

**ROMANS SERIES NINETEEN**  
**A PASSION FOR GLORY**  
**Dr. Roger Barrier**  
**Romans 9-11**

HOOK: Evangelism sketch ending with man inviting neighbor to dinner.

SLIDE: [Generic slide for the sermon] At least the man in the Sketch had a passion.

In our culture successful sharing of the good news about Jesus begins, more often than not, with inviting someone to dinner.

Wanting to rescue someone you love is not only natural, it is instinctive.

SLIDE: September 4 issue of People Magazine: Super pets

SLIDE: 8-year-old Ryan overturned his kayak on his first white-water kayaking trip. Separated from his kayak he was carried down stream toward menacing rapids.

About a mile down stream 13-year-old Chelsea was playing fetch with her golden retriever, Zion.

Throw stick and Zion swam out in the river and returned with the stick—every time except the last one.

Chelsea threw stick, Zion swam toward and kept right on going ignoring calls to return.

Swan to Ryan, Ryan grabbed Zion's collar and Zion towed him to shore.

Ryan bought Zion a steak for dinner.

SLIDE: After living with his dog for 11 years, it was rather unusual for Golden Retriever, Wrigley, to sniff so persistently at 40-year-old Steve Werner's ear—in a “Hey, what is in there kind of way. She'd never done anything like that before.

Having just seen a segment of 60 Minutes about dogs being able to detect cancer in humans, Werner became concerned and went to his doctor. Sure enough, an MRI detected a tumor the size of a ping pong ball.

After surgery both dog and master are doing fine.

SLIDE: 7-year-old Jordan playing in front yard when he noticed an angry pit bull charging right at him.

Nearby, Daisy, the family's 150 lb pot-bellied pig seemed to sense the danger. She rushed into the pit bull's path. The dog clamped onto Daisy's head and started chewing. Blood was spraying everywhere.

Jordan's dad arrived on the scene and after a quick discussion with the dog's owner, shot the dog.

Daisy was left with a severed ear and mauled face and jowls.

Quick trip to vet. Vet did not have the special anesthetic needed for pigs, so they gave Daisy's two beers to numb the pain while he tended to her wounds.

SLIDE: Wanting to rescue someone you love is not only natural, it is instinctive.

Romans 9-11 details Paul's passionate longing that his family and friends all come to know Christ. Unfortunately, they are in danger of missing the glory.

*READ ROMANS 9:1: I speak the truth in Christ-I am not lying, my conscience confirms it in the Holy Spirit- 2 I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. 3 For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, those of my own race, 4 the people of Israel.*

SLIDE: TO GET THE PROPER SETTING FOR THE PASSAGE WE MUST RETURN TO THE GLORY OF THE PREVIOUS CHAPTER.

God has a wonderful plan laid out for each one of us. God wants no one to miss it.

SLIDE: Foreknowledge

SLIDE: Predestination

SLIDE: Calling

SLIDE: Justification

SLIDE: Glorification

SLIDE: PAUL EXPERIENCED THE GLORY. HE WANTED EVERYONE TO EXPERIENCE IT.

*READ* 2 Corinthians 12:2-4: Caught up into the third heaven 14 years ago to see inexpressible things

SLIDE: Later: Sites that take your breath away: Grand Canyon

SLIDE: [graceful strength in midst of trials] Now: *READ* 2 Corinthians 12:7-10: My grace is sufficient...for when I am weak, then I am strong.”

SLIDE: The Best is yet to come: Heaven’s glory!

SLIDE: I CAN’T WAIT TO EXPERIENCE THE GLORY.

Homecoming: Meet Julie at the Eastern Gate

Fellowship with loved ones.

Many funerals they will never see them again.

Want dad’s saved before they die.

Ask God questions.

Why did Jessie die?

How does universe work?

Experiencing the glory of the almighty lover and creator of the Multiverse

Worshipping with the angels

Be like Jesus.No more pain, sorrow, suffering.

Elaborate on each of these three in people I know at Casas.

SLIDE: GOD CAN HARDLY WAIT TO GIVE US THE GLORY.

Chandler Barteau’s birthday approaching. Wanted a Star Wars Darth Mall action figure.

Not just any Darth Maul, Chandler wanted the one with the coat.

What is a Darth Maul action figure?

Glenn described light sword—the arms moving up and down inside the coat.

Glenn went hunting on ebay.

Imitate Glenn: Sniping the other bidders. Makes final bid with 4 seconds left: Bid, bid, bid, bid

“Took everything I had not to give it to him early.”

What might it be like to get excited about our loved ones and neighbors sharing in the glory.

Julie shared a story with me the other day that she had never told me. After she received Christ, she was so excited to share with her best friend.

SLIDE: JULIE'S TESTIMONY

I've been going to church for as long as I can remember. One of my earliest childhood memories was of me standing in a crib in the church nursery hollering for another graham cracker. My Mom's idea of children's church was a church bulletin and a red crayon. When I got really bored, I would occupy myself by picking gum off of the bottom of the pew in front of me. One summer Sunday I actually listened to the sermon. We had a guest speaker named Bill Glass. Bill was a football player for the Cleveland Browns, and I had never seen anyone so enormous. He told me that the best day of his life was the day he asked Christ to come into his heart. He said that Jesus was God's son and that He came to earth to tell all of us that God loved us, and that He died on a cross to forgive all of our sins. Jesus would give me a home in heaven if I would pray that Christ would come into my life. I was always ADD as a little kid, so it was a minor miracle that I listened all the way through his sermon. When Bill Glass invited people to come down to the front of the church so that he could pray with us, I couldn't get there fast enough. I wasn't a drug dealer or a murderer, but I knew I had sinned by kissing the pastor's son and by wanting to kill my little sister on numerous occasions. I could almost see Jesus standing there waiting for me. I was certain Christ was real, and I wanted to know Him.

I have never felt as happy and excited as I did that Sunday when I prayed for Jesus to come into my life. I knew that I was different. The very first thing I did when I got home from church was to telephone my best friend, Lana Rouse. Lana and I walked home from school together every day. Lana showed me the tree on the playground where I could hide from Danny, the third-grade bully. She would share her peanut butter and jelly sandwich when Mom gave me tuna fish for lunch. Lana melted smores with me at least once a week when we got home from school. So when I had my experience with Jesus, Lana was the first to know. I told her what Jesus did for her, and how easy it was for her to pray to receive Christ. We knelt together to pray by the slide on the school playground. The next Sunday, my seventh birthday, Lana and I held hands as we got baptized. Telling my best friend about Jesus was as natural as breathing because I loved her.

SLIDE: PAUL'S HEART IS BREAKING BECAUSE HIS OWN FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE GOING TO MISS THE GLORY.

*READ ROMANS 9:1: I speak the truth in Christ-I am not lying, my conscience confirms it in the Holy Spirit- 2 I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. 3 For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, those of my own race, 4 the people of Israel.*

Verse one: three times confirms he is speaking truth regarding his passion and sorrow—repeats in Greek for emphasis.

Describe *great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.*

*I wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ:* consider each of the implications of being cursed and cut off from Christ.

Why?

*for the sake of my brothers, those of my own race, 4 the people of Israel.*

SLIDE: Israel had it all.

*READ Romans 9:4-5: Theirs is the adoption as sons; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises. 5 Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of Christ, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen.*

SLIDE: But they lost it.

*READ Romans 9:30: What then shall we say? That the Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, have obtained it, a righteousness that is by faith; 31 but Israel, who pursued a law of righteousness, has not attained it. 32 Why not? Because they pursued it not by faith but as if it were by works...."*

No Faith

SLIDE: Paul was a worn out man.  
Boxed one too many rounds  
Ready to die and go to Heaven.

But wanted to hang around as long as possible to help others to share in the glory!

*READ Philippians 1:21-24: For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.... Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! 23 I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; 24 but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body.*

No! Better for me to stay here and minister more the gospel of Christ.

SLIDE: THE ONLY WAY FOR PEOPLE TO KNOW ABOUT THE GLORY IS FOR SOMEONE TO TELL THEM.

Brie can't keep secrets—Dad, Dad, do you know what Mom got you for your birthday???  
She gets so excited she gives me hints until I guess it.

*READ Romans 10:8-9: "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming: 9 That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.*

Jesus is Lord in Nero's day. We can never water down the gospel.  
Reporter in Iraq: I have chosen Islam: Allah is my prophet.

*READ Romans 10:14-15" How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? 15 And how can they preach unless they are sent?*

SLIDE: "COME AND SEE:" EVANGELISM AT CASAS IS SIMPLE. WE CAN ALL BE INVOLVED.

Making changes designed to lead our church in the most simple way imaginable so all of us can have a part in getting out the Word of the gospel.

Sharing gospel can be hard: "Are you going to Heaven or to Hell?"  
We will the beginning steps so simple even seven-year olds can do it.

BLACKBOARD SLIDE: SW + ABF = closing the gap (roadrunner)

Glenn laughed—good for boomers—not really relate to gen-exers.  
But it helps me understand whether you like formulas or not.

SLIDE: SUNDAY WORSHIP IS A PLACE TO TASTE AND EXPERIENCE GOD.

How many of you have experienced a tiny taste of God's glory here?

Needed help, clarification, work, etc. Heard from God and tasted His glory?

We want our lost friends to taste a bit of that glory, too.  
Taste what they don't have because all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

Doris Wanslee: blood story: Lady with gestational diabetes

Charlie Guthrie: "God just moved me down the aisle."

"Come and See"

SLIDE: ADULT BIBLE FELLOWSHIPS ARE PLACES TO TASTE AND EXPERIENCE RELATIONSHIPS.

Paul lived for the people in his Adult Bible Fellowships

Start ever letter: "I thank God for every remembrance of you."

Financial aid

Visited him in prison

Ephesian elders

Athens depression--ALONE

People need to know and be known, love and be loved.

WRITE ON SLIDE:

Encouragement can come in a worship service, but not directly. Express hurt and have those there encourage them back.

*Wisdom for life situations:* Trouble with boss, children, health, express this.

I will pray for you." Usually don't.

But in an ABF, in a real relationship, they will.

Salvation becomes secure in a relational context.

Biblical life change for Christian maturity occurs in a relational way. It is conversational in an ABF context. Wrapped around lives.

READ COLOSSIANS 4:7-15 for a beautiful list of Paul's relationships.

READ ROMANS 16:1-16 for a beautiful list of Paul's relationships.

SLIDE: MAY I CLARIFY WHAT WE CAN DO TO HELP OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY EXPERIENCE THE LIFE OF CHRIST.

Simple so we can all do it.

SLIDE: "I will begin actively cultivating and building relationships with lost people."

SLIDE: "At the right time I will invite them to Sunday Morning Worship at Casas to 'Come and See.'"

SLIDE: "As my friends progress in their spiritual journeys I will help them become involved in my ABF."

Clearly explain the process.

BLACKBOARD SLIDE: SW + ABF = closing the Gap (This is our roadrunner).

Oskar Schindler owned a munitions factory at the commencement of WWII. German government sent him a work force of Jewish slaves to man the assembly lines.

As he realized that Jews were being massacred he decided to save as many as possible. Started bribing German soldiers and buying and redeeming Jews for work in his factory. Told authorities they were needed for the work. He kept them from the holocaust pipeline and certain death.

He was honored in the 1950s when the Jewish Knesset declared him a friend of Israel and planted a tree for him in Israel.

WWII over, gathers 1100 jews in the factory: “I am a member of the Nazi Party. I own a munitions factory. I have benefited from slave labor. I am a criminal. At midnight tonight you will be free and I will be hunted. I will remain with you until 5 minutes after midnight and then I will flee.

Midnight. 1100 liberated Jews gather to say good-bye at midnight. They give him a list, Schindler’s list, testifying of what he has done to save Jews—signed by them all—in case he is captured.

They give him a golden ring made from golden dental fillings of one of the men.

“I could have done more...If I had made more money, I could have saved more. All the money I wasted, I could have saved more....this pin, one maybe two, I could saved one more or two....”

VIDEO: SCHINDLER’S LIST

Shhhhhhhh. Shhhhhhhh.

Quietly bow your head.

Who is on your list?

(Singers get into place)

Come and See (begin song as soon as Roger says, “Come and See.”

Special Song: “Here is Go Again”

ROGER CLOSE: Come and See: We are dismissed to cultivate our lists.