



Key Verse: **1 Corinthians 15:58**

“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.”

## LESSON 20

# WITNESSING

## TO OTHERS Part 2

Lesson Theme: Sharing God’s provision for deliverance from sin, death, and Hell

### **ENGAGE**

God has given us many ways to effectively reach others with the Gospel.

#### **Review Last Week’s Lesson**

Sharing our faith in Jesus Christ is called evangelism (witnessing), and everyone who has trusted Christ for salvation is responsible for being engaged in this high calling. We learned several key elements that are involved in sharing the Gospel with others. We must always remember to pray for people’s hearts, wisdom, open doors, and for boldness to step out in faith and to speak of the Lord Jesus Christ. Ask people good questions and listen intently to their responses so that you can establish a relationship, build concern, and gain insight into their spiritual condition; thus, more effectively minister to them. Also give biblical answers, allowing the Holy Spirit to directly deal with their hearts and souls through His Word.

### **ENLIGHTEN**

#### **Introduction**

Spiritual warfare is conducted in the hearts and minds of us all. In this battle, the Enemy uses a variety of schemes, tricks, and false beliefs to blind the minds of people from the light of the Gospel (2 Cor. 4:3-4; Col. 2:8). The methods that Satan uses are destructive to the spiritual well-being of people since they fail to provide the truth, which is only found in the Holy

Scriptures. Only the Bible can answer the foundational questions of life, namely; “Where did we come from, why are we here, and where are we going?”

When evangelizing (witnessing), remember to be careful not to make someone feel inferior or foolish; instead, reach out in genuine compassion and be ready to share the truth of

God's Word. Being a Christian is an exciting adventure, there is nothing quite like sharing our faith in Jesus Christ.

This lesson will present three simple ways you can be a teen-evangelist (witness):

1. **Ask searching questions** to get them to see their need for Christ.
2. **Share your faith** to demonstrate Christ's work in your life.
3. **Befriend and invite** them to Christian activities so they can be exposed to Christians and godly activities.

### Ask Searching Questions

There are many questions you can ask that will help open the door so that you can walk in with the gospel. A very good question is, "What happens when you die?" Death is something that everybody knows is coming, but few spend much time at all preparing themselves for what lies beyond on the other side. Having been created by God, He is the Master of our lives. Our eternal destiny is determined by whether or not we trusted in Jesus Christ to save us from the penalty of our sins—Hell. After a person dies there are no more chances to be saved, Hebrews 9:27.

This question appeals to the soul of the individual by tugging at the longings in their heart for assurance, peace, security, meaning, and purpose. When these things are a reality in the lives of Christians, they are a compelling

testimony to a world that is desperately searching for something to which they can cling. The question at hand, "What happens when you die?" is good because it will allow you to understand what they believe and why they live the way they do. Please do not think you have to ask this exact question, this is only an example of a question that has worked for many. There are many responses, but generally you will hear something like:

1. "I will be resurrected to go to either Heaven or Hell."
2. "I will cease to exist (annihilation) and nothing more happens."
3. "I will be reincarnated and live again as another person or animal, etc."
4. "Who cares, I'll think about that when I get older."

#### Discussion

**Based upon the four responses above what are some good biblical responses to help you present the Gospel?**

[Thoughts: (1) make sure they do not think going to Heaven is related to going to church or being good, (2) the Bible teaches there is an eternal purpose for our lives, Eph 1:10, 3:11, (3) we have one life to live and then comes judgment Heb. 9:27, and (4) we are not promised another day or another breath of life, James 4:13-15.]

### Share Your Faith

Very often we do not have to ask any questions or try anything clever to have an opportunity to witness to others. This is because the Lord often opens the door for us in the events of our daily lives. We have prayed for this, so it should

be no surprise when it happens. The Lord provides an opportunity, we have to be aware of the door He opened and take advantage of it. What are these open doors? Well, they are the typical comments a friend or classmate makes (examples below). These comments give us an opportunity to share a verse(s) from the Bible or to share our faith. It is best to keep it short, unless they ask for more, and try to build upon this first contact with more discussions in the future.

Here are some ideas to consider when responding to typical statements:

1. *“World events really make me wonder what will happen to us.”* Consider saying something about the Bible having much to say about the future. The world will continue to have wars and hard times, but near the end they will get even worse. There will come on the scene a man who seems really nice, and who will be thought by most to be Christ. However, this man will later reveal his true, evil nature. The future times on earth will be terrifying; and eternity will be even worse, unless one knows Christ as their Savior. If a person realizes they are a sinner (Rom 3:23), that sin has to be paid for (Rom. 6:23), and that Jesus Christ paid the penalty for their sin (Rom 5:8; 2 Cor. 5:21), then just by believing in Christ, they are “saved,” (Rom. 5:9). Being saved means they will be delivered from this world before the worst times; but more importantly, they will be delivered from an eternity in Hell. Instead, they will have a home in Heaven with Christ.

2. *“I hate religion with all those rules and regulations; I want to have fun and live it up!”* Religion is all the “stuff” that humans add to the simple truth of God’s Word. Religion is man’s attempt to please God through his own efforts, rituals, and tradition. Biblical Christianity on the other hand teaches that God is already pleased because Jesus Christ did all the work that is necessary through His finished work of love on the Cross (Rom. 4:5, 5:1). The truth is, religion is not what the Bible is about. Actually, the Bible says if we have simple faith, like a child, we can be saved from the penalty of our sins. This is called “salvation” and it lasts forever; it assures us of His care forever. There is no religion involved in having faith and that is all He asks. God cares about you as a person and your heart, not what church you attend. Once you are a Christian, God does desire that you become a part of a Christ-centered, Bible-believing church so that you can grow in faith and worship the Lord through service to others (Eph. 2:10).

3. *“Why doesn’t God help me with my problems?”* God is helping each of us in countless ways every hour of our lives. He holds the world together by His power, He assures the forces of evil do not completely destroy us, He provides what we call the wonders of nature, and He gives us the necessities of life. On top of these things, He offers His love, comfort, and salvation. Anyone who believes that Jesus Christ is their Savior becomes united with Christ and is forever changed. He will give you peace, comfort, and

help you through every problem of life (Phil. 4:6-7). Oftentimes, He allows adversity into our lives in order to teach us how to trust and depend upon Him. Through it all, He comforts us and helps us so that we can comfort and encourage others (2 Cor. 1:3-4, 4:17-18; Rom. 5:3-4, 8:18, 8:28-39).

### **Befriend and Invite**

One very easy way to get someone exposed to the Gospel is to **be a friend** (befriend) and get them involved in Christian activities. This is being a true friend with a true compassion for their eternal soul. If you are afraid to talk to some of your classmates or neighbors, or if you do not do well with sharing your faith, then this may be just the way for you. This involves inviting them to Christian activities to expose them to matters of faith. Things which to invite them:

- 1. Church youth groups and activities:** this includes church in general. If your church does not have a youth group, ask your pastor to start one and offer to help. Such groups offer activities, fun, games, food, and devotions. It only takes two or three people to start a youth group.
- 2. Church camps:** there are various teen youth camps that are designed for a good time with other Christians of the same age; they offer sound Bible teaching. Some such camps are: Northern Grace Youth Camp, Celebrate Grace Camp, and Cowboy Lee's Cowboy Adventure Camp. There are

many good camps, retreats, and conferences that a young person could attend. If someone does not have the money to attend, you may want to ask your church to help.

- 3. Concerts and Special Events:** there are various concerts and special events that provide exposure to Christianity. You should consult with your parents to make arrangements for transportation and the appropriateness of this activity. Such an event may be as simple as a Christmas program or a concert with sacred music.
- 4. Mission Trips:** there are mission trips designed especially for a mixture of saved and unsaved teens. The goal is to do some good things for disadvantaged people and then for the leaders to share the Gospel with those on the team and those receiving the work. This exposes all team members to the Gospel, demonstrates how Christians care for others (even the unsaved), and how to live a godly life.

#### Discussion

#### **Discuss ways you can “Befriend and Invite” others to Christian activities.**

(Thoughts: Involve your friend in your life. Invite them over for lunch or dinner. Ask if they would like to participate in a Bible study with you. Pray for them, and tell them that you are praying for them. Write them a personal hand-written note of encouragement.)