

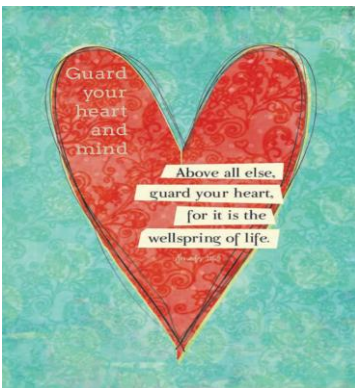
Ready to Tell



I want to say a word, “evangelism”. What does this word give you in your memory? Not easy and comfortable. Is it so? Yes. It is right. Even though there are such precious truths of faith life! Today, I want you to lay it down at the beginning of this sermon.

The life with God is absolutely beautiful and truthful. The love of God is never changing even with the knowledge of who we are, all the fears and failures we have made. God still loves us without reservation and without end. And we are fully held by God’s arm. It is astonishing. Daily lives with the Holy Spirit, and the Spirit’s walk with us with guidance. The wisdom from the Lord is quiet and sure, when you need it most. There is joy. There is victory in life. There is purpose and meaning of life, which is entirely fulfilling. And excellence in the Lord for our lives. Is it important to you? It is to others too.

Today’s scripture talks about the readiness of our heart to share this precious truth about God and our lives. **First Peter 3:15, “But in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, ready at any time to give a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you. Yet do this with gentleness and reverence.”**



Are you talking “Oh, no! I told my children a thousand times about Jesus. They didn’t listen!” “Once I talked to my friends. I cannot do it again!” Listen! The scripture says that sharing your truth starts with something deeper than words. **“In your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy.” If you hold these truths and live the truths, they overflow naturally whenever there is a chance. It starts with the interior life with Christ being genuinely central to who we are.** They notice something is different in you. People will be drawn to you. The Holy Spirit will create a room for such beautiful truths. And, if there is any chance given, we need to speak with gentleness, humility, and respect. It is the way. Never with arrogance! These are all very beautiful and attractive attitudes in human relationships, which are also the fruits of the Holy Spirit. Here is the way you speak.



Your story is your most powerful witness. **Colossians 4:5-6 states, “Act wisely toward outsiders, making the most of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you should answer each person.”**

Salt does two things. It brings out flavor. And it creates thirst. When your words are seasoned with salt, they bring out the best in a conversation, and they leave the other person wanting more of what you are pointing to. It should be intentional and thoughtful.

For those moments, we need to clearly know our story with God. What is it? It is not your whole life, a long story at all. It is a half-page, succinct, one-minute story. I think everybody can do this. Everybody has the

moment that God is vividly living with you and in you. Read it several times and try to speak it out. Whenever the

Holy Spirit gives you a grace-filled opportunity, the word will come out in a most impactful, simple way prepared by the Holy Spirit.



So here are some very practical points on how to write it. In one minute, you talk about three movements. **First — before.** What was your life like before God met you in it? Be honest. “I used to carry so much anxiety I could not sleep.” “I was going through a season where I felt completely alone.” **Second — the encounter.** What did God do? It does not have to be dramatic. “I started praying, and something shifted.” “I opened the Bible one night and a verse stopped me in my tracks.” **Third — after.** What is different now? “I still have hard days, but I am not alone in them.” “I have a peace I cannot fully explain, but it is real.”

The storyline is... Before, Encounter, and After. Write it out this week. Read it aloud, and let it be fully yours, so it lives in you, not polished. So that when a grace-filled moment opens in a real conversation, it can come out naturally. Your story does not have to be dramatic to be powerful. If your story is simply, “I drifted away, and God quietly drew me back, and now I know what it means to actually live with Him.” That is a beautiful story. Someone out there needs to hear exactly that. Every story of God's goodness is worth telling again and again.

Speaking to Non-Believers with Love and Curiosity

Now, let us talk about the actual conversation. In John 4, Jesus meets a Samaritan woman at a well. He opens with a request: “Give me a drink.” A point of genuine human connection. And then He listens. He asks questions. He meets her where she is — not by pointing out everything wrong with her life, but by engaging her as a person of dignity and worth. By the end of the conversation, this woman — who came to the well alone, likely because she was avoiding others — runs back to her community and says, “Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?” She became a witness. Because He saw her, valued her, and spoke truth into her life with love.

This is the model. **We begin with love and curiosity.** We ask questions. We listen — genuinely listen, not thinking about what to talk about for our turn. Every person you will ever meet is already in a conversation with God, whether they know it or not. There are questions they are carrying. There is longing underneath the surface. Our job is not to force that door open. Our job is to be present, to be curious, to be loving — and to be ready when the Spirit creates an opening. The posture of genuine love and curiosity changes everything about how a conversation unfolds.

Relying on the Holy Spirit in Conversation

And our job is being guided by the Holy Spirit. It means to be simply faithful, to be present, and to be willing. The Holy Spirit is present in our conversations as Jesus promised. He goes before us. He prepares hearts. And He is with us in all the moments — guiding our words, creating gracious openings, bringing things to mind that we did not plan to say. I have experienced this a lot. You may have too. Something comes out of your mouth that you did not prepare, and you think — where did that come from? And you know it is from the Holy Spirit.

In the process, prayers matter. Before you have a conversation with someone who does not know Jesus, pray for them. And then trust Him. So, release the pressure inside you. **You just have to be willing to show up, speak from your heart, and trust the Spirit to do what only He can do.**

Connecting Faith Naturally to Everyday Life

When a coworker is going through something hard and says, “I just don't know how people get through things like this,” that is an opening. You can say, gently and honestly, **“I have found that my faith has been a real anchor for me in hard seasons. It has made a real difference.”**

When someone asks why you seem at peace in a stressful situation, you can simply say, “I've been praying about it. I've found that prayer actually helps me.” Simple. Natural. True. When someone is celebrating something good and you feel genuine gratitude, you can say, **“I feel so grateful. I really do believe God is good.”** You are just being honest about how you see the world. It is what happens when your faith is genuinely integrated into your life, woven into how you work, how you parent, how you grieve, how you celebrate.

Go, and Tell

Hold one minute story in your heart always. Whenever the Holy Spirit nudges, it can come out naturally in any conversation as a phrase, a word, a sentence, or some stories. And the Holy Spirit uses the stories you spoke in the heart of the listening person. So here is your application for this week. Three things.

First: Write your one-minute God-story. Use the framework — before, encounter, after. Keep it simple. Keep it honest. Write it out and submit it to me if you want. I will make a video and share it in the service. I want to encourage you to do this. **Second:** Pray for one person. Just one. Someone in your life who does not yet know Jesus. Write their name down. Pray for them every day this week. Ask the Holy Spirit to work in their heart and to create an opportunity for you to speak. **Third:** When the moment comes — and it will come — be ready to tell. Not perfectly. Just honestly, gently, and with love.

The world needs love. People are thirsty without knowing where the source of water is. We have it. We know it. Would you deliver the living water, a cup of living water, to those who are thirsty? God will remember you, Heavenly rewards will be there.

Go, and tell.