

Witnessing – God’s call for each member

Purpose: Every true disciple of Christ is born into the kingdom as a missionary.

Focus: If you are not a missionary, you are a mission field.

Introduction: ILL – Man in snowstorm, saves himself by saving another person.

That’s why the great commission was Jesus last words to His disciples...

Matt 28:18-20 How much power has Jesus received? Jesus knows no failure. How would Jesus like to see baptized and be His disciples? Jesus loves evangelism. IE: Church =! Social club. How much of what Jesus taught are we to teach? How long is Jesus with us? Go out. Don’t sit still and wait. Actively look for opportunities.

He said this at the end of His ministry, what did He say in the beginning?

Matt 4:19 What is the definition of a follower of Christ? Is like Jesus – fisher of people. If you are not a missionary, you are a mission field (Acts 4:20).

Isn’t it the pastor’s job to take care of evangelism?

Eph 4:11-12 Who should the pastor equip for service? IE: Sheep, not shepherds, make sheep. It’s a grave mistake to think it’s all up to the pastor (**Acts 8:1, 4**). Witnessing =! Spiritual gift. IE: Don’t feed the animals (Heb 5:12). IE: Discipleship method (1/yr – ca 30 yrs) vs. Super pastor (100 000/day – 192 years).

What will happen if we don’t share?

Ezek 33:8-9 What will God do with the lost’s blood if we knowingly neglect to reach them? Is this a salvational issue? (Luke 9:26)

What method should we use?

Rev 22:17 All who has heard the gospel invitation is to carry it to others. How? Answer: Say/Speak (**Rom 10:13-15**). Don’t just be a silent witness. All who have a tongue can witness. Be social, come close to people. Show genuine interest.

What do we talk about?

1 Pet 1:23 Through what does a person become born again? The Word of God is critically important for a person to believe. Preaching is not necessarily public (Acts 8:35, 20:20). IE: Correspondence courses, witnessing, DVD/video, internet.

Personal efforts are needed in order to reach people. We see that in the following Bible story...

John 1:35-42 What is the first thing Andrew does when he begins to follow Jesus? Start with family. IE: You may not be Peter, but you can win a Peter.

Let’s look at another person who began following Jesus...

John 1:43-51 What is the first thing Philip does when he begins to follow Jesus? Nathanael had prejudices. Philip’s personal efforts broke them down.

Let’s look at a third example...

Luke 8:30-39 How long had this man known Jesus? What mission does Jesus give him? Share your personal testimony: Life before I met Jesus, how I met Him and how my life changed (Acts 22:3-21). The fruit of his work was great (Mark 7:31-8:9).

What is the ultimate purpose of evangelism?

John 4:35-38 What blessings do those who sow and reap receive? (**Prov 11:25**). IE: Personal experience. Don’t be negative or think that there won’t be a harvest. (Luke 10:2). Don’t look down on small beginnings (Zech 4:10). Don’t take the glory to yourself if you see success, instead rejoice with the angels (Luke 15:10).

What is Jesus waiting for before He returns?

Matt 24:14 What will go to the whole world before the end comes? (Rev 14:6)

APPEAL Is it your desire to hasten Jesus second coming by praying for and making personal efforts to reach one person for Christ each year?