

BE LIKE LUKE

Luke 1:1-4; Acts 1:1-2

Introduction: Every Church at one time or other has had some sort of "evangelism" program or emphasis. Such can be good but perhaps evangelism programs and lessons/teachings on "how to witness" have in reality taken the place of actually "doing it." How many Christians actually are active in witnessing about Jesus? Think for a minute, just how did the early Church get the message about Jesus out to the whole world so quickly? Did they have evangelism programs and things like we have today? So, how did the message about Jesus get out to the whole world as quickly as it did?

I. EVERY BELIEVER NEEDS TO STEP OUT AND TELL OTHERS ABOUT JESUS

1. An example of one of the early Church Christians getting the message out is one that most of us have forgotten about but all know his name and are familiar with his writings.
 - Luke was a medical doctor, but a Gentile and he went along on missionary trips with a Jewish preacher/Church starter.
 - A Gentile medical doctor was perhaps the most unusual person to be witnessing.
 - Remember, Luke was never a preacher or Church starter, he was always a doctor.
 - Luke wrote letters to a friend and one of the letters he wrote is in the Bible and is titled "Luke."
 - A businessman attend Church services one Sunday and the preacher looked directly at the business man and asked him, "if you are a Christian, then why aren't you telling others about Jesus?" This upset the businessman such that he didn't sleep at all that night but he was determined to speak to somebody that next day about Jesus. At an important meeting that day he turned to a man sitting beside him and told him about Jesus. That man replied, "I knew you were a Christian and wondered why you never talked to me about Jesus." That businessman in, in the rest of his life, led many people to Jesus.
 - Is there anybody in your life that might turn to you and say, "I know you are a Christian and I've wondered why you haven't ever said anything to me about Jesus."?
2. What we have to tell others about Jesus is priceless.
 - We are all familiar with Luke's writings, his "gospel" entitled "Luke" and then the book of "Acts" which he wrote to his same friend later.
 - In writing to his friend about Jesus, Luke wrote about:
 - The virgin birth of Jesus, the sinless life of Jesus, the wonderful teachings of Jesus, the mighty miracles of Jesus, the betrayal, arrest, illegal trial and death penalty of Jesus, the crucifixion and death of Jesus, the burial of Jesus, the resurrection of Jesus, then the appearances of Jesus after His resurrection and the ascension.
 - Luke told his friend all about Jesus in the two letters he wrote.
 - All of us know by heart what Luke wrote to his friend, surely we can share this same priceless story of Jesus as Luke did but it must start with US/ME.

II. EVERY BELIEVER NEEDS TO TELL HIS/HER LOST FRIENDS ABOUT JESUS

1. We need to deliberately go to those we know who are not saved and tell them about Jesus.
 - Remember, Luke wrote to his friend and told him about Jesus.
 - We need to be deliberate, intentional and as clear in telling our friends about Jesus as Luke was.
 - A man attended Church services one Sunday morning when the weather was so bad that the pastor didn't even make it, so one of the deacons spoke to the few there and during his talk, he looked directly at this man and said, "young man, you look unhappy and you will continue to be unhappy until you look to Jesus." That young man did look at Jesus and his life was changed forever.
 - That deacon had intentionally, deliberately and directly spoke to that young man about Jesus.
 - When God brings someone you know by you who is not a Christian, then be direct, intentional and tell that person about Jesus. Be direct and personal, tell that person about Jesus in some way.

III. WE WILL NEVER KNOW THE IMPACT WE CAN HAVE ON OTHERS BY OUR WITNESSING

1. Remember that Luke wrote two very long letters to a friend and eventually that friend became a Christian as a result of Luke's concern and letter writing.
2. Luke had cared enough about his friend to write to him about Jesus and in doing so, what Luke wrote became part of God's Word, the Bible. Luke would never have thought of such a thing happening.
3. All over the world Christian missionaries have discovered pockets of Christians in very remote places where no missionary had ever been, but somehow the message of Jesus had gotten there, perhaps by the printed Word of God, a Bible had been left by a soldier, perhaps one of the villagers had been somewhere and heard about Jesus in another village, but somebody, at some time had said something or left something about Jesus and lives were changed.
4. Sometimes we never get to see how God blesses our efforts to tell about Jesus. Luke never knew how God took his letters to his friend about Jesus and has used those letters to help bring countless others to the Lord Jesus and will continue to do so till the Lord returns.
 - Luke wrote a couple letters about Jesus to a friend.
 - God took those two letters and has used them for centuries to bring people to Jesus.
5. It all started with a Gentile doctor who believed in Jesus writing a couple letters to a friend and telling him about Jesus. This is how it all got started and how God wants it to be continued and that is by each believer in Jesus telling the story of Jesus to a friend who is not a believer.

CONCLUSION:

1. Any and EVERY believer can and MUST tell his/her friends about Jesus.
2. We must be willing - and God will do the rest.
3. You have a friend who is waiting for you to tell him/her about Jesus.
4. YOU CAN BE ANOTHER "LUKE."