

## Leading Others to Christ

### **Sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with your Public**

Your Public is the persons you meet on a daily basis. People at work, school, in the grocery store. Don't be ashamed to share Christ with those around you. Just remember what Jesus said " If you are ashamed of me before men....I will be ashamed of you before my Father in heaven.

Our society seems to share the common belief of the secular humanist, " ....that all of humanity is basically good...and if we work together we can obtain a Utopian society".

The Bible teaches the exact opposite, "....all humanity is basically bad..." , "For all have sinned and have come short of the glory of God". We cannot save ourselves, Our only hope and help can come from a loving caring and compassionate God. We are all hopeless without Jesus Christ.

The first thing that we must understand before we can be effective witnesses is that we have the power to save no one. The Power of Salvation is in the gospel of Jesus Christ. When the Apostol Paul addressed the Romans he firmly declared this truth. It is the Gospel of Jesus Christ that sets men free from the bondage of sin. Paul said " For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God unto salvation....."

We as Paul should feel the obligation to share Christ with as many people as we possibly can. We should start in our homes first then our communities, then our workplaces, and on and on. True Christians share Christ and the hope that He brings to their own lives.

First, I am compelled by the realization that without Christ all men are lost and without hope. Man continues to fail in his relationships with his spouse, his children, his neighbors, or with those they work with. Sure humans do good things, but that doesn't change the fact that we all sin naturally. Sharing Christ is the Christians cardinal responsibility.

Second, I am compelled to share Christ with others by the reminder of the reality of hell. Hell is not in the news headlines today. You'll never see an academy award winning movie on hell, nor hear a popular song describing what is reserved for those who are outside a personal faith in Jesus Christ. And it isn't spoken of much from our pulpits, either. But the place of eternal judgment and torment is more real than the seat you are in right now. People who do not know Christ will spend their eternity there. I may not like the fact that it exists and even try to ignore it, but that doesn't change the truth that hell does exist and people who die without Christ will go there. And in hell there is no end, no help, no hope. Eternally seperated from God, friends and family

Third, I want to share the Gospel because it is the very reason for which Christ came to the earth. Jesus Christ came "to seek and to save the lost." Since He is the Master and we are His servants, shouldn't we be about the Master's business every day? And since the Master, Jesus Christ, lives inside of us, shouldn't we be seeing Him continue His work of seeking and saving the lost in and through our lives?

Jesus Christ didn't go to the cross just so we could have happy homes and an eternal dwelling. He didn't die and bear the sins of the world just so that you could obtain more worldly stuff . And, He didn't suffer the severance of His relationship with the Father and enter into death's clutches so that we could buy a new home, new car, or fashionable clothes. Jesus Christ died on the cross of calvary to save sinners. We were once bound by sin, but now in Christ we are free from sin. We have every reason to share with others what a profound difference in our lives after we accepted His invitation.

He came to seek and to save those who were lost. We should continue in the effort.

#### We Are Part of the Solution

Look around you. Is your neighborhood morally stronger than it was 10 years ago? What have you done to make a difference? The Army of God needs fresh troops who are willing to get into a foxhole. The enemy is real. The message is powerful. The hour couldn't be more urgent. And your family is an important part of the solution.

"So what do I do?" you ask. Here are a few ideas. Don't let this list overwhelm you. The important thing is to start ... somewhere ... with something. Individuals can't do everything, but you can do something; and together, we will make a difference.

Show your children how to share their faith. There are some great resources for children that they could give away to their friends. Invite a neighborhood child to go to church.

How about promising yourself to try to share Christ with a person at work or school?

The people who know their God will display strength and take action  
Daniel 2:32

May your testimony lead others to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Bishop Michael K. Mann