

You Are A Witness For Christ

"After all, what gives us hope and joy, and what will be our proud reward and crown as we stand before our Lord Jesus when he returns? It is you!"

1 Thessalonians 2:19 (NLT)

Who can you point to who will be your proud reward and crown as you stand before the Lord Jesus on judgement Day? If you can't point to someone like Paul and his compatriots did, then you must be engaged in winning a soul for the Lord.

- **Soul winning** is bringing a lost soul (Luke 19:10) or dead soul (Ephesians 2:1) into a relationship with Christ so that he/she can know Jesus as his/her savior and Lord.
- God's method of preparing the way for a soul to be saved or won is witnessing.

Not everyone witnessed will be saved or won for Christ, but we have to keep witnessing because one day you will stand before the judgment seat of Christ and who will be the source of your joy and glory.

- Witnessing is our duty, but soul winning is the work of the Holy Spirit.

And when He comes, He will convict the world of its sin, and God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment. (John 16:8, NLT)

Generally, a witness is someone who has knowledge of an event from personal observation or experience and they are willing to testify about it.

Illustration: Man born blind

I do not know if he is a sinner or not," the man replied. "One thing I do know: I was blind, and now I see." John 9:25 (GNB)

Every Christian is a witness for Christ

John 15:26-27; Acts 1:8; Mark 16:15-16

What witnessing is not? (Satanic Substitutes)

One of Satan's strategies to stop us from witnessing is to put forward a substitute.

- ◆ Instead of witnessing about Christ, we witness to the preaching of their pastor.
- ◆ Instead of witnessing about Christ, we witness about the singing of the church choir.
- ◆ Instead of witnessing about Christ, we witness about nice our buildings are and the fact that they are comfortable.
- ◆ Instead of witnessing about Christ, we witness about the crowds that attend our church.
- ◆ Instead of witnessing about Christ, we witness about the programs we have for the youth.
- ◆ Instead of witnessing about Christ, we witness about the state-of-the-art Sunday School rooms we have.
- ◆ Instead of witnessing about Christ, we witness about the work the church is doing.

All these may be good topics for discussion and conversation but this is not witnessing. Acts 1:8 says my witnesses, Christ witnesses not the church's witnesses

A Witness for Christ

- 1) Invites people to Christ – John 4:29; 39-42
- 2) Never speaks of himself or herself – John 1:7,15,23; 3:30; Acts 5:32; 22:15
- 3) Speaks what he or she knows and has experienced through the power of Christ – John 9:25
- 4) Gives evidence clearly and keeps to the point – Acts 7 & 26

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Growth Group Study Questions

For the week of April 11, 2021

ICE BREAKERS

Share a story, testimony, or a joke with your group members. Use it as a tool of encouragement.

REVIEW

This weekend we learned that we are witnesses to Christ's power. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. In MARK 16:15-16, we are told to 'preach the gospel. How do we know this applies to us in the 21st Century?
2. Discuss the strategies Satan is using to stop the church from witnessing. Give your own answers and also share some of the "Satanic substitute" Pastor Neil shared.
3. Discuss the four (4) things a witness to Christ does.
 - a. Invites people to Christ – John 4:29; 39-42
 - b. Never speaks of himself or herself – John 1:7,15,23; 3:30; Acts 5:32; 22:15
 - c. Speaks what he or she knows and has experienced through the power of Christ – John 9:25
 - d. Gives evidence clearly and Keeps to the point – Acts 7 & 26

APPLYING THE LESSONS TO OUR LIVES

4. How can you ensure that you are always witnessing about the power of God in your life?

PRAYER TIME

Pray one for another that you start witnessing to the power of Christ in your life every chance you get.

GROUP ASSIGNMENT:

Locate your group assigned topic from the topics below and write a gospel tract that will be used in evangelism. You are responsible also for the design and the church will print them. Keep the tract short, effective, powerful, and colorful.

Assignment DUE by end of May 29, 2021.

1. Where will you spend Eternity? Heaven or Hell? - Singles Group
2. Are you ready? Time is Running out – Farragut Way, Hagerstown
3. Are you really saved? – Ranworth Drive, Germantown
4. Good News for You – Summer Oak Drive, Germantown
5. I have found it, New Life in Jesus Christ – Viridian Terrace, Monrovia
6. God's Love story – Appleton Place, Frederick
7. Appointment with Death – Mohican Drive, Frederick



🌈 Youth Bible Study, Mondays 8-9 pm

🌟 Growth Group Has Begun! Find a group!