**IT’S TIME FOR NEW THINKING – NEW WAYS**

1 – There are new ways to reach people with the gospel, build them in their faith, send them to reach others.

Paul was committed to sharing the gospel with all people. But how did he do it? He spoke to a wide range of people and cultures.

2 - He said:

“To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews.
To those under the law, I became as one under the law…
I have become all things to all people
that by all means I might save some.”

I love that Paul adjusted his message to the people he was addressing, so they could understand it. He fully entered their world, relating to them as if one of them.

3- Our world has become a digital world. We need to take this into account as we relate to others. Let me give you some examples.

4 - Amazon sales have skyrocketed over the years.

5- Barnes & Noble sales have steadily declined. Why?

People like to be able to order something, find it in 5 minutes and have it at their doorstep the next day. That’s way easier than getting in a car, driving to a store, walking through the aisles of books, trying to find what they want. People don’t have time for that anymore. And there’s no need for that. It’s so much easier to go online, find what you want, and boom you’ve got it.

6 - When people have questions about life or God. If they wonder, “Is God real? Does God care about me? Will God really help me with this addiction? They’re not going to drive to a church and find a pastor to talk to. You know who they’re going to ask?

7 - They’re going to ask Google.

8 - If people need a ride, they can have Uber come to them.

Everything is based on being quick, where they can pull it up on mobile and get answers and service immediately.

And so asking someone to meet to have a discussion about God, they might reply with,

9 - “Well, can’t you just text me a link to something?”

And why would they want a link?

10 - Because it’s private. They don’t have to disclose their thoughts or questions to you. They don’t have to think on their feet or defend their beliefs. When they are online, they are in control. Defenses can come down. No one is challenging them.

Becoming all things to all people, like Paul did, means

11 - offering our message in a way that people want to receive it.

That doesn’t cut out all face-to-face conversations about God. Not at all.

12 - In his series we’ll talk about how to have conversations about God in a way that is brief, conversational, and usually ends with the person saying, “Thank you very much.”

So face-to-face conversations still are important. But we don’t need to limit people to meeting with us in order for them to begin a relationship with God.

13 - We must serve them on their terms…

14 - just like Amazon does, but Barnes and Noble is unable to do.

To be effective in our culture requires new ways of reaching people, even new ways of discipling new believers.

15 - Instead of always searching for the interested, we can let those who are interested, find us.

16 - We’ll look at new ways that multiplication can happen quickly…how you can accelerate evangelism and discipleship to not just a handful of people, but to hundreds and thousands.