peter
adds those?**

- d. Mark later lists three ways that we can bring our faith out in conversations**
- i. Offering biblical perspectives on what's being talked about — films,**

**family, football,
finance, etc.**

**ii. Telling your stories
about the ways
Jesus/God has made,
and continues to
make a difference to
your life...your**

personal stories are compelling!

iii. Explaining the Good News—why is it Good News? If the person with whom you are speaking wants to know more, then what?

e. What do you think of these ideas? Do they help you consider how to make a difference or are they just more “blah blah blah”?

f. Since Peter is writing to Christians who are experiencing some

persecution and suffering, why does he include this bit about sharing the hope that you have? How could those possibly go together?

VI. Conclusions

**“Always be prepared to
give an answer to
everyone who asks you
to give the reason for
the hope that you have.
But do this with
gentleness and
respect...”**