

TELLING OTHERS ABOUT JESUS

Psalm 125:5-6

(Not totally original with me)

Introduction: Jesus came to make the way for mankind to be restored to God by dying on a cross and then being resurrected. As Jesus was ascending back into Heaven, He told the believers watching Him ascend that they were to go tell everyone about Him and how they could have eternal life as they did, by believing in Him. The followers of Jesus were to be Jesus' feet, hands and voice. That has not changed. Believers today are to continue to do the same thing as those believers who saw Jesus ascend and who heard Him tell them to go into the world, teaching and baptizing in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Every Christian is to tell others about Jesus and they should know what they are talking about.

I. CHRISTIANS ARE TO TELL HOW THEY FEEL BEING A CHRISTIAN

1. Those being witnessed to need to be told about one's personal experience in becoming a Christian.
 - They need to hear how one's life was before becoming a Christian.
 - They need to know how YOU (the one witnessing) became a Christian.
 - They need to know how YOUR life has changed since becoming a Christian.
2. Whenever Paul got the chance, He always told about how he was saved on a road side. (*Acts 22:6-11*)
3. A warning to Christians who tell others about Jesus, YOUR lifestyle should reflect a close relationship with the Lord Jesus and what YOU say should be your own personal experiences, not someone else's.

II. WHEN TELLING OTHERS ABOUT JESUS, ONE NEEDS TO BE LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. Jesus told His disciples that they were to go wait until they were empowered by the Holy Spirit.
 - *Luke 24:48-49; Acts 1:8*
2. The Holy Spirit helps the believer understand what has happened to him/her by believing in Jesus.
 - *John 16:13-14; Acts 5:32*
3. A key to telling other about Jesus is to be confident that YOU are saved and that the Holy Spirit is always present in YOUR life and the Holy Spirit assures YOU that you are. (*Romans 8:14-16*)
4. The Holy Spirit will guide the believer (YOU) as you pray. (*Romans 8:26-27*)
5. Being led/controlled by the Holy Spirit is not an option, it is a command to be filled with the Holy Spirit. (*Ephesians 5:18*)

III. SADLY, SOME CHRISTIANS CAN BE STUMBLING BLOCKS TO OTHERS

1. Sometimes when a Christian is offended by things that are not sinful and are open and vocal about it he/she can become a stumbling block to those who see nothing wrong with it.
 - ***1 Corinthians 8:9-13***
 - Eating the meat described in the aforementioned verses would not harm the body, but would hurt the spirit of a new Christian or one who is interested in becoming a Christian.
 - Such action by a Christian causes a weaker Christian and an interested in becoming a Christian person to not trust what that Christian says.
 - Whatever one's personal opinion is about something un sinful, if it offends someone, it is wrong.
2. Christians can get into situations of sinfulness that will cause them to be stumbling blocks to others.
 - ***1 Corinthians 6:3-4; 14-18***
 - Christians should never weaken the ministry of the Lord Jesus in word or in deed.
 - Christians need to be careful to not become too close to unbelievers as they will become identified with the unbeliever and lose any Christian influence to others.

IV. IT IS VITAL THAT THE CHRISTIAN FOLLOW THE EXAMPLES OF WITNESSING FOUND IN THE SCRIPTURES

1. Jesus' command for the believer to witness is not optional. It is a COMMAND. (*Acts 1:8; 2:1*)
2. The Holy Spirit empowers believers to be able to tell others about Jesus in the proper way. (*Acts 2:2*)
3. It is the GOSPEL that is to be preached and to be spread by believers, not anything else. (*Acts 2:22-36*)
4. When a believer tells others about the Lord Jesus, a decision (yes or no) should be expected.
 - ***Acts 2:33-36***
5. Whenever the Gospel is shared to an unbeliever, the Holy Spirit will bring conviction, not the one doing the sharing. (*Acts 2:37*)
6. Whenever the Holy Spirit is leading the believer in telling another about Jesus, there will be a response. (*Acts 2:37-38*)
7. It is very important that after telling someone about Jesus (presenting the Gospel) that some form of follow up be done. (*Acts 2:41-44*)

CONCLUSION:

1. ***"...Be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves..." (James 1:22)***
2. Christian! YOU are commanded by the Lord Jesus to spread the Good News, the Gospel and to do so must be done by the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
3. Christian! Are YOU a stumbling block or are you obedient and SHOW others as well as TELL others about your relationship with the Lord Jesus and how much they need Him also?