

church of Christ at Greenwood

371 West Main Street
Greenwood, Indiana 46142
317.888.8288
churchofchristatgreenwood.org

May 21, 2023

Guess Who?

Isaac Torres

Have you played the game *Guess Who?* It is a game I grew up playing. The objective is to guess the identity of the opponent's chosen character. This is accomplished through several yes or no questions. The candidates are then narrowed down based upon their physical characteristics and accessories. It is a fun game to play as a kid. However, this concept of eliminating prospects based upon physical characteristics has no place within evangelism. We must be spreading the gospel message to all, not just a select few or those who most resemble us.

Jesus spread the message to all! He spoke with and taught a wide variety of individuals — men and women, Jews and Gentiles, rich and poor, prominent and lowly, and even the demon-possessed. Jesus recognized and cared about only one characteristic — they were created in the image of God, and that meant they had a soul in need of salvation.

Mark 2:17 records Jesus saying *"It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick; I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."*

Mark 10:45 adds, *"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."*

Jesus came to seek and save the lost. He came to heal those ravaged by sin. He came to give His life and conquer death, not just for a few but for all mankind. We should be spreading that message!

We should imitate His attitude of the gospel being for all. We cannot limit the people who we share the gospel with based upon their appearance, ethnicity, interests, influence, among other characteristics. James warns about this by saying *"do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with an attitude of personal favoritism"* (2:1). We cannot treat others differently because of physical characteristics. Jesus did not do that and neither should we.

Recently, another evangelist showed me six portraits of some rough looking characters. He asked if I knew who they were and I didn't. It turned out those pictures were of deacons and elders at that congregation before they became Christians. His point was we do not know who will accept and embrace the gospel. We spread the seed and the Lord will do the rest.

Remember the people around us share one important characteristic - they were created in the image of God. They have a soul in need of salvation. Strive to be more evangelistic. Guess who Jesus wants us to teach? Not just a few, but all!