

"Can I Get A Witness?"

Part 2

Sunday, March 10, 2013

Video Opener : "Can I Get A Witness"

(Text) Romans 10:14 How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? NIV

Acts 1: 8 *But ye shall receive *power, (dunamis -Miraculous power, a miracle itself) after that the Holy Ghost is come upon (arrive influence) you: and ye shall be *witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. (Turn to Isaiah 43:*

Prayer

Isaiah 43:8-13 *Bring forth the blind people that have eyes, and the deaf that have ears. [9] Let all the nations be gathered together, and let the people be assembled: who among them can declare this, and shew us former things? let them bring forth their witnesses, that they may be justified: or let them hear, and say, It is truth. [10] Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me. [11] I, even I, am the Lord; and beside me there is no saviour. [12] I have declared, and have saved, and I have shewed, when there was no strange god among you: therefore ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, that I am God.*

Def: Witness - someone who by explanation and demonstration gives audible and visible evidence of what he has seen and heard without being deterred by the consequences of his action.

Isaiah was warning Judea of the approaching judgment because of their Moral Depravity, Political Corruption, Social Injustice, Spiritual Idolatry God is fed up in these verses He is readyTO CALL THEIR BLUFF. He Tells them, "To bring out the blind who have eye's, and the deaf who have ears." Now He's not talking about those who have a disability. No..... He's talking about those who have "HEARD" the Word, But.....wasn't listening.

Those who saw the miracles, But couldn't see HIM.
They had made the decision, (That even though GOD, had delivered their forefathers from pharaoh,
Even though the Lord was their "Jehovah Jireh" who fed their forefathers manna from Heaven every morning during their Exodus in the wilderness, this same God who had supplied all their needs according to HIS riches and glory)
They made a decision to worship other gods.
Idols, false gods. Not the GOD of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Not the one who saved them, protected them, made the death angel pass over them....
THEY CHOSE A LIE.... OVER THE REAL THING.

Now I don't know about you, but....in my Bible, the first command GOD gave to Moses was **“Thou shalt have no other GOD before me” (Exodus 20:3)**
And today, we have the same problem, GOD'S Chosen People,
Those whom he loves, and blesses. We have made Idol's, and are worshiping them..Money, Control, ...Our Jobs..A Bottle, .A.BASKETBALL team or player
Something else has the attention of our hearts more than Jesus

Def : Idols is- *a. An image used as an object of worship. b.A false god c.One that is adored, often blindly or excessively d. Something visible, but without substance*

Prayer Acts 1: 8 *But ye shall receive *power,(dunamis -Miraculous power, a miracle itself) after that the Holy Ghost is come upon (arrive influence) you: and ye shall be *witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*

Jesus gave us a mandate for how and **where to witness**

You must have received the Holy Spirit.

He Told them to witness in Jerusalem - home

in JUDEA - their Neighborhoods

and yes even in SAMARIA - The places you think your too good for to the Ends of the Earth - Everywhere in between

The Marks of a Witness

A witness must have a first-hand experience of Jesus.

Hearsay is not acceptable in a court of law, nor in the court of this world's opinion. People will only listen to you have personally seen and heard.

A witness must be able to express himself verbally.

We may witness effectively through our lives, our work, our relationships, our attitudes, our suffering and even our death, yet we must still “be ready at all times to answer anyone who asks you to explain the hope you have in you.”

Fishers of Men:

(REF) Matt 4:19 *And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. KJV*

(Ref) Mark 1:17 *And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men. KJV*

(T) Matthew 28:18-20 *18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen. NKJV*

There so many different types of people in the world - how can we reach them? You need to recognize your "*witnessing style*"

6 Ways that might help you determine your witnessing style?

1) Confrontational (Peter confronts all present)

Acts 2:38-39 *38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. 39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call. KJV*

2) Intellectual (Paul debates with the philosophers)

Acts 17 *Paul debated with the philosophers on Mars Hill to convince them.*

Acts 17:2-4 *2 And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures, 3 Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ. 4 And some of them believed, and consorted with Paul and Silas; and of the devout Greeks a great multitude, and of the chief women not a few. KJV*

3) Testimonial (The man born blind)

John 9: *"One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!"*

John 9:1-39 *1 As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. 2 His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" 3 "Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life. 4 As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. 5 While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." 6 Having said this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. 7 "Go," he told him, "wash in the Pool of Siloam" (this word means Sent). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing. 8 His neighbors and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, "Isn't this the same man who used to sit and beg?" 9 Some claimed that he was. Others said, "No, he only looks like him." But he himself insisted, "I am the man." 10 "How then were your eyes opened?" they demanded. 11 He replied, "The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see." 12 "Where is this man?" they asked him. "I don't know," he said. 13 They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. 14 Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man's eyes was a Sabbath. 15 Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. "He put mud on my eyes," the man replied, "and I washed, and now I see." 16 Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others asked, "How can a sinner do such miraculous signs?" So they were divided. 17 Finally they turned again to the blind man, "What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened." The man replied, "He is a prophet." 18 The Jews still did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they sent for the man's parents. 19 "Is this your son?" they asked. "Is this the one you say was born blind? How is it that now he can see?" 20 "We know he is our son," the parents answered, "and we know he was born blind. 21 But how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we don't know. Ask him. He is of age; he will speak for himself." 22 His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for already the Jews had decided that anyone who acknowledged that Jesus was the Christ would be put out of the synagogue. 23 That was why his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." 24 A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. "Give glory to God," they said. "We know this man is a sinner." 25 He replied, "Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!"*

26 Then they asked him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" 27 He answered, "I have told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples, too?" 28 Then they hurled insults at him and said, "You are this fellow's disciple! We are disciples of Moses! 29 We know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this fellow, we don't even know where he comes from." 30 The man answered, "Now that is remarkable! You don't know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. 31 We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly man who does his will. 32 Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. 33 If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." 34 To this they replied, "You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!" And they threw him out. 35 Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" 36 "Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him." 37 Jesus said, "You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you." 38 Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. 39 Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind." NIV

4) Relational (The demon Possessed Man)

Mark 5 "Go home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you.

Mark 5:18-20 18 As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him. 19 Jesus did not let him, but said, "Go home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you." 20 So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed.

5) Invitational (The Samaritan Women)

John 4 The Samaritan woman at the well begged the people of the city to come and hear Jesus for themselves.

John 4:28-30 28 Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, 29 "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Christ?" 30 They came out of the town and made their way toward him.

6) **Serving** (Great Kindness Tabitha or Dorcas)

Acts 9 A lady by the name of Dorcas impacted her entire city by doing deeds of kindness.

Acts 9:36-42 *36 In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which, when translated, is Dorcas), who was always doing good and helping the poor. 37 About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. 38 Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!" 39 Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them. 40 Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha, get up." She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. 41 He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called the believers and the widows and presented her to them alive. NIV*

St: Don't ever think you're a second class Christian because you don't proclaim Christ like Peter or Paul.

Discover your own witnessing style.

Then get out of your chair and use it, for the Glory of God.

Live by faith, not fear!!!

- 1) *Confrontational (Peter)*
- 2) *Intellectual (Paul)*
- 3) *Testimonial (blind man)*
- 4) *Relational (Demon possessed man)*
- 5) *Invitational (The Samaritan women)*
- 6) *Serving (Like Tabitha)*

*But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: **2 Cor 4:3***

*For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power (duniamus-miraculas power) of God to salvation (soteria-save, deliver) for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. **Romans 1:16 NKJV***

...how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? **Romans 10:14**

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