

**GROWING THROUGH WITNESSING**

At the conclusion of Matthew in chapter 28, verse 18 we read:

*“Then Jesus came to them and said “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you”.*

Now that we know what a disciple is and what is required of one we have begun to look at what we need to be doing to be growing in our walk with the Lord. This lesson puts us in the 5<sup>th</sup> week of a six week study on discipleship were we will continue to look at how we can grow closer to Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

***We read in 2 Timothy 4:2 “Preach the Word. Be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage with great patience and careful instruction.”***

As Christian’s we are all called to discipleship. In becoming a disciple we need to be striving to grow closer to Jesus by doing four things. In this lesson we will look at the fourth thing we need be doing and that is witnessing. We will be looking at various scripture for reference and will answer the following questions:

- A. What is witnessing?
- B. What is the purpose of witnessing?
- C. Is there a model of effective witnessing?

Before we start, let’s **PRAY** and ask God’s Holy Spirit to open our hearts to receive His Word and to show us how to apply it in our life.

Let’s look at what witnessing is. Witnessing is defined as “One who gives attestation of a fact or event” and “public affirmation by word or example”. Attestation is “to affirm to be true”. If you are witnessing for Christ you are letting others know what He did for them on the cross of Calvary. It is known as the “Good News” or “Gospel”.

1. Who is witnessing and how did he/she witness in the following verses?

Acts 2:14-41 \_\_\_\_\_

2. Who is witnessing and how did he/she witness in the following verses?

John 13:1-17 \_\_\_\_\_

3. Who is witnessing and how did he/she witness in the following verses?

Acts 26:1-29 \_\_\_\_\_

*As we witness to those God puts us in contact with we will find ourselves learning to hurt for those who God hurts for. As we are faithful in witnessing we will find ourselves continuing to grow in our Christian walk and becoming more Christ like.*

Let's look at the purpose of witnessing. Witnessing to non-believers opens up the word of God to an individual who has not heard about our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. They do not know about the one who can take away their sin and bless them with the gift of eternal life. They are exposed to the Gospel and at that point have a choice to make about it.

4. What does the following scripture tell us why we are to witness?

Jonah 4:11 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. What does the following scripture tell us why we are to witness?

John 3:17 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Let's look at a model of effective witnessing. In John 4:1-42 we see here Jesus effectively witnessing to a Samaritan woman. He give us a model to use when we witness to those non-believers we come into contact with. Lets look at that model.

6. Effective witnessing is led and directed by the Holy Spirit!

John 4:4 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. Effective witnessing is being ready "in season and out of season"!

John 4: 6-7 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. Effective witnessing will be motivated by love!

John 4:9-10 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. Effective witnessing is tactful!

John 4:13-15 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. Effective witnessing speaks the truth!

John 4:18 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. Effective witnessing is grounded in knowledge of God's Word!

John 4:19-26 \_\_\_\_\_

12. Effective witnessing takes time!

John 4:29 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

13. Effective witnessing believes there is a "harvest" of ripe souls!

John 4:35-38 \_\_\_\_\_

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*"To be a soul winner is the happiest thing in the world. And with every soul you bring to Jesus Christ, you seem to get a new heaven here on earth". C.H. Spurgeon*