

Empowered to Be a Witness

1 Corinthians 2:4-5 (AMP)

⁴ And my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom [using clever rhetoric], but [they were delivered] in demonstration of the Holy Spirit [operating through me] and of [His] power [stirring the minds of the listeners and persuading them], ⁵ so that your faith would not rest on the wisdom *and* rhetoric of men, but on the power of God.

God has EMPOWERED YOU to Make a Difference in 2024!

Change is hard! Trying to change is draining. Our problem is a deficit in POWER!

YOU are EMPOWERED for CHANGE!

God is about to do a NEW THING in YOU in 2024!

Major Reasons Why People Do Not Witness

- They are afraid.
- They are scared of being rejected.
- They don't know how or don't feel equipped.
- They don't have opportunities.
- They are too shy or timid.

Witnessing simply means telling others what we've personally seen and experienced of the Lord Jesus.

Mark 16:15

“Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to all the creation.”

Romans 10:14

“How then shall they call upon Him into whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe into Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without one who proclaims Him?”

Acts 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Acts 1:8 emphasizes two things we need to know:

- 1. The Holy Spirit empowers disciples**
- 2. Spirit-filled disciples witness about Jesus around the world.**

Let's look at a few thoughts on EMPOWERED to be a Witness.

1. Start Witnessing in Your Jerusalem.

Acts 5:28-29 (NLT)

²⁸ “We gave you strict orders never again to teach in this man’s name!” he said. “Instead, you have filled all Jerusalem with your teaching about him, and you want to make us responsible for his death!”

²⁹ But Peter and the apostles replied, “We must obey God rather than any human authority.

2. Our Actions and Words Communicate Our Witness.

Acts 4:32 (NLT)

All the believers were united in heart and mind. And they felt that what they owned was not their own, so they shared everything they had.

Acts 4:1-4 (NLT)

¹While Peter and John were speaking to the people, they were confronted by the priests, the captain of the Temple guard, and some of the Sadducees. ²These leaders were very disturbed that Peter and John were teaching the people that through Jesus there is a resurrection of the dead. ³They arrested them and, since it was already evening, put them in jail until morning. ⁴But many of the people who heard their message believed it, so the number of men who believed now totaled about 5,000.

3. Witnessing Carries a Cost

4. Witnessing Enhances Church Growth.

Acts 2:41 (NLT)

Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all.

Acts 4:4 (NLT)

But many of the people who heard their message believed it, so the number of men who believed now totaled about 5,000.

Acts 5:14 (NLT)

Yet more and more people believed and were brought to the Lord—crowds of both men and women.

5. Our Witness is Empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Acts 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Acts 4:31 (NLT)

After this prayer, the meeting place shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. Then they preached the word of God with boldness.

Matthew 9:37-38 (NKJV)

“The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field”

God has EMPOWERED YOU to be a WITNESS!