

Faith Once And For All - Sharing Your Faith

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Intro:

A. Sharing faith is important work. (John 21)

B. In this chapter we see that even though Peter had denied Christ, Jesus said he had work for him to do.

1. Christ did not rebuke Peter.

2. Christ simply told Peter that he had work for him to do.

3. When Peter asked about John, Jesus said, “That is none of your business, I have something for you to do.

I.) In sharing our faith the important question is, “What can we do?”

A. Our world makes people feel inconsequential and incompetent.

1. Recently I had tissue tests to see what medication would help me.

a. This made me feel insecure.

b. The doctor is in control, not me.

2. A student called me that week feeling very insecure about a problem in his life.

a. When I referred him to a doctor I hung up the phone and wondered if that was all I could do.

b. Is there not a personal touch involved in this kind of ministry?

3. The following day I attended a professional meeting and the last item on the agenda concerned using computers for research.

a. I am involved in a research project that is heavily dependent on computers.

b. This made me feel a bit insecure.

c. I felt more insignificant when I learned about future computers that will be able to read books and retain far more than any human could.

4. That week challenged my sense of importance.

a. My doctor controls my health to a large degree.

b. I have little to offer a hurting student.

c. Computers may eventually replace me in research procedures.

d. My ego was devastated and my sense of self-worth challenged.

e. I returned to my office asking what I have to share with others.

II.) I want to suggest that you have some valuable things to share with others regarding faith in Christ.

A. Your smile.

1. Computers cannot smile.

2. Smiles communicate something personal.

3. Smiling is the first way of sharing your faith.

B. You can sign your name.

1. This is a vital thing that no one else can do but you.

2. You can write to a friend.

3. You can write of what your faith means to you.

4. Be sure that the name you bear is one of uprightness, then your signature will have an impact.

5. Share in experience what you are learning from God.

C. You can sing.

1. You don't need to be talented, but you can express joy.

2. I like three kinds of music.

a. Mozart.

b. The Tijuana Brass.

c. Mama Cass.

1. Mama Cass says we need to create our own kind of music.

2. Let your personal music flow out of you.

D. You can surrender.

1. Surrender who you are and what you are to be used by God.

2. In this technological age we need to surrender ourselves to God.

3. We need to accept ourselves.

4. We can each do many things that no one else can do.

a. We can sign our names.

b. Speak.

c. Sing.

d. Surrender.

II.) Questions.

A. Are you uncomfortable when people talk about witnessing for Christ?

B. Is it assumed that witnessing is verbal, requiring much persuasion?

C. It is easy to share good news with friends?

D. Is it easy to share good news with strangers?

E. If you can talk with people you know more readily, what does this say about sharing your faith?

F. Can you remember a time when you appreciated just having a friend with you when you were in deep trouble or pain?

G. Is music more personalized than speaking?

H. What are some of your distinctive traits?

1. Do you ever feel futile?

2. If so, how do you compensate?

I. The Dead Sea in Palestine is so called because it never flows out.

1. It receives water but has no outlet.

2. Thus, it cannot sustain life.

3. Let your life have an outlet.

4. Express your faith in many ways.

5. God from faith to faith.