**Series: BELIEVE**

**Speaker: Ronnie Norman**

**Opening Graphic from BELIEVE RESOURCES**

**Title: Sharing My Faith**

1. **Know the core message.**

***2 Corinthians 5:17-21 (NLT)***

***17****This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!*

***18****And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him.*

***20****So we are Christ’s ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, “Come back to God!”* ***21****For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.*

***Acts 4:12 (NLT)***

*There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved.*

1. **Cultivate God’s heart for all people.**

***Luke 5:27-32***

*27After this, Jesus went out and saw a tax collector by the name of Levi sitting at his tax booth. “Follow me,” Jesus said to him, 28and Levi got up, left everything and followed him.*

*29Then Levi held a great banquet for Jesus at his house, and a large crowd of tax collectors and others were eating with them. 30But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law who belonged to their sect complained to his disciples, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?”*

*31Jesus answered them, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. 32I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”*

***Luke 15:7 (NLT)***

*… there is more joy in heaven over one lost sinner who repents and returns to God than over ninety-nine others who are righteous and haven’t strayed away!*

1. **Maximize your influence.**

***Matthew 5:14-16***

***14****“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.* ***15****Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.* ***16****In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.*

1. **Trust your Partner.**

***VIDEO OF CASE KEENUM LAST SECOND TOUCHDOWN PASS – YOU HAD THIS READY FOR WED NIGHT A FEW WEEKS AGO***

***Acts 16:14***

*One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul’s message.*

***1 Corinthians 3:6***

*I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.*

1. **Your own story carries weight.**

***Photo of Michael Franzese***

***Brennan Manning***

*“In a futile attempt to erase our past, we deprive the community of our healing gift. If we conceal our wounds out of fear and shame, our inner darkness can neither be illuminated nor become a light for others. But when we live as forgiven men and women, we join the wounded healers and draw close to Jesus.”*