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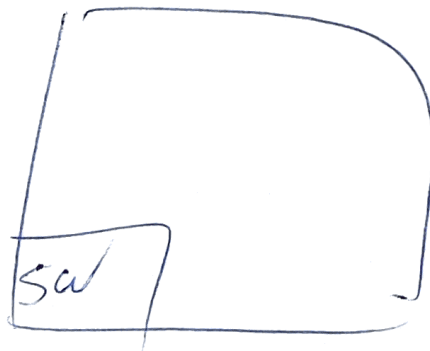
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Copies of sessions missed will be available 1/29 (Dunn 1-22)

WITNESSING 1/22/67

Witnessing - something that we talk a lot about, hear a lot about and most of us do very little about it. But we are not in the true sense following Christ if our life is not a witness. This was His primary task. If we are to follow someone this mean that we are going in the same direction that he is. Christ is always going in the direction of seeking men and women for Christ. Think about what you spend your time doing as a Christian - compare to what we spend in witnessing - 99/1. But the witnessing is the primary thing for which God has saved us. We are falling far short of God's standard when we spend more time on everything else. Same thing true in our budget - a great step will be taken in our Christian growth when we realize: when not to witness, when a witness of Christ, ~~WHEN TO WITNESS~~ I am a witness for Christ whether I speak for him or not. Perhaps this is the reason it is difficult to win someone to Christ: because ~~XXX~~ I have been a bad witness. The first thing we need to clear up: witnessing is not soul-winning. Soul-winning is a part of witnessing.

illustration:



John 16:7-13

The secret of being a witness for Christ is cooperating with the Holy Spirit.

COMFORTER - Does not mean consoling someone. But means someone called along to help us - someone who takes hold and carries the other side.

LAWYER - I John 2, same word as advocate - our go-between.

LAWYER - one who comes to our side to help us in time of need.

What he does:, ~~RESPONSIBILITY~~ reproves --- etc.

Holy Spirit merely receives from the Father and passes on to us.

This means that I (man) cannot convict the world of sin - but this is the work of the Holy Spirit. To reveal Jesus - this is the work of the Holy Spirit - our part is merely to cooperate with the Holy Spirit.

Witnessing is nothing more than or nothing less than taking the stand in court and giving your testimony about a fact or a person.

Holy Spirit is the lawyer - Christ on trial every day in the hearts of men.

COURT-LAWYER -- all his (the lawyer's) witness does is take the stand and tell what he knows about the case. All I do is present the Holy Spirit (the lawyer) with a witness he can use. COURT: the lawyer drives home the testimony and uses it. So when I give my testimony it is not me trying to convict, I merely tell what I know about Jesus - the Holy Spirit takes my testimony and he drives it home. He is the one who make the appeal for the verdict. All the Holy Spirit needs is someone who will give him a witness he can use. Times when a trial is lost because of poor testimony or a false testimony --- true in the life of a lost man.

A GOOD LAWYER ~~LAWYER~~ always briefs witnesses before time of trial --- tells questions he will ask, etc. The Holy Spirit briefs us - wants us to be prepared for the time of witness.

WITNESSING --- Remember, soul-winning is just a part of witnessing.

No where does He say win souls -----

"~~XXX~~ make fisher of men"

"witnesses"

Commands to witness - then the Holy Spirit will win them.

Matthew 5:14-15 --- glorify the Father

ILLUSTRATION ----- "I knew you were some kind of a religious fellow" -----

witnessing - my life in all of its facets and activities is to glorify God. ----
point men to Christ.

ILLUSTRATION OF DIVIDED CAKE: (witnessing-soulwinning)

PRAYER ----- blessing asked in restaurant. Not to be seen of men. Were not
obnoxious.

BIBLE ----- Displayed Bible - in your office. The Holy Spirit can use
this to open a door for witnessing. Not to parade your piety but to give
opportunities to witness. In the home -- in your pocket, purse.

SYMBOLS ----- Christian magazines - records. What does this do? - immediately
tells ~~my~~ me that this person is a Christian. Might be good to decorate
our homes with something that would glorify Christ rather than ourselves.
(we do these things so that the Holy Spirit can take them and use them
to speak to someone else's heart.) Holy Spirit will see to it that someone
He has prepared will see this (if we are prepared).

CONVERSATION ----- Negative and positive -- both ~~XXXXXX~~ have to be
present in the speech of the Christian - You can't used profanity and then
witness for Christ. --- want to share a witness for Christ - plan your
conversation

(1) church ----- "after church last night" premediated,
opens the door.

(2) prayer - "I'm going to pray for you" --- half-jokingly?

(3) Lord - - in general conversation - added this phrase "if the Lord wills" --- James 5 (this is what he is talking about)

Just insert this in your conversation as you are talking on the job.

The Holy Spirit will take the smallest things and use them to convict and bring to Christ.

TRACTS ---- Cultivate the habit of passing out tracts. ---

illustration - Hudson Taylor

couple from South Dakota - FBC, Fort Smith

leave with man at service- station

in the restaurant (with a tip)

XXX CLIMB A LADDER;

SOUL WINNING

GIVE A TRACT

MAIL A TRACT

LEAVE A TRACT

PRAYER

BIBLE, ect

We say we can't win a soul so we don't do anything - but you could start on the lower rungs.