

The Art of Personal Witnessing - Part 1

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I. Part 1.

A. Introduction.

1. You can experience the joy of personal witnessing.
2. Jesus can lead you to witness effectively. (Matthew 4:19)
 - a. Peter led many to the Lord by preaching.
 - b. Not everyone can be a Peter, but some can be Andrews who led one to the Lord at a time.
3. Jesus commanded us to follow Him, and as a result of following He makes us fishers of men.
4. The nature of personal witness.
 - a. Nineteen different times Jesus taught just one individual.
 - b. Leading people to the Lord Jesus is the greatest thing a man can do. (Luke 19:10)
 - c. Leading people to the Lord is also the hardest thing to do.
 - d. Everyone is called to be a witness for the Lord.
 - e. Witnessing is an art.
 - 1) It takes a knowledge of what to say.
 - 2) It takes love and boldness.
 - 3) It takes knowledge of approach.
 - 4) It takes knowledge of the gospel story.
 - 5) It takes caring and follow up.
5. The purpose of this series is to equip for personal witness more effectively.

B. You must have a personal relationship with Christ to witness to Him.

1. The speaker learned at a young age that he must receive Christ as His own personal savior and not just believe the facts concerning Him.

2. You can receive Christ right now if you have not before.

C. You must use spiritual weapons in this work.

II. Part 2.

A. Introduction.

1. Attacks of the enemy.

a. Doubt answered by God's Word.

b. Temptation answered by an escape. (1 Corinthians 10:13)

c. Personal sin answered by confession. (1 John 1:9)

2. Leading a person to the Lord is one of the greatest joys that can come to a person.

a. This is because we reflect on the joy of the person.

b. This is because we reflect on the weight of a life in eternity.

c. This is because we reflect on God's love for us.

3. Jesus promises to train those who follow Him as ones who witness.

4. How to better follow Jesus.

a. You must first have a relationship with Christ. (2 Timothy 1:12)

b. You must then become equipped with a spiritual tool—that is, God's Word.

B. The place of the Word of God in witnessing.

1. The Word of God is the seed of personal witnessing. (Luke 8)

2. We are to sow the Word of God that is incorruptible. (1 Peter 1:23)

a. A person cannot be born again without the Word of God.

b. This same Word becomes food to the one who sows. (Isaiah 55:10-11)

3. The Bible is a spiritual weapon.

a. The Bible alone shows the way of salvation. (2 Timothy 3:15)

b. The Bible is the spiritual weapon of those who are in darkness. Satan has blinded the minds of the unbelievers concerning the gospel. (Acts 26:18, 2 Corinthians 4)

c. When dealing with the Devil, quote the Scriptures. This is also true with personal witnessing. (Ephesians 3:16, Matthew 4, Deuteronomy 8, Jeremiah 23:29)

d. The Spirit of God uses the Word to penetrate the heart to bring conviction of sin and show need of the Savior, to show a person Christ is the Savior he needs, to show him how to receive Christ as Savior, to answer difficulties and hindrances about receiving Christ and to give personal assurance of salvation.

4. How to get to know the Bible for witnessing.

a. Use Scripture memory.

b. This will fill the heart with something to say. (Jeremiah 29)

c. It will permit you to speak with confidence.

d. It will give you victory over sin in your own life.

e. Memorize 1 John 5:11-12.

III. Part 3.

A. Introduction.

1. If you know Christ, you have a God given responsibility to make Him known.

2. It is only through the Bible that we find the way of salvation. (2 Timothy 3:16)

a. Faith saves in Christ Jesus alone.

b. But the Bible is a seed that leads one to a knowledge of Christ.

c. The Word of God is a spiritual weapon for victory over sin. (Ephesians 6:17)

3. The quickest way to have a working knowledge of the Bible is through Scripture memory. (John 3:34)

4. Many Christians do not witness because they are frustrated. With Scripture memory, the person will be able to speak with confidence. (Psalm 119)

5. Scripture memory is difficult, but it pays the greatest dividends.

B. Reasons for Scripture memory.

1. For victory over Satan. (Matthew 4)

a. Jesus quotes Scripture. (Deuteronomy 8:3)

b. Satan misquotes Scripture and has no power over the Holy Spirit.

c. When dealing with the Devil, do not argue. Quote.

d. Common attacks of Satan and Scriptural answers.

1) Doubt. (1 John 5:11-12)

2) Temptation. (1 Corinthians 10:13)

3) Personal sin. (1 John 1:9)

2. Victory over sin in your own life.

a. The Psalmist hid the Word in his own life to prevent sin.

b. The Word in itself will not give you victory, but the means for victory.

3. For effective witnessing. People who want spiritual advice should receive it from God's Word. (Proverbs 22:21-22)

IV. Part 4.

A. Introduction.

1. Witnessing is the responsibility of every Christian.

2. We do not witness more because we have to be prepared, and there is a price for preparation.

3. Preparation comes through Scripture memory which allows you to share God's Word, have victory over sin, understand the Bible better and better meditate.

4. Scripture memory also helps to love God. your mind should be saturated with the Word of God. (Deuteronomy 6:5)

B. Ability to memorize.

1. The older you are the better you are able to memorize.

2. The problem is concentration, not memory.

3. One way to apply the rules of memory is to review.

C. Tips for memorizing.

1. Have a definite plan.

2. Be consistent.

3. Use helpful tools such as the Topical Memory System.

Application questions

1. How is there joy in personal witnessing?

2. Why does witnessing require Scripture memory?

3. How can one go about memorizing Scripture? What is your plan?
