

## Witness

**Intro:** Today we continue our series on Spiritual Disciplines by talking about another key practice. Witness Now, for a lot of people, when we talk about witness, or sharing our faith, they quickly get very intimidated

Here is my conviction. Witness is designed by God as an integral part of Spiritual Growth. In my experience there is nothing that propels us forward more quickly than being used by God to bring someone to faith! Something happens in your heart when you are a part of that experience that don't get anywhere else.

Many of us, we overlook just how serious this is! Fundamental to Christian faith....Cant overlook it

### **Video:**

**Definition:** *"To evangelize is so to present Christ Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit, that men shall come to put their trust in God through Him, to accept Him as their Savior and serve Him as their Lord in the fellowship of His Church."*

*Archbishop's Committee on evangelism 1918*

## 4 Key Principles For Effective Witness

### 1. Understand the Biblical Process.

*"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..."* Mt 28:19-20

- Not go and do this
- As you are going...do this

**ILLUS:** Look at the life of Jesus. His encounters with people were almost always "As he was going..."

*Woman at Well; Zacchaeus; Woman with issue of blood;*

Witness is not something that is separated from our daily life, but full integrated...Most effective

No one wants to be another "notch" in your gospel gunbelt! Genuine, authentic care for someone opens door

### 2. Remember the Key to Spiritual Power in Witness.

*"No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him"* John 6:44

- Our job is not to convince anyone (We cant!)
- Our job is to find those that God is drawing to himself
- When we find them, we simply cooperate with what God is doing!

*People are most open to Spiritual Things when:*

1. Under Tension
2. During Transition
3. In Trouble

That is a perfect description of where people are right now!

Every Pastor I have talked with is telling me the same thing...Sense a spiritual openness this Easter!

### 3. Prepare Yourself to Be Used By God.

*"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"* 1Peter 3:15

- Keep your life Pure: (God uses clean vessels) Set apart as Lord
- Put your story down on paper (From Exercises I( Before, How, Since) Be prepared
- Speak in the appropriate way
  - ~Gentleness: Humility, Mildness, Meekness
  - ~Respect: Reverence: (For God, For the Person, For the Decision!)

### 4. Have A Simple, Clear Presentation of Truth Ready To Share.

*"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."* Rom 6:23

- The Power of the Napkin!
  - 1 Verse
  - Simple Drawing
  - 4 Points (ACTS: All Sinned and Separated, Jesus Closed the Gap, Trust Essential, Savior?)

**CONCL:** I believe God wants to do wonderful things this Easter: Opportunity Unprecedented 50

Will you invite someone? Invest and Invite? From Exercises 3

USHERS COME AND PASS OUT CARDS

As They do that...I want you to Pray...Turn over....Who can I invite? **Q: If you have never Trusted**