

Witnessing



"Every believer is a witness whether he wants to be or not."

DONALD GREY BARNHOUSE



PRAY FIRST: May we persevere in duty when not fully conscious of thee, wait upon thee and keep thy way, be humble and earnest suppliants at thy feet, live continually as on the brink of eternity.

Understanding the Truth

In Matthew 28:19-20, Jesus gives to believers what is known as the Great Commission, *"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."*

See if you can identify the command, the duty, and the promise.

What Is a Witness?

A witness is a person who can attest to a fact or event; someone who knows or sees something and is prepared to bear testimony of it.

- A. According to Acts 1:6-8, what were the disciples to receive in preparation to be witnesses?
- B. Read Acts 4:5-12. Who helped Peter to witness to the authorities?

Being Available

- A. Read Acts 8:4-8. We find Philip involved in two forms of reaching the lost. The first is called _____ evangelism.
- B. The second form of evangelism is found in verses 26-40. This is called _____ evangelism.
- C. What form of evangelism could you see yourself involved in?

Ways to Witness

Read the following verses to discover different ways you can be a witness to your family and friends:

- Matthew 5:16: _____
- 1 Peter 2:12: _____
- Philippians 2:14-15: _____

Four Principles for Effective Evangelism

- A. You need a *burden for the lost*. (Romans 9:1-5)
- B. You must be *led by the Holy Spirit*. (Acts 8:29)
- C. You need to *respond in obedience*. (Matthew 28:18-20)
- D. You need to *know Scripture*. (Acts 8:30-35; 1 Peter 3:15; 2 Timothy 2:15)

Four Things That Are True of Every Unbeliever

- A. There is an essential emptiness in every life without Jesus Christ.

God's answer is: *"If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'" (John 7:37b-38)*

- B. There is a loneliness in every individual.

God's answer is: *"I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you." (Hebrews 13:5b)*

- C. All people live with a sense of guilt.

God's answer is: *"And their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more." (Hebrews 10:17)*

- D. There is a universal fear of death.

God's answer is: *"I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die." (John 11:25-26a)*

Embracing the Truth

Knitting the truth of God's Word into our lives



How and where do I start?

- A. Start by writing out your testimony of how you came to Christ. Write it using this outline:
1. What my life was like before I came to Christ (focus on the spiritual part that was missing)
 2. How I came to Christ (be specific)
 3. What my life has been like since I trusted my life to Christ
- B. Go for it!

APPLICATION

Being a doer of the Word

1. What did I learn ("teaching")?
2. Where do I fall short ("reproof")?
3. What do I need to do about it ("correction")?
4. How can I make this a consistent part of my life ("training")?



ACCOUNTABILITY

Placing yourself in transparent and accountable relationships

How are you doing in the area of **INTEGRITY** and **CHARACTER**?

- Assess your battle against ungodly thoughts (unbelief, bitterness resentment, lust, pride, self-righteousness, cynicism, jealousy, covetousness, racism, etc.)

(Unstable) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 (Stable)

- Have you been with a man or woman in the past week in a way that could be viewed as compromising? Yes/ No
- Have you viewed sexually explicit material? Yes/No
- Have you had any financial dealings that failed to be filled with integrity? Yes/No

Obeying the Truth—your mission this week

Engaging the lost through word and deed with the intention of imparting the Gospel



- Invite others to a bible or topical study at a coffee shop, café, or diner.



MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK: John 10:10

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."



EXTRA RESOURCES FOR THE VAULT

Bridges, Charles. "Compassion for the Lost." Monergism. <https://www.monergism.com/compassion-lost-charles-bridges>. Web. n.d.

John MacArthur. "How to Witness". Grace to You. <http://www.gty.org/resources/sermons/1360/how-to-witness?Term=witnessing>. Web. 1983

Understanding the Truth

the command: *"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations..."*

the duty: *"...baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you..."*

the promise: *"...and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."*

What Is a Witness?

- A. power from the Holy Spirit
- B. the Holy Spirit

Being Available

- A. mass
- B. personal
- C. answers will vary

Ways to Witness

- Matthew 5:16: good works (what you do)
- 1 Peter 2:12: excellent behavior (how you live)
- Philippians 2:14-15: no grumbling or complaining (what you say)

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Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture references are from the New American Standard Bible: 1960, 1962, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1975, 1977, 1995 by the Lockman Foundation.