

Part 2 (Lesson 2)

Sharing Your Faith With Others

What percentage of church members in America's churches do you think have led another person to Jesus Christ? Sad to say the answer that surveys have come up with is about 5 percent. This is not at all in line with what the Lord's direction to us is in His Word. Sharing our faith in Christ with others is a very important part of the Christian life. In this lesson we will look in to why we must and how we can share our faith in Christ.

I. Our Responsibility

- A. In Mark 5:1-20, Jesus delivers a man from demon possession. After He had healed this man Jesus gave the man some instructions in vs. 18-19.
- 1. Where did He send him? (Back to his home area to people who knew him)
- 2. What did He tell Him to do? (Tell people that he knew what great things the Lord had done for Him and how God had showed mercy to him)
- 3. Why do you think Jesus told him these things? (His testimony would mean more to the people who knew him before Jesus had saved him and set him free)
- B. What do the following verses say to us?
- 1. Matthew 28:18-20 (The mission that Jesus gave to all of us in the body of Christ is to go into all the world, leading people to Christ and teaching them to obey His Word)
- 2. Mark 16:15 (He told us that we are all supposed to be sharing the good news of what Jesus Christ has done for us by dying on the cross for our sins and rising from the dead)

3. 2 Corinthians 5:17-20 (As new creations in Christ Jesus we are now given the ministry of reconciliation and are Ambassadors for Christ. We represent Him and His Kingdom in this foreign land. We implore people to be reconciled to God.)

"Ambassador" – "an accredited diplomat sent by a country as its official representative to a foreign country."

- a. After reviewing the definition of "Ambassador" explain in your own words what you think 2 Corinthians 5:20 is saying to the follower of Christ. (Though citizens of heaven we represent Jesus here in this foreign land by word and by example or lifestyle.
- 4. Acts 1:8 (We are empowered by the Holy Spirit to be Christ's witnesses)
- C. What did the Christians do in Acts 8:1-5? (They scattered everywhere because of great persecution and they preached the gospel everywhere they went)
- D. What does God think about people coming to know Jesus?
- 1. Luke 15:11-32 (Like the father in the story of the prodigal son, God loves people deeply and longs for them to come back to Him and receive the eternal life that He has for them.)
- 2. 2 Peter 3:9 (He is patient toward us (possibly delaying His return), not willing that any would perish but wanting all to come unto repentance and be saved.)
- E. What does Jesus say He will make us? (Matthew 4:19) (Fishers of men)
- F. What does John 4:35 tell us? (The fields are ripe and ready to be harvested)
- G. What does Matthew 9:36-37 tell us? (The harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few. We are to ask God to raise up and send out harvesters into the fields.)

II. Lifestyle

A. What did Jesus say about our lives in Matthew 5:13-16? (We are the salt of the earth and the light of the world. We are to let our light shine through our good works in such a way that all will see it and glorify God as a result.)

B. In 1 Corinthians 3:1-3, what did the Apostle Paul say was true of the people there? (They were immature and fleshly, not spiritual. They were jealous of one another and living in strife with one another.) (Note – Christians, not shining their light)

"You may be the only Bible some people will ever read!"

C. What do Philippians 1:27 and Ephesians 4:1 admonish us to do? (To walk or live in a manner worthy of the gospel of Jesus and worthy of our calling)

III. Missions

- A. What did we learn from Matthew 28:18-20? (We are to go into all the world and make disciples in all the nations)
- B. Do you think it is God's will for every Christian to leave their home and go to a foreign land to share the gospel? (No, at least not permanently. No one would be left at home)
- C. Romans 10:13-15 sheds some light on this. What can you see in this passage as the part God has for those who don't go? (Those who do not go should be involved in helping to send those who do go, providing prayer and financial support)

(We are all responsible to see the gospel preached around the world. Some are called to go and they give their lives in this way to do their part. Some are called to stay but are responsible to send (support) those who go. Each of us is responsible.)

IV. Ways to Share the Gospel With Others

A. The following is a list of other ways to consider sharing our faith in Christ. Think about your situation in life and which ways will work for you. (Remember that following the leading of the Holy Spirit, Who lives within you, is always important in sharing your faith in Christ with others.) This list is not complete but should stir your thinking.

- 1. Invite people to church.
- 2. Witness to people in your neighborhood, at your job, to your relatives, to people on the streets, etc.
- 3. Participate in the outreach programs of your local church.
- 4. Give to missions and outreach ministries.
- 5. Pass out gospel tracts or leave them in places they will be picked up.
- 6. Sing the gospel.
- 7. Develop friendships with unbelievers and seek to show the love of Jesus to them through your lifestyle. Pray for opportunities to share your faith with them.

V. Conclusion

We cannot save anyone. Only the Holy Spirit can reveal the truth of God's Word to a person's heart and only the Holy Spirit can draw a person to accept Christ as their Savior. Our job is to be witnesses for Jesus by our lives and words, to pray for lost souls to come to Jesus, to support missionaries and to share the message of salvation with those around us.

Ise this space to write down anything in particular that the Holy Spirit is speaking to yo
bout regarding sharing your faith in Jesus Christ with others.