

## Acts 28:24

*And some were persuaded by the things which were spoken, and some disbelieved.*

Do you ever get frustrated because when you share Jesus with others, and a lot of times they just blow you off? But on the other hand there are those who listen and ask questions and are truly interested in what you are saying about Jesus.

Well, let me encourage you that you are in good company and the reason everyone one does not believe is not because of you. How do I know? Well, for one reason, let me ask you this; if the Apostle Paul was sharing with those same people that you have, do you think they would believe? You may be thinking, sure, after all it would be Paul who wrote a huge portion of the New Testament talking to him or her.

Ok, let's put it into more modern days, so say if Pastor Greg Laurie, or some other well known evangelist where to share Jesus with that person today, just like you did, do you think they would believe because they shared Jesus with them instead of you?

Yet, we tend to think that way, because we know these evangelist have these big crusades and hundreds come to Jesus out on the baseball or football field. So we think they can do a better job of sharing Jesus then we can. But honestly, that's a lie, because we have now put the ability for someone to be saved based upon a person, not on Jesus.

So, then why are people not being saved left and right as we walk down the street, or in our workplace and even our family when we share Jesus with them? I think today's devotional verse has the answer to that question. If you think about it, here is Paul, sharing with all your friends, co-workers and family, and after he does, what's the results? ***“And some were persuaded by the things which were spoken, and some disbelieved.”***

Did you catch the last two words ***“some disbelieved”***? We tend to think that no matter where Paul went, everyone he came in contact with was saved. We tend to think that way about evangelists like Paster Greg Laurie and others. But they would all tell you that is not the case, and they would tell you that more then often, most people reject the gospel as they share Jesus. But all we hear about is those who accepted Jesus, but never the number who do not accept Jesus.

We will say *“I went out and shared Jesus with others and this one guy or girl got saved”*. But we don't do the same thing and say, *“I shared Jesus with about 30 people today, and no one came to Jesus, or out of the 30, only one came to Jesus.”* And I think that's why so many of us get discouraged, because all we hear about is how someone got saved, therefore we feel like a failure if we share Jesus and no one gets saved.

Well, if you think about it, if you are sharing Jesus with others and no one comes to Jesus, you are not the only one who has experienced that. A great example in the bible is the prophet Jeremiah, who is known as “the Weeping Prophet” because he cried over Israel to be saved and an entire book in the bible tells of all the words that the Lord had given him... Let me repeat that, “All the words that the LORD had given him to speak to Israel” they were not his words, but God’s words, yet not one person repented as the Prophet Jeremiah went out and proclaimed God’s word, not his, but GOD’S WORD to a sinful people.

So, you see, it’s not always the messenger, but the heart of the listener, because if a great Prophet like Jeremiah, or great disciple like Paul had people reject the words that they spoke, words that were given to them by God, words of salvation, therefore we should not grow weary as we share Jesus with others and they don’t come to salvation at that time either.

It doesn’t mean we give up, because Jeremiah didn’t and neither did Paul, even though “*some disbelieved*”. Just keep on keeping on, because you can offer someone a drink of cold water, but you can’t force them to drink it. It’s up to him or her if they will accept it and drink it or not. Because the cup (you) is a good cup and the water in the cup (Jesus) is awesome, yet there are many who will refuse it and would rather drink poison (satan) than drink Living Water (Jesus). And it’s not our fault if they refuse it, because we warn them of the poison they are drinking, and how good the Living Water is. It’s not your words, or the words God has given you to say to them, it’s their heart.

- † **John 7:38** *He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.*
  
- † **John 4:10** *Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water."*