BEING A WITNESS FOR CHRIST

ACTS 1:8

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

I have come to understand more that evangelism is more than a gospel presentation with an invitation to call on Christ for salvation.

It begins with a Christian life that speaks to others around us without using words. Some call this “Lifestyle Evangelism.”

Listen to Matthew 5:16; “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16)

* If you point the light on you it will not glorify your heavenly Father.
* If men see your light pointing them to God, they can glorify your Heavenly Father.

Our witness is helped by our approach to unbelievers.

Here are two verses help us to see this:

“Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time. Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.” (Colossians 4:5-6)

“redeeming the time” speaks of making the most of our time with unbelievers.

“grace” is undeserved favor and “salt,” according to The Believer’s Study Bible, suggests “that one should allow the Holy Spirit to convict others of sin, righteousness, and judgement to come (cf. John 16:8).” Remember that we are not the Holy Spirit. He can do a much better and more effective job of convicting than we ever could.

The Believer’s Study Bible goes on to say “The salt that stings and pricks the conscience of the nonbeliever should be accompanied by undeserved favor and unconditional love.”

In these verses, Paul addresses:
- Our prayers (2-4)
- Our walk (approach) (5)
- Our speech (6)

Our witness can and should be heard, in the right time, through our testimony. This can be shared informally or formally (Church service). No one can refute your true testimony of how God saved you. You lived it.

Paul shared his testimony in three parts: (Acts 22:3-21)
* His life before salvation.
* His encounter with Christ and coming to faith in Him.
* His life since coming to faith in Christ.

What is your testimony? If you are saved you will have all three parts like the Apostle Paul.

My life before Christ:

My faith in Christ:

My life since coming to Christ:
We need to be familiar with the scriptures teaching on our sin, our Savior, and our salvation. Speaking of Himself, Jesus, our Savior, said “for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.” (Luke 19:10)

We must be part of this ministry as well.

We should understand that:
1. We are all sinners.
   (Romans 3:23; James 2:10; Romans 5:12)

2. We are condemned in our sins. (Romans 6:23a; John 3:18;
   I John 1:8)

3. We are not able to save ourselves (Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 4:5)

4. Jesus’ provision (Romans 5:8; I Peter 3:18;
   II Corinthians 5:21)

5. God’s invitation (John 3:16; Romans 10:9-10, 13)

Having a burden for someone’s soul and their eternal destiny is the greatest motivation and reason for evangelism.