

Church of the Promise

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# Infusion

Become

Believe

Belong

Befriend

#4 The Ways of  
Evangelism (*Part 1*)

INFUSING THE LIFE FOUND IN CHRIST  
THROUGH FAITH IN GOD'S VITAL PRECEPTS,  
MAKING EVERY MEMBER WHOLE  
SPIRIT, SOUL & BODY

# The Ways of Evangelism (Part 1)

## Session #4



**Key Verse:** *“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth”* (Acts 1:8 NKJV).

### Key Scriptures:

- 1 John 1:3
- 1 Peter 3:15
- John 4
- Acts 1:8

**Objective:** The purpose of this lesson is to show from the Scriptures some of the ways to live out Christ’s command to be a witness.

**Introduction:** Witnessing, or “winning souls” is essential to our lives as Christians. Although the term *witnessing* conjures up all kinds of frightful thoughts in many people, it is actually something quite simple and applicable to all of us. To witness to someone simply means to tell what you have seen and heard. It’s similar to being a witness in court. You do not have to prove anything, nor do you render the verdict; you simply take the stand and relate what you have seen and heard.

Christ calls His disciples to be faithful witnesses of what they have seen and heard of Him. As 1 John 1:3 NKJV so eloquently expresses: “That which we have seen and heard we declare to

you.” That is the only qualifier for a witness: to possess firsthand experience of something or someone. Then he relates, or witnesses, of what he has seen and heard.

## **I. Christians are called to be witnesses (Acts 1:8–11).**

### **A. Jesus’ last words issued the call to witness.**

1. The last recorded words of Christ before He ascended to heaven were that we would receive power from the Holy Ghost to become witnesses for Him.
2. Jesus’ declaration that we would be witnesses contains our marching orders until His return. This is our purpose, and this is our calling.

### **B. Jesus instructed the Gadarene demoniac to witness (Mark 5:1–20).**

1. When Jesus delivered the Gadarene demoniac from the legion of demons, the man wanted to stay with Jesus (v. 18).
2. Jesus, however, would not allow this, but rather told him, “Go home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you” (v. 19 NIV).

### **C. Jesus called His disciples to be fishers of men (Matt. 4:19).**

1. Early in His ministry, Jesus told His disciples that if they followed Him, He would make them into fishers of men. His purpose for them and His call to them was clear.

2. In saying this, Jesus revealed that the ultimate “catch” was to win a soul for Him. This is what is accomplished through witnessing.

## **II. The Bible gives many examples of faithful witnesses.**

### **A. The woman at the well in John 4 is an example of a witness.**

1. The woman at the well experienced Jesus. She saw Him, touched Him, and received a word of knowledge from Him (vv. 17–18). The impact of what she saw and heard caused her to go and tell the people of her city what she had seen and heard. She was a witness.
2. The Bible says she “left her waterpot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, ‘Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?’ . . . And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, ‘He told me all that I ever did’ ” (vv. 28–29, 39 NKJV).

### **B. Peter and John were faithful witnesses to the Resurrection.**

1. Despite great opposition, Peter and John steadfastly proclaimed the Gospel. Nothing could deter them from speaking about what they knew to be true (Acts 4:1–20).

2. “So they called them and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered and said to them, ‘Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard’ ” (vv. 18–20 NKJV).

### **C. The apostle John was also a witness.**

1. “That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us” (*1 John 1:1–3 NIV*).
2. All that John proclaimed was from personal experience. He had seen Jesus and touched Him; now He was testifying of Him. He was a witness to the risen Christ, and no one could ever take that from him.

### **III. From the Bible, you can learn the ways of a witness.**

#### **A. A witness brings his family to Christ (*John 1:40–42*).**

1. “Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. *The first thing Andrew did* was to find his brother Simon and tell him, ‘We have found

the Messiah' (that is, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus" (John 1:40–42 NIV, emphasis added).

2. When something good happens to you, you immediately want to share the news with those closest to you. How much more should you desire to share Christ with them!

## **B. A witness brings friends to Christ (John 1:45).**

1. Philip immediately told his friend Nathanael about Jesus. The Bible says he “found” Nathanael, thus indicating that he actively looked for him in order to share Jesus with him.
2. You probably have a number of friends that do not know the Lord. Are you looking for opportunities to share Christ with them, or have you neglected the wonderful privilege of telling them what you know to be true?

## **C. A witness gives testimony of Christ (Acts 26).**

1. Paul stood before King Agrippa and boldly testified of his faith in Christ. He was not intimidated by the king's position. He did not compromise his message, nor would he back down from it when challenged (vv. 24–25). He was a faithful witness.
2. This had been Paul's pattern since his conversion: “Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those in Damascus and in Jerusalem, and throughout all the region of Judea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance” (vv. 19–20 NKJV).

**D. A witness is always ready to give an answer for the hope within him (1 Pet. 3:15).**

1. As a witness of Christ, you are on call 24/7 to share the Gospel. You must be ready at all times, always prepared to testify of Christ.
2. You must have a clear understanding of your hope in Christ and be able to clearly present this to others. Sometimes it is helpful to think through in advance what you would say if someone asked you to explain why you are a believer in Christ.

**E. A witness is involved in the work of the harvest (Matt. 9:37).**

1. Untold millions do not know Christ. Many are open and would respond to the Gospel if someone shared it with them. “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few” (NIV).
2. You are called to be a laborer in the harvest fields of the world. It is not a responsibility that you can shirk. There is no one else to do it—only those who have already witnessed the reality of Christ.

**F. A witness speaks from personal experience (John 4).**

1. As stated earlier, the woman at the well marveled that Jesus knew all about her, and she couldn’t wait to share her experience with others (vv. 28–29).
2. You don’t have to speak of what *others* have experienced; you only have to speak of what *you*

have experienced. That makes you uniquely qualified to share the Gospel.

## **G. A witness preaches the Word (2 Tim 4:1–5).**

1. Never be afraid to preach the Word of God. Hide it in your heart, and be ready to bring it forth at any time.
2. Peter in Acts 2 and Stephen in Acts 7 boldly proclaimed the Word of God in the power of the Holy Spirit. That's what witnesses do, and that's what you can do!

**Summary:** Jesus' last words are a powerful clue to His top priority: "You shall be witnesses." He has called us to be witnesses for Him until He returns. As witnesses, we tell others what we know about Jesus and what our experience has been. We don't have to prove the Gospel, and we don't have to have all the answers. All we really need is the courage and commitment to proclaim what Christ has done for us.

## **Questions and Discussion Points**

1. Do you consider yourself to be a faithful witness? Why or why not?
2. What is your greatest hindrance toward being an effective witness?
3. Are you willing to obey God's command to be a witness?



4. Have you committed yourself to obeying Jesus' command to be a witness to what you have seen and heard? If not, why not go ahead and do that now?

\*Principles and ideas from this lesson were adapted from *The Way of the Master* by Kirk Cameron and Ray Comfort (Tyndale House Publishers, ©2004, Carol Stream, Illinois). For more information or to purchase related materials, visit [www.wayofthemaster.com](http://www.wayofthemaster.com).

**THIS WEEK'S BIBLE READING: Colossians**

*Use the Bible Study tool and a Daily Journal as you read. The next session will come from a portion of this book. Return your completed form for credit. You will get much more from the time if you prepare in advance by reading prayerfully through the assignment:*