

Witness Everywhere

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I. The foundation of a good witness. (1 Corinthians 13)

A. Love is so great it cannot be defined: God is love

1. There are 3 types of love in the Greek language:

a. *agape* (Romans 5:8).

b. *phileo* is brotherly love.

c. *eros* is sensual, sexual love and it is not found in the New Testament.

2. Love behaves a certain way.

a. The motive of an action determines if it is love. (1 Corinthians 13:3)

b. Love behaves in these ways. (1 Corinthians 13:4-8)

i. It is patient.

ii. It is kind.

iii. It is generous.

iv. It behaves with humility.

v. It is courteous.

vi. It is unselfish.

vii. It is not provoked, but is good tempered.

viii. It thinks no evil.

ix. It is sincere.

B. Joy

1. The disciples acted in joy in persecution. (Acts 5:41, Acts 16)

2. This is not a feeling. (Nehemiah 8:10)

C. Faith

1. It is an action. (Hebrews 11)

2. It is not intellectual.

II. Witness Everywhere

A. What are some reasons people don't witness?

1. We don't think of our own joy in the Lord.
2. We are fearful. (Isaiah 51:7)
3. We are unprepared.

B. What must we do.

1. Learn the Gospel.
 - a. The Gospel saves. (Romans 1:16)
 - b. The Gospel is that Christ died and rose again. (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

C. What must be covered in sharing the Gospel?

1. All are guilty. (Romans 3:23, Ecclesiastes 7:20, Isaiah 53:6)
2. There is a penalty for our sin. (Romans 6:23, Hebrews 9:27)
3. Christ paid the penalty for the debt. (Romans 5:8, 1 Peter 3:18)
4. A sinner must personally receive Christ. (Revelation 3:20; John 1:12; John 3:16; John 5:24)

D. What steps can I take?

1. Learn a plan or use tracts
 - a. The Bridge Illustration. (*Appendix*)
 - b. Steps to peace with God. (*Appendix*)
2. Memorize the Word of God.
3. Take a tract and practice with a friend.
4. Prepare your testimony.
 - i. The preaching of the cross is foolishness to non-believers.
 - ii. But power of testimony might make a connection. Revelation 4:12

III. Question and answer time

A. When developing relationships, when do you confront someone with the gospel?

1. It is a matter of getting to know your man.
2. You must develop a relationship to sense when he is ready.
3. Identify with Christ without being pushy so they know what your position is.

B. What do you do with people you only see rarely?

1. You must be sensitive to the situation.
2. You can engage the person and ask if they are interested in spiritual things.
3. Our sphere of influence is to every person we come in contact with.
4. We must be alert to people in our sphere of influence.
5. Every person you come in contact with has potential.
6. It is up to God not us. (2 Corinthians 10:3-5)

C. How do you identify with Christ?

1. Read the Bible.
2. Pray.
3. Don't use foul language.
4. People will notice your attitude.
5. Don't be forced.
6. Does God have your body? (Romans 12:1-2)

D. What if I don't have a lot of time with someone?

1. Ask them if they are interested in spiritual things.
2. Give them a tract and have them look at it later.
3. Remember, God is in control.
4. We are responsible to sow seed. (I Corinthians 3:6)

E. What do you do with rejection and anger?

1. Don't press them, but pray and love them.
2. Be a friend.
3. Anger doesn't mean the Holy Spirit is not at work in someone's life.

F. Don't argue about religion or dogma.

1. Instead talk about the joy and peace that comes from Christ.
2. This can lead to opportunity to share the real Gospel. (John 3:1-8)

G. What are some good tracts to give?

1. The Bridge Illustration.
2. A better thing than tracts is to show a real interest in the person.
3. Share a verse that has been meaningful to you.

H. Don't practice indiscriminate witness.

1. Depend upon the Spirit for openings.
2. There is a difference between boldness and brashness.

I. How do you overcome shyness?

1. Prayer and confession.
2. Identify with Christ.

J. How do you approach someone who is turned off after a previous bad experience?

1. Pray.
2. Sow seed; don't try to overpower them.
4. Show love.
5. Earnestly ask God for opportunities to witness.

IV. Summary

A. You must identify with:

1. Christ
2. His word
3. The people of God
4. The Gospel
5. The cause of Christ

B. You must be obedient to the Lord