



HE THAT

WINS

SOULS

IS WISE

by David Beaty

He That Wins Souls Is Wise

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*And they that be wise shall shine
as the brightness of the firmament;
and they that turn many to
righteousness as the stars for ever and
ever (Daniel 12:3).*



HARRISON HOUSE
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Unless otherwise indicated all Scripture quotations are taken from the *King James Version* of the Bible.

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Introduction

*The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life;
and he that winneth souls is wise.*

Proverbs 11:30

God's Word always brings peace, freedom, and joy when received in the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit. God has sent His Word not to condemn us, but to liberate us and to give us an inheritance. It is my privilege to share with you some things from God's Word which have dramatically changed my Christian walk.

For years, I was comfortable believing that others would tell the world about Jesus Christ. I tried to convince myself that personal witnessing was not my calling or ministry. However, when I made the decision to commit myself to complete obedience to the Word of God, I

could no longer excuse myself from sharing the Gospel personally and individually with others.

God's Word has made full provision for every Christian to be equipped to win souls for the kingdom of God. I have since discovered that one of the greatest joys in life is leading someone else to Jesus Christ. Only a Christian can know this joy.

After we have been filled with the Holy Spirit, and have begun to discover our position of authority according to the Word of God, the next step is to walk in the life of giving, seeing ourselves as the channels of God's love and His divine life in the world. This is the greatest privilege, and the greatest joy, a human being can have. This is the place of greatest blessing.

And to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed

to give than to receive.

Acts 20:35

He That Wins Souls is Wise

The Missing Ingredient in the Church

I recently read an interesting statement in which it was estimated that 95% of all church members have never led anyone to Christ. I also read recently that a well-known cult has become one of the fastest growing religious organizations in the United States. Why? Because it has employed a technique which was intended for God's Church—door to door witnessing. Satan has stolen this technique from God's people and has used it against them.

One day while driving my car, I said, “Lord, Your Word is on the radio and television and in many churches here; yet it seems that so many in this town are

unreached. How would You have us get Your Word out?"

This is what I heard in my spirit: "The same way you've covered your sales territory."

In my profession, I have a sales territory which covers about five counties. I've called on almost all of the businesses there door to door. Selling is one hundred percent more effective when there is personal contact.

I'm so thankful that the Word of truth is being presented on radio and television. Exciting possibilities are available with satellites and other such means. However, it will still require the witnessing ministries of individual believers to reach the world with the Gospel. The Early Church was limited in communications technology, yet they almost reached the world in their

generation.

Note in Acts 20:20-21 how Paul ministered:

And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house,

Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

Notice that Paul taught both "publickly," and "from house to house." Lots of people would love to speak to large congregations, but how many will go from house to house? No one ever begins his ministry before thousands of people. He starts by witnessing to friends, neighbors, and fellow employees, then goes out into the city. As you are faithful in small things, God will increase your area of responsibility and influence.

He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much.

Luke 16:10

A common misconception among Christians is that only "full-time" ministers, specifically evangelists, are called to reach the lost. Let's examine the scripture in Ephesians which deals with the purpose of the ministry gifts that Jesus has set in the Church:

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.

Ephesians 4:11-12

In the original Greek, there is no comma separating the words "saints" and "for" in verse 12. The *Amplified Bible* translation makes this clearer:

His intention was the perfecting and the full equipping of the saints (His consecrated people), [that they should do] the work of ministering toward building up Christ's body (the church).

You see, the purpose of the five ministry gifts is to equip the saints to do the work of building the Body of Christ. When you receive from a minister who has been placed in his office by the Lord, you will become better equipped to minister yourself.

In reality, all Christians should consider themselves "full-time" ministers, for the Word declares that all that we do should be done in the name of the Lord Jesus. (Col. 3:17.)

The Responsibility is Ours

In John 8:12, Jesus said to his disciples: *I am the light of the world.* But He also said

in Matthew 5:14: *Ye are the light of the world.*

We are now the light of the world because we carry His Word. It is His Word that brings light into a dark world. (Ps. 119:130.) The wonderful privilege of carrying on the ministry of reconciliation has been entrusted to us.

And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:18-19

Who is a Witness?

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye

shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Acts 1:8

According to the dictionary, a witness is "one who has personal knowledge of something serving as evidence or proof; one who gives evidence; one who testifies." To testify means to make a statement or to declare.

In other words, in order to be a witness you have to speak. You have to open your mouth with the Word.

Many people believe that their personal lifestyle is the only witness they need. Unfortunately, seeing a good lifestyle will never get anyone saved. Someone will have to tell the lost person why you are different. It is important to have a lifestyle that corresponds to your

faith, but to be a witness you will eventually have to open your mouth and speak.

*For we cannot but speak the things
which we have seen and heard.*

Acts 4:20

Notice also that Jesus said that we are to be "*witnesses unto me*"; not unto our church, group, or denomination. Witnessing is to exalt Jesus and to bring people to Him, not into church membership or agreement with certain doctrinal issues.

"Dunamis" Power

Acts 1:8 says that we receive power to be witnesses when the Holy Ghost has come upon us.

We become witnesses to the saving power of Jesus Christ when we are born again. We then have something to testify

to others about. However, the power to do this effectively comes when we are filled with the Holy Spirit.

Many born-again Christians have never received this power. They are like the Samaritan Christians in Acts 8 who had believed and been baptized in water, but had not been empowered with the Spirit. Later, Peter and John came down from Jerusalem and laid hands on them that they might receive the Holy Ghost, (v. 17.)

The Greek word for the power we receive is *dunamis*. *Dunamis* means power to work, power in action, inherent power capable of reproducing itself like a dynamo. This power resides in the believer who is filled with the Holy Spirit, and enables him to reproduce spiritually. As we meditate on this truth it will build faith and confidence.

We Must Use the Word

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth.

Romans 1:16

The Gospel of Christ refers to the Word of God which tells the good news of Jesus Christ. Notice that verse 16 says, "It is the power of God."

The word for power here is also *dunamis*! Within the Word of God is this inherent power, the ability to reproduce itself. For this reason, it is necessary to share the Word when witnessing.

In Isaiah 55:11 God says,

So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth; it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

We don't have any guarantee that our opinions, or even our testimonies, will not return void. Testimonies are very helpful when witnessing, but are secondary to the Word. It is the Word which, when quickened by the Holy Spirit, produces new life.

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Romans 10:17

I have been in many witnessing situations where time was very limited. When this is the case, I try to share the Word, if nothing else. I can then pray for the person to whom I am witnessing, knowing that the seed which has been sown is the incorruptible seed of God's Word.

The Gospel is Good News

The word "gospel" literally means

good news. The good news we share is that Jesus Christ has reconciled man to God. This is the greatest news ever published on the earth, so we should act like it is!

You will never have to approach anyone timidly or apologetically when you grasp the fact that you are right. Those without Jesus need what you have to share, whether they act like they do or not. Begin to see yourself as a bearer of the most precious, vital news in all the earth. People need what you have to share.

The ministry given to us is the ministry of reconciliation, not of condemnation. People do not need to know that they are sinners as much as they need to know that they can be forgiven and reconciled to God through Jesus Christ.

I have rarely ever met a sinner who did not already know that he was a sinner in God's sight. However, I have met hundreds who needed to know that God loved them and had already sent His Son for them.

For years, churches have condemned the sinner and made him feel that he could not be saved until he quit sinning. If that were the case, no one would ever be saved. A person needs to know that God accepts him as he is, through faith in Jesus Christ. Once his heart has been yielded to the Lord, God can work in him to remove his sinful desires.

I have often shared the Gospel with someone who believed he was unworthy, and that God couldn't possibly receive him because of the sin in his life. When I witness to such a person, I share with him that it was because of that sin that Jesus

died. I explain that no one is worthy to be saved on his own merit, but that all can come to God through Jesus Christ. This is good news.

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8

The Gospel is the Full Gospel

The term “full Gospel” is often used to refer to one Gospel with its benefits of healing and other supernatural demonstrations. Actually, this is the only Gospel Jesus and the early disciples taught.

One of the best descriptions of our commission as believers is found in Jesus' prayer to the Father in John 17: *As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world* (v. 18).

Notice that verse 20 says:

Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word.

Jesus prayed not just for His early disciples, but also for us today who believe on him through their word. Jesus says that we are sent even as He was sent. How was He sent?

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

Luke 4:18-19

The "acceptable year of the Lord" is typified by the year of jubilee found in

Leviticus 25, when liberty was proclaimed to all people on the day of atonement. Likewise in Christ's atonement, there is liberty from Satan's dominion and everything associated with it (sickness, poverty, etc.). We are to proclaim this liberty to the captives.

In Jesus' ministry, and in that of the early disciples, the preaching of the Gospel was almost always accompanied by healing the sick and casting out devils. Whenever Jesus commissioned His disciples, He specified that they were not only to preach, but also to demonstrate God's power with signs and wonders.

Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases.

And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick

And they departed, and went through the towns, preaching the gospel, and healing every where.

Luke 9:1-2,6

If the disciples needed this power, how much more do we need it now, when so many die daily without having heard the Gospel?

I have seen more results in the area of healing when witnessing to the lost than at any other time. The first time I went witnessing door to door, two believers and I decided to go to a nearby housing project one Saturday afternoon. Each of us had had some experience in witnessing, but never in going door to door, so we were a little nervous.

At the first house we approached, the man who answered the door refused to let us in. We then offered to pray for any needs the family might have. A girl inside

yelled that she needed prayer. The man then let us in and we began to share the Gospel with the household.

As we shared the Word, I was aware of the Holy Spirit drawing them, as He quickened the Word in their hearts. Four of them prayed to receive Jesus as Savior and Lord, and we then prayed about personal needs that they had (for jobs, finances, etc.).

At the next house, a Pentecostal woman greeted us at the door and gladly let us in to witness to her four grandchildren. It was evident that they weren't too interested in talking to us, but as we shared the Word with them, they were drawn to the Lord. All four prayed with us for salvation.

I heard someone moaning in the next room, and asked the woman who had let us in if there was anyone else with whom

we could share. In the next room, I found a 70-year-old man who appeared to be very sick. When I told him why we had come, he said he was not saved, but he wanted to hear the Word of God.

It was one of the most precious experiences I had ever had as that old man prayed to receive Jesus into his heart. It was like picking ripe fruit off of a tree. A laborer was needed to harvest the fruit before it fell to the ground and withered.

I told him about Jesus the Healer and asked him if he had any needs. He showed me his hands which were stiff and had lost their grip due to a stroke. As I laid my hands upon his and prayed in the name of Jesus, the Lord healed him. He firmly gripped my hand in his.

As I returned to the den to share this news with the rest of the family, I saw the Pentecostal woman jump from her chair

and begin to praise the Lord. One of my brothers had shared the Word with her for the healing of a bad knee. Before he even laid hands on her, she leaped from her chair proclaiming that God had healed her. The four grandchildren stared with eyes of amazement, having seen the supernatural power of a living, loving God.

As we left that afternoon we rejoiced in what God had done, and determined to see more of this marvelous manifestation of His power. We have since taken others with us and have seen over 100 people saved, and many filled with the Spirit in that neighborhood. We have seen a multitude of healings there, including sight restored to an eye which had been blinded with glaucoma.

When you share the Gospel with people, always offer to pray for their

needs. God wants to meet **all** their needs —spirit, soul and body; and they need to know it.

And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following.

Mark 16:20

Witnessing is Done by Faith

I am convinced that fear has kept more Christians from finding and fulfilling their ministries than any other device of the devil.

In the parable of the talents, which instructs us about being faithful in the ministry, the slothful servant replies to his lord:

And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine.

If not resisted, fear of failure, fear of rejection, and other such fears can paralyze a Christian's ministry. Proverbs 29:25 says, *The fear of man bringeth a snare.* Many Christians have been kept in bondage, never speaking out for the Lord, due to concern about what people will think of them.

Doubtless, every Christian has encountered fear when beginning to witness. The way to effectively resist this fear and to overcome it is to apply faith in the Word of God:

*And this is the victory that
overcometh the world, even our faith.*

1 John 5:4

When faith comes in, fear has to go. Faith does not rest on feelings or circumstances. Very few people "feel" like

witnessing, initially. Faith rests on the Word of God alone.

The key to becoming who God wants you to be in this life is to see yourself as He sees you. It is necessary to keep your eyes fixed on His Word, rather than on what feelings or circumstances tell you. As your mind is renewed by meditating on His promises, your thoughts will conform to His will.

You don't have to begin sharing your faith by witnessing door to door. Begin by sharing with your friends, family, or fellow employees, if that's easier. But start somewhere.

Once you've made the decision to begin, use God's Word to overcome the fears. Meditating on these scriptures will help:

For God hath not given us the spirit

of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

2 Timothy 1:7

*I sought the Lord, and he heard me,
and delivered me from all my fears.*

Psalms 34:4

The righteous are bold as a lion.

Proverbs 28:1

It is also scriptural to pray that you might speak boldly. When Paul wrote to the Ephesians, he asked them to pray for him: *that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak (Eph. 6:20).*

Be Prepared to Witness

Many Christians have a desire to witness, and often will witness if the opportunity arises, but they feel they are ill-prepared to take the initiative in approaching others.

There is a certain amount of preparation in the Word which should be done before doing a great deal of witnessing. However, it is not necessary to feel you can answer any question that someone might ask you. Acts 1:8 doesn't say that you'll receive power to be witnesses when you become Bible scholars, it says you'll receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you. Too many Christians have held back from speaking because they were not confident they knew enough about the Bible.

When witnessing, I have often had people ask me questions that I could not answer. Many times these people are just trying to divert me from the subject at hand, which is the Gospel. If someone sincerely asks a question that I can't answer, I just tell him the truth. I explain that I haven't studied that subject enough

to answer his question. I sometimes offer to find out the answer and get back in touch with him. I then return the conversation to the important issue of the good news of reconciliation.

It is possible to lead a person to the Lord, basing your presentation only upon two or three scriptures. God is not so concerned with how much we know, as He is with what we're doing with what we do know. I have seen new converts lead more people to the Lord in one month, than many older saints who have studied the Bible for years. The reason is that the new converts were willing to go.

*If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall
eat the good of the land.*

Isaiah 1:19

A brief, simple presentation of the plan of redemption should be learned and understood by every Christian. Don't

think that it's unscriptural to have a method for presenting the Gospel. But be willing to be led by the Holy Spirit.

I like this quotation to which my pastor often refers: "You can depart from any method, but you can't depart from nothing." How true that is! I have learned from my experience in sales that confidence is greatly increased when you know what you're going to say to the prospect. Until I learned some key scriptures about salvation and a comfortable method for presenting them, I was very fearful of approaching people to witness.

Here is a basic outline of the Gospel which is found in many tracts. If you don't know this or a similar presentation, take the time to learn and memorize it. Study the scriptures, and even practice presenting it. This will enable you to be

more confident in your own ability to lead others to the Lord.

1. God's Plan for Man

John 3:16

John 10:10

2. Man's Problem—Separation Due to Sin

Romans 3:23

Romans 6:23

3. God's Solution

John 14:6

Ephesians 2:8-9

4. Man's Response—Receive Jesus Christ by Faith

John 1:12

Romans 10:9-10

Remember, it is the Word of God which contains the power to bring forth new life. It's not essential to cite chapter and verse when witnessing, but it is necessary to have the appropriate Word hidden in your heart. The Holy Spirit can then work with what you have put there.

A Technique for Witnessing

Once you've learned the necessary steps for leading a person to salvation, it is helpful to have a comfortable way of directing a conversation to the Gospel. Different situations will require different approaches.

For instance, you would be very direct when witnessing door to door, but less direct when witnessing to a fellow passenger on an airplane.

In general, it is not wise to initiate a presentation by asking: "Are you a Christian?" The reason is that many people associate being a Christian with being moral. In some parts of the world, being referred to as a Christian represents nothing more than a political preference.

Likewise, asking, "Are you saved?" or "Are you born again?" may be confusing.

On hearing these terms, many people immediately associate things which are not really part of the Gospel.

It is best to begin a conversation by asking a question which will not offend the other person or make him defensive.

Here is one approach commonly used in evangelistic training, which I have found to be very effective: "Have you come to the place in your own spiritual life where you can say you know for certain that if you died tonight you'd go to heaven?"

This question is very helpful in determining whether a person really knows the Lord. You'll get lots of responses like: "Well, I sure hope so," or "No one can know for sure," or, "I've never really thought about it."

Now, you can clarify the matter by

following with this question: "Suppose you did die tonight and stood before God and He asked you, 'Why should I let you into heaven?' What would you tell Him?"

The answer to this question will tell you whether the person has really put his trust in Jesus Christ as his personal Savior. You may hear responses like: "Well, I've lived a good life," or, "I've never hurt anyone," or, "I joined the church."

You now have an open door to share the Gospel. Make your transition into the Word personal by sharing that while many people feel that way, you have discovered that the Bible says ... As you share the Word, make it clear to the person that no one comes to the Father, but by the Son, and salvation is *the gift of God; not of works* (Eph. 2:8-9).

After sharing the Gospel, be sure to

give the person an opportunity to pray. In the selling profession, many salesmen fail because they are unable to close a sale. They make great presentations, but are afraid to ask a closing question because they fear getting a no.

Christians too, are sometimes hesitant to ask a person for a response after presenting the Gospel. If you prayed and asked for souls before you went out, and if you've shared God's Word, then you should expect a harvest. Just remember that the responsibility for that person's decision concerning the Gospel is not yours. No amount of salesmanship can accomplish what can only be done by the Word of God and the Holy Spirit.

Unless the Lord specifically directs otherwise, always give the person a chance to pray with you for salvation.

You can ask: "Now that we've seen what the Bible has to say, would you like to receive the gift of eternal life?" or, "Would you like to experience this abundant life that Jesus promised?" or, "Would you like to have the assurance that you're going to heaven?"

If he says, "Yes," then offer to pray first and then lead him in a prayer. Base your prayer on a scripture such as Romans 10:9-10, leading him in a confession of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. You can pray something like this:

"Heavenly Father, I believe in my heart that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and that He died on the cross and rose from the dead to be my Savior.

I know I've sinned and need Your forgiveness.

Jesus, come into my heart and be my Savior and Lord right now. Amen."

After he has prayed, then refer him to a scripture such as Romans 10:9-10 or John 6:47 to give him assurance of salvation based on the Word.

If a person prefers to pray alone at a later time, be sure to tell him how he can pray, and give him corresponding scriptures or a good tract on salvation.

If you get a "no" to your invitation to pray, there are several things you can do, depending on the situation and the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Often you may uncover sincere objections or questions with which you can effectively deal. When possible, you may want to go back through the Gospel presentation to make sure it is clearly understood. Other times, you may need to end the conversation. If this is the case, do so in love, expressing appreciation for the opportunity to share with him, and

remembering to pray for him.

Once you've lead a person to the Lord, your responsibility is not finished. It is very important to follow up with a new convert. Jesus didn't say to just get them saved, He said to make disciples of them:

Go ye therefore, and teach (make disciples of) all nations ...

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you.

Matthew 28:19-20

Be sure the new believer either has or gets a Bible. Get his name and address and invite him to church or a Bible study. If you can't take him yourself, give his name to another Christian or a pastor in his area. Be sure you refer the new Christian to a church which preaches God's Word.

Look for Opportunities

When God knows you are willing and able to share the Gospel, He will give you an abundance of opportunities to do so. The best way to recognize the opportunities you will have is to be constantly alert for them. This was the attitude of the Apostle Paul as he followed Jesus. His great desire was to see men come to the saving knowledge of the truth.

Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God;

Even as I please all men in all things, not seeking mine own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved.

Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.

1 Corinthians 10:32-33,11:1

Paul makes note that it is never worth having your own way, if it might offend

someone else and hinder his receiving of the Gospel. He says that in all he did he sought not his own welfare, but that of others, that they might be saved. He goes on to say, "*Imitate me, as I imitate Christ.*" This is the heart and desire of Jesus Christ, that men might be saved.

So many Christians are waiting for the Holy Spirit to tell them to go and witness to someone in particular. In all likelihood it will never happen that way. He has already said to go into the World. I always assume I have a "yes" to go from the Lord, unless I get a "no". To me, the commands of Jesus to "Go ye" are green lights. They mean to go unless the Holy Spirit says to stop or to go in another direction.

I have rarely ever heard the Lord tell me to witness to a specific person. In fact, I have witnessed to many people when I

had no inclination whatsoever to do so. I have often seen the greatest results when ministering to those with whom I had the least desire to share. God will honor obedience to His Word.

There may be occasions when the Holy Spirit will instruct you *not* to witness to some particular person. This instruction will not be in the form of fear or confusion. It will be a check in your spirit, the inner man.

Paul experienced such instruction in Acts 16:

Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia.

After they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not.

Acts 16:6-7

The Lord proceeded through a vision to tell Paul to go into Macedonia. Paul was definitely going somewhere. The question was not if, but where. When we get to the point that we are so eager to speak that the Lord has to tell us where to go, our direction from Him will be much more specific.

It is important to not only look for opportunities to witness in your daily walk, but also to set aside some specific time just for witnessing. It is important to make this time a priority in your schedule, and not to let circumstances interfere.

There is a scripture in Proverbs which the Lord impressed me to relate to the subject of witnessing: *The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing* (Prov. 20:4). It is evident that the sluggard is the one

who uses circumstances as an excuse for not laboring in the fields. It is no wonder that *the harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few* (Matt. 9:37).

It is easy to find our time so packed with Bible studies, conventions, and seminars that we have no time to minister to the lost. It grieves me in my spirit when I see the Body of Christ being so well fed, yet neglecting the lost and dying world. This is not following the example of Jesus. Nor is it fulfilling His command to *go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature* (Mark 16:15).

Where to Start

Make it a priority to spend some time witnessing each week. If you will set aside two or three hours just for this purpose, you'll be amazed at how God will honor it.

Remember that Jesus sent His disciples out two by two. This is important for several reasons. One is that one person can pray quietly while the other is sharing. Going in two's, or three's, is much preferable to going alone.

It is very important to pray before going. Pray that the hearts would be open and receptive. Ask for open doors of utterance with those who are ready to receive. Exercise your authority in the name of Jesus by binding all the forces of the devil. Expect to see your prayers answered. Begin by going where you feel the Lord has impressed you to go. Here are some places I have found witnessing to be particularly easy:

1. Hospitals

If you don't know of anyone to visit, check with the nurse's station on any floor. Ask a nurse if there is anyone who

hasn't had many visitors and might like one. In most cases I have found nurses very receptive to this approach.

2. State and County Fairs (or similar public gatherings)

These are excellent places to hand out tracts. People are usually moving, so it may be difficult to initiate conversations. However, I have seen good results in handing out *Voice* magazines and tracts at the gates as people are leaving. This is easy to do, and almost anyone will receive a magazine if it's free.

3. College Campuses

It is wise to see if campus regulations will permit you to hand out literature on your own. If not, approach a campus Christian fellowship to sponsor you. I have worked with Full Gospel Student Fellowship in the past. Six of us gave out

over 1400 *Voice* magazines in less than two hours at a nearby state university.

4. Nursing Homes

These are particularly good for those who are inexperienced, since people in such institutions are usually very receptive to visitors. Approach the activities director about visiting the residents, or perhaps conducting a meeting for them.

5. Beaches and Parks

Anywhere people are idle is a good place to witness and give out tracts.

6. Door to Door

Select a neighborhood or apartment complex and begin to pray for those who live there. Then go out and bring in the harvest.

Helpful Hints

–Adopt the attitude that you are out to help people, rather than to change them. People will receive from you more easily when you display that attitude.

–Establish rapport in the beginning. Be sensitive to what the person's interests are and make an effort to relate to them.

–Ask the person's name, and use his name during your conversation. This helps to personalize things for him and lets him know you care about him.

–Maintain eye contact. This too shows your concern for him, and better allows you to evaluate his response.

–Control the conversation by asking the questions. Don't let it get off into doctrinal issues. Always steer it back to the Gospel.

–Never argue. You will never argue anyone into the Kingdom. If Satan can get

you out of the attitude of love, your purpose will be defeated. One very effective evangelist said, "People have to be loved into God."

–Be tactful. Be perceptive to what might offend a person or cause him to turn you off. Don't compromise the Word, but rather be sure your personal statements and actions are not offensive.

–Avoid religious phrases. Phrases with which Christians are accustomed or familiar are sometimes foreign to non-believers. Avoid using statements like, "Praise the Lord," or, "I was really blessed," because the person may not understand their meaning or significance.

Have a Vision

Proverbs 29:18 says, *Where there is no vision, the people perish.* Have a vision for what the Lord will do with you. Begin to

believe, and exercise your faith to see family, friends and others in the Kingdom of God.

Three years ago, when I was afraid to do most of the things I'm doing now, I could never have envisioned seeing so many people saved.

Your capacity for a big vision expands as you meditate on God's Word and are obedient to act on it.

If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.

Mark 9:23

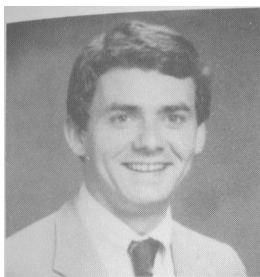
When you see Him face to face, may our precious Savior and King say of you, *Well done, thou good and faithful servant* (Matt. 25:21).

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