



GO TELL IT!

A Bible Study on Witnessing

“Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.” These words could have been sung by the prophet Isaiah some 800 years before Christ. These words are also the job description of God’s people today. As members of a *missionary organization*, let us learn more from God’s Word on how to be better missionaries of Jesus Christ to our sin-dying world.

Through this Bible study, you will gain a better understanding of witnessing and be equipped to witness in the power of the Holy Spirit as stated in Acts 1:8, *You will be my witnesses... to the ends of the earth*. St. Peter states it this way in 1 Peter 3:15, *But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect*.

I. The Tools to Prepare

- A. Be sure of your own salvation before you can be an effective witness of Jesus Christ.

What do these Bible passages teach about your sureness of salvation?

John 3:16

Ephesians 2:8-9

Romans 5:8

- B. Confess your sins. Why? One of the reasons more Christians do not witness is because of sin in their lives. Satan uses their guilt to immobilize them. What do these Bible passages teach about *your* forgiveness before God?

Psalms 103:8-12

Isaiah 1:18

1 John 2:1-2

Ephesians 1:7

- C. Witness in the power of the Holy Spirit, not in your own power. What do these Bible passages teach us?

Acts 1:8

Luke 11:13

Luke 12:12

- D. Pray before witnessing. St. Paul thought this was very important. How do these Bible passages encourage you?

Matthew 7:7-8

Colossians 4:2-4

1 John 5:14-15

II. What to Witness

- A. Share your testimony – simply witness what Jesus does OR means to you. People cannot argue about the truthfulness of your experiences. Suggestions for your testimony/witness:

1. 2 Corinthians 4:5

2. 1 Corinthians 1:23

3. Acts 8:5, 35

- B. You are a witness, not an attorney to argue your case, but a testimony of your experience with Christ.

1. Study John 1:1-4. What do we discover? What practical applications can you use?

2. Deuteronomy 6:20-23. What do we discover? What practical applications can you use?

3. 1 Corinthians 2:1-4. What practical applications can you use?

III. Write out a rough draft of your testimony or what Jesus means to you.

- IV. The following are possible witnessing opportunities: (What is your response in each of the following situations?)

- A. A friend is in the hospital for serious surgery. You visit her and you are alone for private conversation. (1 Timothy 1:14; James 5:13-18)
- B. A neighbor is deeply discouraged almost to the point of depression. She has kept it to herself until she confides in you. (Romans 8:28; Hebrews 13:5-6)
- C. The person you work with confides in you that her marriage is deteriorating and she tells you she does not know where to turn. (Ephesians 5:21-33; 1 Corinthians 13:4-13; 1 Corinthians 7:2-5; 1 Peter 3:1-12)
- D. At a shopping center, you run into a congregation member who has not attended church for a long time. (John 13:35-36; Acts 1:8)
- E. A person who is a member of your congregation has experienced a series of troubles. She is becoming bitter towards God and asks you, "Why does God give me all these troubles?" (Revelation 3:19; Hebrews 12:5-12; Psalm 119:50)
- F. A person has experienced a situation where someone has hurt her deeply and now she is holding a grudge almost to the point of seeking revenge. (Matthew 6:14-15; Matthew 18:21-22)
- G. A relative's husband dies suddenly and she is overcome with grief. (1 Corinthians 15:12-23; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Revelation 7:13-17; Revelation 21:1-8)
- H. A person has been praying for a long time for a certain thing but sees no answer. She says that she doesn't know if prayer really works. (Philippians 4:6-7; 1 Timothy 2:88; Matthew 18:19; Matthew 21:21-22; John 15:17; James 1:6-8)
- I. You have a co-worker of many years. She knows you are a Christian and now is becoming interested in what you believe. She asks you about your faith. (Romans 3:23; John 3:16; Acts 16:31; Ephesians 2:8-9; John 14:16; John 20:30-31)
- J. The phone rings. The conversation slips into gossip. (James 3:1-12; 2 Thessalonians 3:11; Exodus 20:16)

Make witnessing part of your LWML programs in your groups!

GO TELL IT! – *Written by Rev. Peter Caruana*
Published by – Lutheran Women's Missionary League
 2006