



Part 5: Witnessing

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: *Thanks for being open to this unusual topic of the five-stroke Christian engine!* We have focused on Bible, Prayer, Worship, and Fellowship; today, our focus is on Witnessing.

- What Is a Witness?** A witness *testifies to others about Jesus*: John the Baptizer “*came as a witness, to testify about the Light [that is, Jesus – the True Light of the world], so that all might believe [in Jesus] through him*” (John 1:7).
- Why Should We Think About Witnessing?**
 - The HUGE contrast:
 - Through Jesus, we are blessed: ✦ Forgiveness of all sins, ✦ peace with God, ✦ membership in God’s family, ✦ God helping us with every need, and ✦ the assurance of an awesome eternity 😊!
 - Without Jesus, people are cursed: ✦ No forgiveness, ✦ no peace, ✦ no membership, ✦ no special help, and ✦ the certainty of a horrible eternity 😞!

- b. Focus and Motivation: *Believers are different!*
- i. ^{NET} **2 Corinthians 4:18** “We do not look at the things that are seen but at the things that are not seen, for what we see lasts only a while, but what we do not see lasts forever.” // *Eternity is unseen!*
 - ii. ^{NAU} **Romans 8:5** “For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.” // *Believers think spiritually!*
 - iii. ^{NAU} **Proverbs 11:30** “The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who is wise wins souls.” // *We are righteous through Jesus; now, let us be wise!*

3. **The Survey Results**: 25 out of 72:

- a. If a person had a secret cure for all cancer, do you think he should share it with others? Y—25; N—0
- b. Are you on the path to heaven? Y—25; N—0
- c. If a person knew the way to heaven, do you think he should share it with others? Y—25; N—0
- d. Do you know a person who might not be on the path to heaven? Y—24; N—0
- e. Have you ever told someone you have God’s forgiveness and peace through Jesus? Y—22; N—2
- f. Are you watching for opportunities to share God’s saving truth with others? Y—23; N—1
- g. Are you seizing opportunities to share God’s saving truth with others? Y—21; N—3

4. **Who Should Witness?**

- a. Prophets: ^{NIV} **Acts 10:43** “All the prophets testify about [Jesus]...”

- b. Apostles: ^{NAU} **Matthew 28:19-20** “[Jesus said to His eleven apostles:] ...go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them... [and] teaching them...”
- c. Paul: ^{NAU} **Acts 22:15** “[Ananias said to Paul:] ...you will be a witness for [Jesus] to all men of what you have seen and heard.”
- d. Pastors: ^{NAU} **2 Timothy 4:2** “preach the word...”
- e. Regular Believers:
 - i. ^{NAU} **Acts 8:1, 4** “[On the day Stephen was killed, the believers in Jesus] were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. [And] those who had been scattered went about preaching the word.”
 - ii. ^{NIV} **1 Peter 3:15** “[Peter to believers living far away from Jerusalem:] ...Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.”

5. **What Does Witnessing Have to do with Love?**

- a. What is love? We love *when we act sacrificially to supply the need of another*. God saw our GREAT NEED for forgiveness, so He gave His only Son to †put on flesh, †live in our place, †receive our sins and our eternal punishment, and †lay down His life!
- b. Us to others: If we suspect that someone is without Jesus, *yet we remain silent about Jesus*, that is not love. So let us truly love *by pointing all such people to Jesus!*
- c. Focus on the Family: March 4, 2022, Pastor Phil Waldren: The Importance of Showing Love to Others, The Garbage Man (4-minute audio clip).

6. **How Can We Witness:** *See the Participation Guide list.*
- a. Understand and explain this phrase: We **are** saved, **by** grace, **through** faith, **in** Jesus, **for** eternal life!
 - i. Are saved: Since sin has brought eternal condemnation upon all people, *God sent Jesus to save all people!* God's Spirit works through God's truth to ✦show us our need, ✦make us sorry, and ✦give us faith to trust in Jesus for eternal life!
 - ii. By grace: Grace is God's love for us, *which is never earned and cannot be deserved.* God's love is based on who He is, *not on what we have done!*
 - iii. Through **FAITH:** Forsaking **All, I T**rust **Him...**
 - iv. In Jesus: He is the *object* of our faith!
 - v. For eternal life: That is the *most important reason* why we trust in Jesus!
 - b. Watch for a card that you can use in the future to share that phrase and invite people to Bethlehem.
7. **Our Witnessing Is the Supercharger:** When we are actively seeking opportunities to share Jesus, *that will transform our Bible reading, praying, worship, and fellowship!*
8. **An Inspiring Story About Witnessing:** An elderly lady saved from committing suicide.¹

Let Us Pray: Dear Jesus, You are MOST IMPORTANT to us, so help us to 😊love others and 😊share You with them!

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¹ <https://steemit.com/steemchurch/@derrick9/true-life-testimony-of-an-elder-lady-saved-from-committing-suicide-through-a-11-years-old-boy>