

*Growing
in
Grace*

Lesson Five

Witnessing and Separation

Review from Lesson Four: Know the answers to these question before doing Lesson Five.

1. What are some Bible reasons why personal Bible study is so important to your Christian life?
2. What is true prayer?
3. How does a Christian pray and what are some possible hindrances to prayer?

II Corinthians 5:20 describes each Christian as an "Ambassador for Christ". The word "Ambassador" carries the idea of "one who represents". We Christians are on this earth as "ones who represents before the world, the character of Jesus Christ, our King". What the world thinks of Christians, it will think of Christ, for we are His Representatives. How important it is to be a good Ambassador for Christ to our unsaved friends, work-mates, and relatives! The two ways that Christians can best represent Christ are through "witnessing" and "separation".

I. Witnessing: "Proclaiming the Person of Christ "

A. What is Witnessing? It is the personal presentation of Jesus Christ to an unsaved person.

1. Witnessing is bringing people to Christ. Who did Andrew bring to Jesus in John 1:41,42? _____
2. Witnessing is explaining to the lost what the Bible says about Jesus. Who preached Jesus to the Eunuch in Acts 8:35? _____
3. Who did Jesus tell of Himself in John 3:4? _____
4. Who did the Apostle Paul witness to in Acts 26:26-28? _____

B. Why Should a Christian Witness?

1. Because God has given every Christian the responsibility to witness. Jesus said _____ shall be _____ unto me. (Acts 1:8)
2. Because God does not want anyone to die without Christ and be sent to hell. He is not _____ that _____ should _____. (II Peter 3:9)
3. Because Jesus came to reach the unsaved. "For the Son of Man is come to _____ and to _____ that which is lost." (Luke 19:10)
4. Because unsaved mankind must hear the Gospel to be saved. " _____ cometh by hearing, and hearing by the _____. But how shall they hear without a _____." (Romans 10:17,18)
5. Because witnessing brings great joy to the Christian life. "He that goeth forth and weepeth bearing _____, shall doubtless come again with _____." (Psalms 126:6)

C. How Does a Christian Witness? There is a two-fold way:

1. First, by living a consistent, Christ-like life.
 - a. One who claims to know Christ as Saviour "ought himself also so to _____, even as _____ walked." (I John 2:6)
 - b. Jesus said to "let your _____ so _____ before _____, that they may see your good _____ and glorify your Father which is in heaven." (Matthew 5:16)
 - c. Christians, by word or deed, should not bring ridicule to the name of Christ. "That ye may be _____ and _____, the Sons of God without _____ in the _____"

- e. Will it strengthen me (cause me to be a better Christian)? (I Corinthians 10:23)
- f. Is this habit/person/situation, etc. worldly (that is, does it leave God out? (I John 2:15-17)
- g. Would I want my children to follow my example? (Galatians 6:7,8)

3. Separation from false preachers and their churches or organizations: Some examples of false teachers and organizations: The World and National Council of Churches (including all the Churches that are members), Catholic Church, Mormonism, Unitarianism, Seventh Day Adventists, Jehovah Witnesses, Armstrongism, Far Eastern/New Age religions, Healing movements, Christian Science, Charismatic movement, and Protestant Denominations that teach that "good works" (Baptism, etc.) are necessary to be saved. These all reject or deny key Bible doctrines, thereby denying the doctrine of Christ. (Galatians 1:6,9,11; II John 1:7-11)
4. Separation from believers who live sinful lives. (II Thessalonians 3:6-15)
 - a. The Christian is commanded to _____ himself from every brother that walketh _____. (vs. 6)
 - b. The purpose for this separation is so that the disobedient Christian brother "may be _____". (vs. 14)
 - c. What kind of attitude should one have toward a disobedient Christian friend? _____ (vs. 15)

D. Bible Reasons for Separation.

1. To preserve the purity of the truth of God's Word.
 - a. Jude tells us to "_____ for the faith" (The Bible--the body of revealed truth).
 - b. Why are Christians to contend for the faith? Because of "ungodly men, _____ of our God into _____, and _____ the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ." (Jude 4)
 - c. READ II Peter 2:1-4 about false prophets who change the truth of God's Word.
2. To receive the blessing of God. What four things are true of the blessed upright man?
 - a. _____ Psalms 1:1
 - b. _____ Psalms 1:1
 - c. _____ Psalms 1:1
 - d. _____ Psalms 1:2

of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as _____
in the world." (Philippians 2:15)

- d. Jesus said, "Be ye _____, for _____ am Holy." (I Peter 1:16)
e. READ John 13:35

The name "Christian" means "Christ-like". A good witness will strive for a life-style that seeks to be consistent with this name that he bears.

2. Second, by telling others that Jesus has saved you from sin and death. (Just "silently" living the Christian life will not bring unsaved souls to Salvation. To be saved they must not only SEE the Gospel IN Christians, but they must also HEAR the Gospel FROM Christians. "Faith cometh by HEARING, and hearing by the WORD of GOD." (Romans 10:17) Before anyone can be saved, they must hear from the Scriptures that "Jesus saves".

- Peter said I am ready to give an _____ to every man. (I Peter 3:15)
- In Mark 5:19 Jesus told the man to "go home to thy friends and _____ them what great things the Lord hath done for thee."
- In Mark 16:15 Jesus said to "Go ye into all the World and _____ the Gospel to every creature."

a. Presenting Salvation in Christ to an unsaved person:

- 1) SHOW THEM from the Bible their need of Salvation.
a) God says they are _____ and have fallen _____ of His _____ (Romans 3:23)
b) God warns them about the consequences of their sin. "For the _____ of sin is _____ (eternal separation from God)." (Romans 6:23)
2) SHOW THEM from the Bible that ONLY Christ can save them from their sin.
a) Good deeds (church membership, infant baptism, being moral, good deeds out-weighing bad, good citizenship, repeating prayers, helping the needy, "turning over a new leaf", etc) can never save anyone from sin.
- Ephesians 2:9 says, "NOT of _____ lest any man should _____."
b) Jesus Christ is the ONLY way established by God for man to escape sin and hell. "But God _____ His love toward us that, in that, while we were yet _____ Christ _____ for us." (Romans 5:8)

- 3) SHOW THEM from the Bible that they must personally, by faith receive Christ as their Saviour.
a) Salvation is freely received, it cannot be earned. "But the _____ of God is _____ through _____ our Lord." (Romans 6:23)
b) Salvation is received when a sinner, from his heart, simply calls upon the name of Jesus for salvation. Romans 10:13 says, "For _____ shall _____ upon the _____ of the _____ shall be _____."

(Practice explaining the "Romans Road" [above] to another Christian.)

b. Helpful guidelines for witnessing to the lost.

- 1) Seek to turn the subject of conversation from "earthly things" to "Spiritual things" (Do this by asking a polite, thought-provoking question.)
a) May I ask you a personal question: "If you were to die today do you know where you would spend eternity?"...or...
b) "May I share with you how I became a Christian?..."or...
c) "If someone were to ask you how to go to heaven, what would be your

answer?"...or...

- d) Where are you from? What church do you attend? Have you ever heard about being "born again"?
- 2) Give them your personal testimony as you explain Salvation. (Learn how to give your testimony in a minute or two by first writing it out and then practicing it.)
- 3) Keep the subject on Christ; beware of sidetracking questions.
- 4) DO NOT purposely offend.
- 5) DO NOT argue or debate.
- 6) Pray and look for opportunities to witness. Jesus told His disciples to begin witnessing in Jerusalem and carry the Gospel to the uttermost parts of the earth. (Acts 1:8)
- 7) Do not let your lack of Bible knowledge keep you from witnessing. (You can always share your testimony.)
- 8) Use the phrases "the Bible says" and "God says" as you witness.
- 9) Pray for the people to whom you witness. Pray silently WHILE you witness.
- 10) Carry good Gospel tracts with you.

Remember: Those who witness are not ashamed of their Saviour (Romans 1:16) and have a loving concern for lost souls (Matthew 9:36-38).

- II. Separation - Proclaiming the Purity of Christ. (A good ambassador will proclaim the Purity of Christ by following the Biblical teaching of Separation, just as he proclaims the Person of Christ by witnessing. Christians must be true to the Word of God. Whether the doctrine of Separation is popular among Christians or not, it is the Word of God and must be obeyed.)

A. What is our Highest Service for Christ? _____
(I Corinthians 4:2)

B. Separation has a Two-fold Meaning in the Bible.

1. Negatively, the Thessalonian believers "Turned from _____," but...
2. Positively, they "turned to _____, to _____ the living and true God." (I Thessalonians 1:9)

(Separation is turning away from the wrong in order to do the right.)

C. The Bible Says We are a Separated People (See II Corinthians 6:17).

Here are four areas of Separation:

1. Separation from the world
a. "What fellowship hath _____ with _____ and what communion hath _____ with _____?" (I Corinthians 6:14)
b. God says, "_____ not the world." This is the system that leaves out God and His Word. (I John 2:15)
c. What does God say about friendship with the world? James 4:4

2. Separation in questionable areas. At times the Christian will encounter areas of life about which no specific commands are given, but the Bible then gives spiritual directions called "principles" which guide a Christian in his choice of whether or not to participate in a questionable area.

Here are some of these Biblical Principles in the form of questions we can ask ourselves concerning questionable areas:

- a. Does it glorify God? (I Corinthians 10:31)
b. Do you have doubts about it? (Romans 14:23)
c. Will it cause others to stumble (cause them to sin)? (I Corinthians 8:12,13)
d. Does it enslave me? (I Corinthians 6:12)