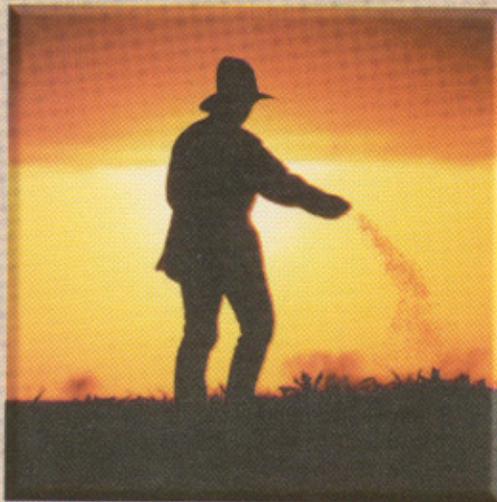


Personal Evangelism



Personal Evangelism

by Jean-Baptiste Sawadogo

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First, Let's Have a Talk

A Word From Your Study Guide Author

Now that you have accepted Jesus into your heart and He has become your personal, living Savior, many questions may have come to your mind. What is the Christian life all about? What am I supposed to do?

Well, you are not alone. Many people before you have had the same questions. One of them even asked Jesus the very day he met the Lord, "What else do I need to do?" (Matthew 19:20). Jesus answered, "Come and follow me."

Jesus is our example in taking the good news to all people everywhere. He wants us to share His good news wherever we are. No matter who you are, you have been chosen by God to tell others of your experience with Jesus Christ and His saving power. That is personal evangelism!

This study course will help you to understand the true nature of personal evangelism. It will enable you to share Christ with the people around you in a more convincing, powerful, and positive way. It will help you to share your experience with people of backgrounds different from yours. A modern method of teaching yourself helps you to learn the principles easily and put them into practice immediately.

Your Study Guide

This book is a workbook that you can take with you and study whenever you have five or ten minutes free. Try to do at least a lesson a week.

You will notice that objectives are given at the beginning of each lesson. The word *objective* is used in this book to help you know what to expect from your study. An objective is something like a goal or a purpose. You will study better if you keep in mind your objectives.

Be sure to study carefully the first two pages of each lesson. This prepares your mind for what follows. Next, study the lesson section by section and follow the instructions under the title *For You to Do*. If there is not enough room to write your answers to the study questions in the study guide, write them in a notebook so you can refer back to them when you review the lessons. If you are studying this course with a group, follow the instructions of your group leader.

How to Answer Study Questions

There are different kinds of study questions in this study guide. Following are samples of several types and how to answer them.

A *MULTIPLE-CHOICE* question or item asks you to choose an answer from the ones that are given.

Example of Multiple-Choice Question

- 1 A week has a total of
- a) 10 days.
 - b) 7 days.
 - c) 5 days.

The correct answer is *b) 7 days*. In your study guide, make a circle around *b)* as shown here:

- 1** A week has a total of
a) 10 days.
(b) 7 days.
c) 5 days.

(For some multiple-choice items, more than one answer may be correct. In that case, you would circle the letter in front of each correct answer.)

A *TRUE-FALSE* question or item asks you to choose which of several statements are TRUE.

Example of True-False Question

- 2** Which statements below are TRUE?
a The Bible has a total of 120 books.
(b) The Bible is a message for believers today.
c All of the Bible authors wrote in the Hebrew language.
(d) The Holy Spirit inspired the writers of the Bible.

Statements **b** and **d** are true. You would make a circle around these two letters to show your choices, as you see above.

A *MATCHING* question or item asks you to match things that go together, such as names with descriptions or Bible books with their authors.

Example of Matching Question

3 Write the number for the leader's name (right) in front of each phrase that describes something he did (left).

- | | | |
|-------|---|-----------|
| . 1 . | a Received the Law at Mr. Sinai | 1) Moses |
| . 2 . | b Led the Israelites across Jordan | 2) Joshua |
| . 2 . | c Marched around Jericho | |
| . 1 . | d Lived in Pharaoh's court | |

Phrases **a** and **d** refer to *Moses*, and phrases **b** and **c** refer to *Joshua*. You would write **1** beside **a** and **d**, and **2** beside **b** and **c**, as you see above.

Your Student Report

If you are studying to earn a certificate, you will need to complete the Student Report. The Student Report and answer sheets are located at the end of the book.

There are two units in this course. In the Student Report there are questions for each unit. There is also an answer sheet for each of the two units. Your study guide will tell you when to answer the unit questions and to fill out the appropriate answer sheet.

Follow the instructions given in your Student Report for sending the answer sheets to the ICI office in your area. The address should be stamped at the top of the copyright page. When you do this, you will receive an attractive certificate. If you have already earned the certificate, you will receive a seal to affix to it, indicating that you have completed another course in this unit of study.

About the Author

Jean-Baptiste Sawadogo has been a pastor for 30 years. He pastors a church in the capital city of Burkina Faso, the country of his birth, and itinerates throughout the nation, teaching and preaching. He received his biblical training at the International Bible Training Institute in England and earned a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Ouagadougou in Burkina Faso.

Reverend Sawadogo serves the National Church of the Assemblies of God in Burkina Faso as the assistant general treasurer, administrative secretary, and the national director of missions. He is also president of the World Missionary Commission for the Alliance of Assemblies of God of Africa.

Now you are ready to begin Lesson 1. God bless you as you study!

Additional Helps

Other materials are available for use with this study guide, including supplemental audiocassettes, an Instructor's Guide, and an Instructor's Packet (for instructor's use only). Consult the Evangelism, Discipleship, and Training Manual.

Lesson
1

Follow the Pattern

If you wanted to build a house, what would be the first step? Before you can start the work, you must have a plan. You must decide how many rooms you want and where to put the doors and windows. You need a pattern to help you as you build. Then you will be pleased with the results.

In the Old Testament we read that God told His people to build a place to worship Him. He gave them a plan. In fact, He told them seven times to be sure and follow His plan exactly. When they obeyed Him, the building was completed successfully, and God was pleased.

If we want to win people to Jesus Christ, we need a pattern, or plan. God has given us the plan in His Word. We see this plan in Jesus' life and ministry, and through the example of early



Christians. As you learn about God's plan, you will be able to apply it in your own ministry of sharing the good news about Jesus Christ. This is personal evangelism.

In this lesson you will study . . .

God's Plan
Christ's Life
Early Christians' Example

This lesson will help you . . .

- Understand the true nature of God's plan for personal evangelism.
- Apply in your daily life the example of Christ and the early Christians.

GOD'S PLAN

Objective 1. *Explain what God's pattern for personal evangelism is.*

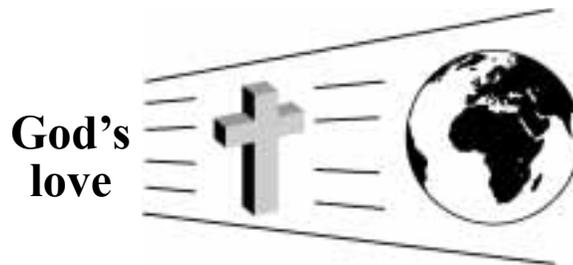
Have you ever wondered why God decided to create the universe: heaven and earth, stars and seas, mountains and valleys, and, of course, man? Many people do ask this question. The answer is simple. God has a purpose, a plan, for everything. Nothing was created without purpose.

Right from the beginning, even before man's creation, God's purpose was to share all He has and is with man. This is the true pattern of personal evangelism—sharing what we have!

“And God said, ‘Let us make man in our image’” (Genesis 1:26, KJV). God shared with man His personal being, His own nature. This was good news, that God would share Himself with man. After sharing with man His own nature, God then gave to man all that He had created. Later, in the beautiful Garden of Eden, God came down and walked hand in hand with that man—Adam. Just like a father would talk with his son, they talked with one another. There was perfect understanding between them. I wish I were a good artist! But even if I were, I would completely fail to show you how beautiful it was.

One amazing reality is that the sharing love of God did not stop with Adam alone. When man sinned, God was sad, but His attitude did not change. He came down again and shared with man the good news of the coming Savior. In Genesis 3:15 we see the first announcement of this good news. God is talking to the serpent, Satan, and He says, “Her offspring will crush your head.” Here He was talking about His Son, Jesus Christ. He was saying that the serpent Satan crushed Adam when he tempted Adam to sin. But He would send His Son, Jesus Christ, to crush Satan.”

Yes, God’s sharing love knows no limit. In John 3:16 we read, “For God loved the world *so much* that he gave *his only Son*, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life.” This well-known verse is the heart of God’s own pattern for personal evangelism. His love is a personal, giving, and sharing love for all people, including you.



In each of these *For You to Do* sections, the questions or exercises will help you review or apply what you have just studied. For the first two exercises, choose the answer that best completes each sentence. Circle the letter in front of your choice.

- 1 God showed His plan of personal evangelism by
 - a) walking with Adam.
 - b) putting Adam in a beautiful garden.
 - c) sharing His own nature with Adam.
- 2 When Adam sinned, God continued to share Himself with men by
 - a) giving us His Son Jesus.
 - b) punishing the serpent.
 - c) being sad.
- 3 Why did God want to share Himself and His Son with all men and women?

.....
You will find the answers to these exercises on the last page of this lesson. Check your answers to these exercises now.

CHRIST'S LIFE

Objective 2. *List ways in which Jesus showed us God's plan for personal evangelism.*

Man has sinned. Sickness, sorrow, wars, and even death have come as a result. Although God could no longer walk with humankind as He once did, He still had a plan to continue His sharing work with people. That plan was to send us Jesus.

Speaking about His own work and mission, Jesus said:

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has chosen me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind; to set free the oppressed and announce that the time has come when the Lord will save his people (Luke 4:18-19).

While in Burkina Faso, West Africa, I was in a church of about 600 Christians. They were singing these words:

“Had it not been for your healing and saving power, Oh Lord, Hills would have been my dwelling place, and hell my lot!”

Jesus taught us the pattern of personal evangelism by His own example. He made no distinction among people. He received well-educated people like Nicodemus and some Greek scholars. He went to stay and eat with sinners. Lepers came to Him, and He healed them all. Even demon-possessed people came to Him, and He set them free. When He needed to rest, He took time to be with children. Soldiers and widows found help from Him. Who would ever accuse Him of being indifferent to people who needed His help?



Jesus had one goal: to do the work and the will of the One Who sent Him. The apostle Peter, speaking about Jesus' life and ministry, said, “He went everywhere doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, for God was with him” (Acts 10:38). God was working in Christ, forgiving sin, bringing people back to Himself.

Christ was willing to make many sacrifices in order to accomplish His Father's plan. First He left His home in heaven, His throne, His glory, to come down to us. He was born in a manger because those He came to help did not receive Him. But His greatest sacrifice was when He willingly gave His life on the cross. It was not until then that Jesus cried out, “It is finished” (John 19:30). It was a cry of completion. His work was done. The pattern for personal evangelism—sharing the good news—was forever made clear.

Yes, Christ has tasted death that you and I may live. He has paid our debt to God. Christ, the Lord of lords and King of kings, walked on this earth as a servant with nowhere to lay His head. He did this because He loved us. Is there any good news better than this? Certainly there is not.



For You to Do

4 Here are some statements about Jesus. Put a circle around the letter in front of those that are TRUE.

- a He was sent by God.
- b He cared about people.
- c He did not help everyone who came to Him.
- d His power was limited.
- e His goal was to do God's will.
- f He was willing to sacrifice.

5 Why was Jesus willing to give Himself for us?

Check your answers.



EARLY CHRISTIANS' EXAMPLE

Objective 3. Explain why the early Christians can be our example in sharing the good news about Christ.

Christ came, as we have seen, to tell us about God and His love. Wicked men crucified Him on the cross. But He did not stay in the grave. He came back to life, rose from the grave, and is now sitting at His Father's right hand in heaven. But I thank God that His plan for sharing the good news did not stop with Christ. Christ passed it on to the apostles and to His disciples. He told them, "Go throughout the whole world and preach the good news to all mankind" (Mark 16:15). This command is not only to a group of selected people such as the apostles, the evangelists, the deacons, the pastors, or the teachers. This command is for all of us.

But how did Jesus send His disciples out? In His prayer to His Father, Christ said, "I sent them into the world, just as you sent me into the world" (John 17:18). And how did God send Jesus? He sent Him with a mission. He sent Him with power and authority. He sent Him to all people. He sent Him not to condemn, not to judge, but to set people free. This is the mission Christ has passed on to us. It was as if He said, "Father, just as You sent Me, I have also sent them. Keep them as You kept Me. Listen to them as You listened to Me. Be with them as You were with Me." Isn't it wonderful to realize that we are God's messengers?

Now let us permit our eyes to gaze upon Peter as he talked about this same Jesus on the Day of Pentecost. The story is recorded in Acts 2:14-39. Try to see him standing before the crowd, sharing Christ with others. Listen to him as he talks before his judges. You can hear him say, "How can I stop sharing what I have seen and heard?"

Now follow him to the house of the Roman officer, Cornelius, a man who was seeking God. You will see him once again sharing his testimony about Christ with other people. (See Acts 10: 34-43.)

The Book of Acts gives us many details about the apostle Paul and his travels. Follow Paul in his travels and listen to him. He would speak of no one but Christ, and Him crucified. The ever-burning desire of the apostle Paul was winning people to Christ and sharing his personal Christian experience with others.

Paul was willing to suffer in order to share this good news. He was thrown into prison, he was beaten, chained, hungry, lonely, forgotten by his co-workers. None of this stopped him from sharing the good news with others. If he could not speak, he would write down his message, or have someone write it down for him. He did this until the day he could say, "I am ready to die. I have finished my course." (See 2 Timothy 4:6,7, KJV).

In times past in Africa, when a hunter killed an elephant, he would run back home and announce the good news to all. When the Americans landed on the moon for the first time, radio, television, newspapers spread this good news—by all the mass media—to all people everywhere. It is the nature of people to want to share good news with others. Should not you and I, who have far greater news, share it all around us?



When Jesus revealed Himself to the Samaritan woman, she too, like this African hunter, hurried back to her people. She shared with them all that Christ had done in her life. (See John 4:5-29.)



For You to Do

- 6** What did the apostle Peter, the apostle Paul, and the Samaritan woman have in common?
- a) They were educated people.
 - b) They wanted to share Christ with others.
 - c) They wanted people to respect them.

7 Why did the early Christians have such a desire to share the good news about Christ with other people?

.....

.....

8 Here is a chart to show *how* and *why* God sent Jesus to earth. Under the heading *Disciples Were Sent* put an X in the blank spaces if they were sent by Jesus in the same way. Then put an X in the blank spaces that show how and why *We Are Sent*.

Jesus Was Sent	Disciples Were Sent	We Are Sent
• With a mission
• With power
• To suffer
• To all people
• To set people free
• To share good news
• To be an example of God’s love

By their testimonies and witnessing, the early Christians were able to share the good news about Jesus with all of Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the entire Roman Empire. The believers went everywhere. They preached and shared their Christian experience with all people. It was actually the unbelievers who saw them speaking, living, and acting like Christ that gave them the name *Christian*. This name means “like Christ” or “followers of Christ.”

The early Christians had such a love for Jesus, and were so thankful for what He had done for them, that they could not keep from telling the good news. We want to share with others what Christ has done for us for the same reasons: because we love Him, and we want to give His love to others.



Check Your Answers

- 1 c) sharing His own nature with Adam.
- 2 a) giving us His Son Jesus.
- 3 Because He loves us so much.
- 4 a True
b True
c False
d False
e True
f True
- 5 Because He loves us.
- 6 b) They wanted to share Christ with others.
- 7 Because of their love for Christ and for others.
- 8 You should have put an **X** on every line in both columns.

Lesson
2

Be Prepared

Do you remember the day you started learning to read? You may have had a difficult time. At first you knew nothing about reading. Then you were taught to read the first letters of the alphabet. Soon you could read a word, then a sentence. Step by step you learned to read, until now it is a very natural thing.

Perhaps you remember also the time when you were being trained for your job. You did not learn everything in one day. You learned a little at a time. You put into practice what you learned until finally you were able to do your work well.

It is the same in your Christian witnessing. There is much to learn as you go on sharing Christ with others. In Lesson 1 we learned about God's plan for sharing the good news with men and women. Now we will see what kind of preparation we need in order to win souls for Christ.



In this lesson you will study . . .

Learn to Know Christ
Be Filled With the Spirit
 You Need Power
 You Need Leading
Use the Best Tools
 The Sword of the Spirit
 The Name of Jesus

This lesson will help you . . .

- Understand the basic requirements to prepare yourself for personal evangelism.

LEARN TO KNOW CHRIST

Objective 1. *Explain how we can know Christ better.*

You and I have been saved for a purpose. We have been called to witness, to share what the Lord has done in our lives. But before we can witness for Christ, we must first learn to know Him personally. To know Him, it is necessary to spend time with Him. For how can we speak of someone we do not know? Would any court call on you to be a witness of a case you have not known?

It is true that Jesus sent His disciples into the whole world to spread the good news. But He also told them to *wait* until they were fully prepared. And this preparation takes time.

It may not take a lot of time to memorize certain Bible verses or to study ways to approach people. Watching how other workers have brought people to Christ may not take long. But learning to *know* Christ, to know the power of His resurrection and the depth of His love, requires spending time with the Lord. We desire to know Him better when we are working for Him.

The apostle Paul wrote about this to the Corinthian church. He said he had made up his mind not to know anyone or anything else except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. (See 1 Corinthians 2:2.)

The disciples also had their time of schooling. And this learning time was the key secret of their success in spreading the good news about Christ, their Lord. There is no doubt in my mind that from the very day Christ called His disciples, they believed in Him. It just takes a moment to believe in Jesus and to accept Him. But just as a baby cannot grow up and walk in one day, it took the disciples a long time to learn to know Jesus. It took all of their lives!



We read in the Bible that Jesus turned the water into wine at a wedding ceremony. When His disciples saw this, they believed in Him. When He spoke to the wind and to the raging sea, the wind stopped blowing and the sea was quiet. His amazed disciples asked themselves, “Who is this man?” (Mark 4:41). They came to know Him better that day. They saw more of His power. This knowledge of the unlimited power of their Lord gave them peace.

Later on, the Scripture says, at the closing of Jesus’ ministry on earth, many of His disciples left Him. But the 12 disciples who had come to know Him so well did not leave. Peter, in their behalf, told Him, “Lord, we cannot leave you. We know that you have the Word of life.” (See John 6:68.) This knowledge kept them close to their Lord.

Thomas, one of the disciples, was completely shocked by the death of Jesus, in whom he had believed. Overnight he became a confused doubter. He refused to accept the fact that Christ was risen from the dead. But when Christ showed Himself to Thomas, he fell down and said, "My Lord and my God" (John 20:28). That personal knowledge of Christ drew him closer to his Master.

Peter had seen all the splendor of Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration (Luke 9:29). God had revealed to him the true nature of His Son Jesus. Three times he was given a charge by Jesus to help other believers. He spoke with power and authority concerning Jesus' name. Yet he did not know the extent and the greatness of God's love. He did not know that God's love was for all people, no matter what their race or color. God had a hard time getting Peter to go to the house of Cornelius. It was not until then that Peter realized that God treats everyone on the same basis (Acts 10:34).

So you can see that it was through their continuing experience of being with Jesus, listening to Him, and talking to Him that the disciples really got to know Him. We must learn to know Him in the same way before we can share Him with others.



1 Circle the letters in front of the correct answers to this question: How can we best learn to know Christ?

- a** Spend time with Him.
- b** Do memory work.
- c** See how He worked in people's lives.
- d** Listen to Him.
- e** Talk to Him.
- f** Study ways to talk to people.

2 List two things the disciples learned as they got to know Christ better?

They learned about His and His

3 How long does it take someone to really know Christ?

.....

Check your answers.

BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT

Objective 2. Describe how the Holy Spirit can help you in personal evangelism.

You Need Power

In order to see results in our personal Christian service for Christ, you and I need power. Before Christ could start His ministry, He was given the power of the Holy Spirit. (See Luke 4:18.) Christ knew that His disciples would face difficulties and would need help. Before leaving them to go back to His Father, He said, "But when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you will be filled with *power* and you will (then) be witnesses for me" (Acts 1:8).

The Holy Spirit has been sent to give us boldness and power. He helps us in our daily personal witness for Christ.

When I was a college student, my country experienced a great revival. On weekends, we would go out to witness. We saw many churches grow, and many new ones were started. It was the power of the Holy Spirit that caused this to happen.



But you might ask me, “How can I be filled with the Holy Spirit?” Just open your heart before the Lord. Tell Him of your weakness and of your desire to share His good news with others. He will fill you with His Spirit and power, and you will know the joy of being well equipped for the task. This promise is for ALL who believe in Jesus Christ. (See Acts 2:1-4, 39.)



In these exercises, choose the correct answer from the two given in the parentheses, and write it in the blank space.

- 4 The normal result of being filled with the Holy Spirit is that we receive (power/good news) and we become (apostles/witnesses).
- 5 Christ told His disciples to wait until they were filled with the Spirit. He did this because He knew they would have (things to learn/problems) and they would need (books/help).

Check your answers.

You Need Leading

The command of Jesus is to go throughout the whole world. His working field is large. To avoid wasting time, you and I need the leading or guidance of the Holy Spirit. Jesus assures His disciples that when the Spirit comes, He will lead them into all the truth (John 16:13).

People everywhere want direction. Some turn to their dead ancestors for leading. Others are trying to find direction from the stars, the horoscope, fortune telling, or other means. But as we look for places to serve Him, our leading comes from God. No matter where He leads us, we can know that it is right, for He is the way. Even as a plane can be directed in darkness and through clouds until it lands, He will lead us to the right people at the right time.

Philip (the evangelist) was led by the Spirit to a hungry, seeking man in the wilderness (Acts 8:29). The apostle Paul was led by the Spirit to the right place so that he could hear the emergency cry of the man from Macedonia and help him (Acts 16:9).

In 1921, the Holy Spirit led the first Assemblies of God missionaries to the West African country of Sierra Leone. From there they moved across French-speaking Guinea, through Mali, and into the heart of West Africa to my country of Burkina Faso.

If the Holy Spirit had not preceded these missionaries, they could have stopped in any one of the countries they passed through. But because they followed the leading of the Spirit, many people in Burkina Faso believed and accepted Jesus. And it was through these new Christians that the good news of Jesus was spread back through almost all of the neighboring countries.

Ask the Holy Spirit to lead you to those who will listen as you share the good news about Christ with them. I am glad that God led evangelists to my country even before I was born, so that I could know Jesus.

6 Answer these questions with **YES** or **NO**.

... **a** Can our dead ancestors help us know what to do in life?

... **b** Should we study the stars for direction when we have a decision to make?

... **c** Will the Holy Spirit always lead us if we ask Him?

7 We have talked about three different times when people allowed the Holy Spirit to lead them. What was the result each time?

Check your answers.

USE THE BEST TOOLS

Objective 3. *Explain what tools are needed to be able to resist the devil and share the good news about Jesus.*

The Sword of the Spirit

My people have a proverb that says, “Empty hands do not kill a snake.” Jesus has not sent us empty-handed into the world. He has given us tools to work with. The task is great, and we cannot do it with our own strength.



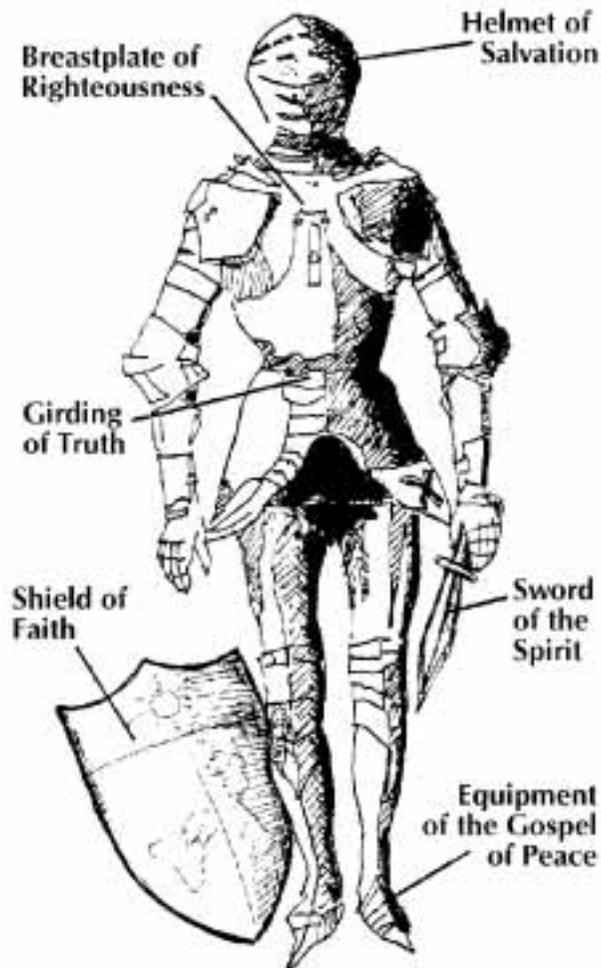
There is someone who is trying to stop us from sharing the good news of Christ. He is the devil. He stopped Adam, the first man, from doing God’s will. He stopped the people of Israel from obeying God. He even tried to stop Christ from sharing God’s love with men. Jesus fought him in the wilderness and at the cross and won the victory over him. What did Jesus use to fight the devil?

He used the Word of God, which is called “The Sword of the Spirit.” If we will use the Sword of the Spirit, we too will have victory over Satan. In Hebrews 4:12 we read:

The word of God is alive and active, sharper than any double-edged sword. It cuts all the way through, to where soul and spirit meet, to where joints and marrow come together. It judges the desires and thoughts of man’s heart.

Jesus Himself used that Sword (God’s Word) when He was tempted in the desert (Matthew 4:4).

Stephen used the same Sword, and made his accusers angry and confused (Acts 7:54).



Paul wrote to the Ephesians and instructed them to put on all the armor of God. The battle against Satan is great. We are not fighting against human beings, but against wicked spiritual forces. Paul gave the illustration of a soldier putting on his armor, which protected him from the enemy. He gave a list of the armor in Ephesians 6:14-17. We will list it here:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Truth | Belt |
| Righteousness | Breastplate |
| Readiness to share the good news | Shoes |
| Faith | Shield |
| Salvation | Helmet |
| Word of God | Sword of the Spirit |

When you accepted Jesus as your Savior, you received the *helmet* of salvation. Your faith is your *shield*. As you speak the truth, you put on the *belt*. Your new life is clean and pure. It is your *breastplate* of righteousness. Your *shoes* are your desire to share the good news about Christ. The Bible is your *Sword of the Spirit*. When you put on all this armor, you will win the battle!

The Name of Jesus

Do not ever forget that you have been given the privilege of sharing the good news about Jesus Christ. It is not in your own name that you speak, but in His Name. An ambassador does not speak for himself. He speaks in the name of his country.

It is the name of Jesus that saves. Outside of His Name there is no salvation. If we go to God through that wonderful Name, He will hear us and answer our prayers. Christ did not leave us with gold or silver. He left us with something that money cannot buy. He left us with His wonderful Name! No wonder thousands of Christians all over the world sing about the name of Jesus. "There's just something about that Name!" (Luke 10:17; Acts 4:12).

And his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6, KJV).



8 What tool did Jesus use to keep the devil from stopping His work?

.....

9 What special tool did Jesus leave with us?

.....

10 Suppose you did not put on the armor of God. What could happen to you?

- a) It would be easy for the devil to stop you from obeying God.
- b) The devil could not stop you from obeying God.

11 Put an **X** in the blank space to show the armor you have put on.

	Yes	No
Belt	___	___
Breastplate	___	___
Shoes	___	___
Shield	___	___
Helmet	___	___
Sword	___	___

I hope you have enjoyed Lesson 2. Before you go on with your study, I would like for you to think of someone whom you would like to help find Christ. Pray that God will help you to share your experience of accepting Christ as your own Savior with this person. Write the person's name here, and pray for him or her.



Check Your Answers

- 1 a True
b False
c True
d True
e True
f False
- 2 power, love.
- 3 A whole lifetime.
- 4 power, witnesses.
- 5 problems, help.
- 6 a No
b No
c Yes
- 7 They led other people to Christ.
- 8 The Word of God.
- 9 His Name.
- 10 a) It would be easy for the devil to stop you from obeying God.
- 11 If you could not put an X under **Yes** for all of this armor, ask God to help you now to put on all of His armor.

Lesson
3

Get Involved

An African proverb says, “One hand will never build a house.”

A French proverb says, “Union makes strength.”

The English proverb says, “Two heads are better than one.”

The Bible says, “A rope made of three cords is hard to break” (Ecclesiastes 4:12).

These proverbs are true. To build a house, many hands are necessary. The mason cannot do the whole job.

Christ said, “I will build my church.” But He has called us to work with Him in this great task. Each one of us has a part.



In Lesson 2 we saw the necessity of being prepared. Now you will see that you must also be personally involved. For Christ in His great work has a job that only you can do! May the Lord bless you as you study!

In this lesson you will study . . .

Be Obedient
Be Like Salt
Be Responsible
Be Committed

This lesson will help you . . .

- Describe ways you can be involved in personal evangelism.
- Understand how obedience and responsibility are necessary in personal evangelism.

BE OBEDIENT

Objective 1. *Explain the importance of obedience in personal witness.*

Previously we talked about a wedding ceremony where Jesus turned water into wine. I believe the advice that Mary, the mother of Jesus, gave to the servants should be the motto of every Christian. She said, “Do whatever he tells you” (John 2:5).

Unless there is obedience, there can be no personal involvement or success in personal evangelism. It is true that we have been sent throughout the whole world. This is Christ’s command to you and me. What will you answer?

Why did Philip leave a great revival in Samaria to go to the lonely desert? Because the Lord told him to! Because God said it, Philip obeyed (Acts 8:26).

Why did Abraham leave his country, his friends, and his fields for an unknown destination? He did it because the Lord told him to (Genesis 12:1). Why did he take his only son, whom he loved so much, and offer him for God’s purpose? He may not have understood the reason at the time. But because God commanded it, he obeyed (Genesis 22:9-10).

Through the ages, many people have suffered because they obeyed Christ. Some of them have chosen to die rather than to deny Christ. Total obedience to God was their rule.

The Bible compares us to soldiers (2 Timothy 2:3). Christ is our Captain. As soldiers of Christ we owe complete obedience to our Master. If a soldier does not obey his leader, the battle will be lost. Obedience is the key to victory for any army!



For You To Do

- 1 What should be the rule for every Christian who does personal evangelism? (Choose one answer.)
 - a) Do what seems most reasonable.
 - b) Do what Christ tells you to do.
 - c) Do what will reach the most people.
 - 2 A Christian is like a soldier when he practices
 - a) complete obedience.
 - b) obedience to what he understands.
 - c) ways to keep from suffering.
 - 3 What can we expect when we are obedient?
-

BE LIKE SALT

Objective 2. *Show ways in which the nature of a Christian is like salt.*

Before we can really *do* something for Christ, we must *be* what He wants us to be. We are to be witnesses. This witnessing is not just *doing*, but more than anything else it is *being*. Witnessing is not just our work, but it is our very nature! That is why Jesus said to His disciples, “You are like salt for all mankind” (Matthew 5:13).

Why did Jesus compare us to salt? Salt is used for many purposes. I would like to tell you some of the ways salt is used.

Salt unites people. In Burkina Faso in Africa, salt is used to unite two people, two families, or even two tribes. Before a young man marries, he gives a symbolic gift of salt to the parents of his bride. In this way their union is sealed. In the same way, Jesus has made us salt, so that we will be able to unite people with God.

Salt creates friendship. Salt was one of the first gifts used by white explorers to win the friendship of African chiefs. Sin has made all men enemies of God. We are His salt to bring them back to God.



Jesus has sent us into the world to be peacemakers. If we let people see that we care for their needs, we will be able to share God's peace with them.

Salt preserves. All over the world, and especially in the developing countries, salt is used to keep meat from rotting. Had not God put salt into the sea, it would not have been possible for men to live on the earth. There would have been too much pollution in the water. Our presence as God's salt will preserve men and women from sin, as we share Jesus Christ with them.

Salt flavors. When Christ compared us to salt, it was another way of saying that the world is like food without taste. That is very true, for life without Christ, without God, is life without hope. There is no true joy in life for those who do not know Christ. By being salt to the people around us, you and I will help them find new meaning in their lives.

If you live a Christlike life, your *being* will make others aware of Christ. Your presence may bring a message more important than the one you speak. *Salt is found everywhere.* There is no country, no home, no family, where salt may not be found. Even so, Christ's salt reaches all over the world.

Christ wants to make you salt in your family and where you work, so that by your life people will see Christ's wonderful work in *you* and glorify God.



For You To Do

4 Write down four ways you can be like salt where you live.

.....

.....

.....

.....

5 Draw a circle around the letter in front of sentences that show the lessons we can learn from salt.

- a A Christian makes enemies.
- b A Christian helps people find God.
- c Our nature is to be like Jesus.
- d Our words are more important than what we are.
- e My life should make people want to know Jesus.
- f Life without Christ is like food without salt.

BE RESPONSIBLE

Objective 3. *Define the Christian's responsibility to help other people know Christ.*

Suppose you saw an automobile accident in which people have been injured. They are groaning and crying for help. What will you do? You could take them to the nearest hospital or call an ambulance. But instead of doing that, you just walk away. What would happen?

Although you did not know them, and you did not cause the accident, you would be breaking a law.

Read what God has said in His Word:

Now, mortal man, I am making you a watchman for the nation of Israel. You must pass on to them the warnings I give you. If I announce that an evil man is going to die but you do not warn him to change his ways so that he can save his life, then he will die, still a sinner, and I will hold you responsible for his death. If you do warn an evil man and He doesn't stop sinning, he will die, still a sinner, but your life will be spared (Ezekiel 33:7-9).

At times, Christians are not aware of their responsibility, or duty, to other people. You and I each have a definite responsibility. We cannot afford to neglect it. Just think about those around you: in your family, at your work, in public places. How many of them are struggling without Christ. Will you just sit down and let them die? *No*, a thousand times *No*! Why not say with Isaiah, "Here am I, Lord, send me." (See Isaiah 6:8.)



One day Jesus healed and then set free a man who had been bound by the devil. This man lived in a graveyard. After healing him, Jesus told him, "Go back home, and tell what God has done for you" (Luke 8:39). I can imagine this man going from house to house, spreading the good news about the wonderful power of Jesus! Our own people, our own friends, our own community will never hear about the wonderful things of Christ unless we tell them.

The apostle Paul felt this responsibility. Even though he was chosen by God to take the message to the Gentiles, who were not his own people, he did not neglect anyone. Everywhere he went, he took the message to his own people first, and then he went to the Gentiles. In Acts 1:8, I believe Jesus is telling us that we should be witnesses *first* in Jerusalem (our home), *then* in all Judea (our country), *then* in Samaria (our neighboring countries), and *finally* to the ends of the earth (the whole world). Christ wants to speak to your people. He wants to save them. He wants to write their names in His Book of Life. But He will not do it by Himself. He wants to work with you and through you.

When Paul spoke to the leaders of the church at Ephesus, he said words like these:

I have not held back from announcing, from sharing, from proclaiming to you night and day the whole purpose of God. So keep watch over yourselves, and assume the responsibility the Holy Spirit has given you (See Acts 20:27, 28).

In like manner you and I should speak about the message of salvation, thus helping people to make a commitment to Christ. This vital step should not be imposed on anyone. But when someone is searching, seeking, inquiring, and the opportunity is open, it is our responsibility to lead that person to the Savior. Through dialogue, friendship, or conversation, people can be more receptive than “preaching” to them. What verses of Scripture could we use? What are the essential elements?

God loves you and has prepared a way for complete forgiveness of all our wrongs.

BELIEVE that Jesus died and rose again.

John 3:16 “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life...”

Acts 4:12 “Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.”

John 17:3 “Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.”

ADMIT you have sinned and need to repent, which means a change of inward attitude.

Romans 3:23 “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

Luke 24:46-47 ““This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.”

Acts 2:38 “Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins...”

Acts 3:19 “Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out...”

CONFESS and choose to not sin.

1 John 1:9 “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness”

Romans 10:9,10 “That if you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord’, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with the mouth that you confess and are saved.”

When leading someone to Christ, let us be reminded that every person is different. Some individuals believe or understand sooner than others. Some people share their concerns, questions, and even their doubts. Never be offended by this, but answer with kindness. However, only the Lord by the Holy Spirit and the Word may produce conviction, repentance, understanding, and faith.



For You To Do

6 As God's appointed watchman, what is your most important duty?

- a) Study the Bible.
- b) Warn unbelievers of their condition.
- c) Save people.

7 First I should tell about God.

8 Second I should tell about God.

9 Then I should tell

and about God.

10 Suppose God gave you an opportunity to tell someone about Christ, and you did not do it. That person died without being told. How would you feel?

.....
.....

11 Suppose you did tell someone about Christ, and he or she did not listen to you. Later that person died. How would you feel?

.....
.....

BE COMMITTED

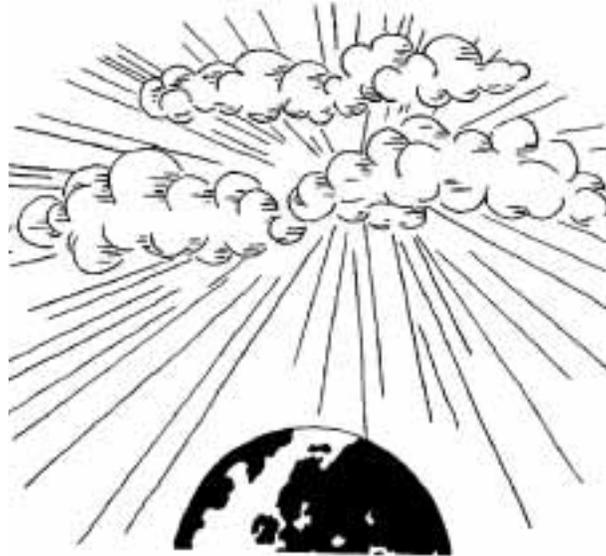
Objective 4. Give reasons why we should want to be committed to sharing the good news.

Even though the task is great, it has pleased God to use a human tool, a human witness, to spread the good news to all who would believe. Just to know that God *wants* to use you or me should make us willing to be involved in witnessing about Jesus.

God is not short of workers. Had He wanted to, He could have sent many angels to tell about Christ. And they could have done it overnight. It is true that He sent angels to announce the good news of Christ's birth to the shepherds. It is true that angels announced the news of Christ's resurrection that Easter morning. He still may send angels to minister to His people. But He has not chosen them to witness about the Cross. He has chosen you and me—simple, weak human beings, to announce this good news everywhere!

Isn't it wonderful to know that Almighty God has chosen to depend on us to bring people to Christ? He does not want the unbeliever to die in sin. That itself is good news that is worth talking about! But He needs more feet, more hands, more lips, and more people to share this word of life with those who have not yet found Him.

Christians often say they are looking forward to the time when Christ will come again. Many hymns and choruses have been written about His Second Coming. There are many books on the subject. So often we have even prayed, like the apostle John, “Even so come Lord Jesus!”



We often forget the condition Jesus gave us. He said, “This good news of the kingdom of God will be spread, told, proclaimed everywhere as a witness. Then will the end come” (Matthew 24: 14, paraphrased).

Do you want Him to come quickly? Do you want to be forever with Him? Then, without losing any more time, become involved in spreading the good news. Make a personal commitment to be involved!

When the apostle Paul wrote to the Romans about this, he said, “Because of God’s great mercy to us I appeal to you: Offer yourselves as a living sacrifice to God, dedicated to his service and pleasing to him” (Romans 12:1). The word *dedicated* means the same thing as the word *committed*. It means that you have given yourself completely to something. Give yourself completely to spreading the good news about Jesus Christ!



For You To Do

12 List two reasons why we should be committed to share the good news about Jesus.

.....
.....

13 Do you want to give yourself completely to the work of spreading the good news about Jesus?
..... Why don’t you pray about it right now?



Check Your Answers

- 1 b) Do what Christ tells you to do.
- 2 a) complete obedience.
- 3 Success, victory
- 4 You may have said: I can bring people to God. I can help people be friends. I can be a peacemaker. I can fight sin by my example. I can show how wonderful life is for a Christian. I can be like Jesus.
- 5 a) False
b) True
c) True
d) False
e) True
f) True
- 6 b) Warn unbelievers of their condition.
- 7 my own family
- 8 my friends and neighbors
- 9 my neighboring countries, the whole world
- 10 Very sad, because he or she died without a chance to know Christ, and I did not do my best.
- 11 Sad, because he or she did not receive the warning. But I would be glad that I did my best to win that person for Christ.
- 12 Because God has chosen us to do this work.
Because we want Jesus to come quickly.
- 13 I hope you answered “Yes.” God wants to use you.

Lesson
4

Share Your Experience

When I was a young Christian schoolteacher, the Lord led me to an elderly man. I shared with him my experience of hearing about Jesus Christ and how He became my personal Savior.

One week later, the old man sent for me. When I went to his home, it reminded me of the house of Cornelius in the Bible. His entire family was there. He and his entire house were prepared for my visit. That evening a family of 16 people gave their lives to Christ. Their number has grown ever since, and today they meet to glorify God as a congregation!

Do you know why I met Christ? It is because one day someone shared his own experience with me. Do you know why I am still a Christian? It is because I have experienced Jesus personally in my own life, and you can also have the same reality.



We have talked about the need to be involved. Now we will see how to get involved—by sharing with others what Christ has done for us. How can we keep such good news to ourselves? We must share it with others!

In this lesson you will study . . .

Sharing at All Times
Sharing Without Shame
Sharing to Change People
Sharing When It Costs

This lesson will help you . . .

- Understand the importance of being ready to share your Christian witness at all times.
- Be committed to a life of personal witness whatever the cost.

SHARING AT ALL TIMES

Objective 1. Give reasons why we must be ready to share our testimony at all times.

There is nothing that brings greater results in personal evangelism than sharing one's own experience. It is the heart of the whole task.

You may have known Christ and His saving power in your life. You may have received the power of His Spirit. Christ may have done great and marvelous things for you. But unless you have shared this with others, how will they know? Unless you speak to people, how will they hear? And unless they hear, how can they believe and be saved?

Jesus talked to people everywhere He went. He talked to people in their homes. He received them wherever He was staying. When we read the four Gospels, we see Him walking by the seaside, talking to people on the streets. He once said to His disciples, "Let us go on to other towns and villages, for my mission is to share God's love with all people" (Mark 1:38, paraphrased). He sent his disciples throughout the whole world, to the ends of the earth.

On a certain occasion my wife and I had the great joy of leading eight people to Christ, just by sharing with them what the Lord has done for us. How could we keep silent when we have such good news to share?



We must share the good news of Christ in all circumstances. The apostle Paul wrote,

"I solemnly urge you to preach the message, to insist upon proclaiming it, (whether the time is right or not)" (2 Timothy 4:1,2).

Christ took every opportunity that came His way to preach and share the good news. Even on the cross where He died, He took time to share His good news with the dying criminal beside him. He said, "I promise you that today you will be with me in my Father's home" (Luke 23:43).

The apostle Paul would not let pass any opportunity to share the good news of His Lord. Even with chains on his hands and feet, he still proclaimed the good news. He stood in chains before King Agrippa and told him about Christ (Acts 26:29). He called from the prison to tell the good news of Christ to the jailer who was about to commit suicide (Acts 16:27,28).

There are some opportunities, which come our way only once. Had Paul been slow to shout to this needy jailer, the jailer might have died in his sin. We must be ready at all times to share with anyone who needs to hear the good news about Christ.



For You To Do

1 Circle the letter in front of the two best answers. If I miss an opportunity to tell a friend about Christ

- a) I may not have another chance.
- b) someone else will probably tell my friend.
- c) God will punish me.
- d) my friend may never find the Lord.

2 Choose the best answer: What was Jesus' method of sharing with people?

- a) He only shared with them if they came to Him.
- b) He went to them and made opportunities for sharing.

3 Where is the best place for sharing with others the message of Christ?

.....

.....

SHARING WITHOUT SHAME

Objective 2. Explain why we should not be ashamed to share our testimony.

Many people seem to be ashamed to speak about Christ in their daily life. It is true that when we share our faith with people around us, we may be misunderstood. Some may even laugh at us. But when we think how Christ was willing to suffer many hardships without being ashamed, we cannot help but follow in His steps. He is our wonderful example.

Consider for a moment Jesus on the cross. The people walking by laughed at Him. The very same people that He had fed, those He had healed of their diseases, those He had taught, were now putting Him to shame. He was willing to die a shameful death because it was the only way people could be saved. You and I must not be ashamed to share our experience, because it is the way God has chosen to draw men and women to himself.

The apostle Paul was not ashamed of the Cross. He was beaten, chained, and put into prison. There, at midnight, he was not ashamed to share his good news with the other prisoners (Acts 16: 25).

I have seen people speaking about Christ in different places and situations, spreading the good news of their Savior and Lord. Jesus was not ashamed to come to me, He was not ashamed to plead my case before God. Can I be ashamed to speak about this wonderful Savior?





For You To Do

4 Robert wanted to tell his new friend John about Jesus and His love. But he was afraid John would laugh at him. Of what two things should Robert remind himself?

a

b

5 Memorize this Scripture verse and remember it whenever you want to witness but feel embarrassed. 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, KJV).

SHARING TO CHANGE PEOPLE

Objective 3. List ways people's lives are changed when we share Christ with them.

Sharing Christ with people gives us first hand opportunities to witness the changing power of God. If you want people to turn from a life of sin, inward emptiness, and uncertainty, just share Jesus Christ with them. Share the certainty of forgiveness and a new life. Jesus is the Living Water for those who thirst. He is the Living Bread for those who are hungry. He is Healing for those who are sick. He is Light to those sitting in darkness. He is Father to the fatherless, the beginning and the end for all those who trust in Him. He is everything that man needs!

The apostle Paul was a man of high education. He was soon to be a leader within his community. He was very involved in defending his religion and traditions. No one would have thought that he would turn from his father's religion. Yet it happened when he met Jesus Christ personally. Jesus is not religion but reality! Here is what the apostle said:

I could, of course, put my trust in such things.... I have even more reason to feel that way. I was circumcised when I was a week old. I am an Israelite by birth, of the tribe of Benjamin, a pure-blooded Hebrew. As far as keeping the Jewish Law is concerned, I was a Pharisee, and was so zealous that I persecuted the church. As far as a person can be righteous by obeying the commands of the Law, I was without fault. But all those things that I might count as profit I now reckon as loss for Christ's sake (Philippians 3:4-7).

Paul was able to consider everything as being worthless because he met Christ. Who could ever understand such a miracle? He had a personal experience with Christ that changed him.

Zacchaeus was a rich man. He was also known as a thief (because he charged more taxes than it was required). No one would ever have thought that one day he would stop stealing. But when he met Jesus, he had a personal experience, and he was completely changed (Luke 19:1-10).

Moses had been brought up in a palace and was taught about all the knowledge of Egypt. He was mighty in words and deeds. Through circumstances described in the Scriptures, he left the life he once knew. The Old Testament tells us that Moses saw the glory of God. Then he was willing to

change. There is transforming power in a personal experience that gives our life new meaning. The transforming power of the gospel is the same. It is Jesus' promise.

The Bible says, "When anyone is joined to Christ, he is a new being; the old is gone, the new has come" (2 Corinthians 5:17).

This is indeed true. A personal meeting with Christ will bring both outward and inward change in people.

My hometown pastor died while I was in Bible school. He was a man that God had mightily used. Something amazing happened on the day of His burial. Many people had come, both Christians and non-Christians. Two people came who were enemies. They would never speak to one another or shake hands. Yet that day for the first time in over 20 years, they shook hands over the grave of this man of God. That was a wonderful thing for everyone to see. True forgiveness had taken place. It reminded me of a far greater change that took place between God and man after Christ's death on the cross. Whether we live or die, our testimony can change lives.



For You To Do

- 6 What is the best way to get a person to leave wrong beliefs and accept Christ?
 - a) Explain that his or her beliefs are not good.
 - b) Explain that his or her life is sinful.
 - c) Show all the wonderful things Christ will do for him or her.

- 7 Select three things from the list below that Christ provides, and which no other religion or belief can fully provide.
 - a) True joy
 - b) Success
 - c) Meaning in life
 - d) Better education
 - e) Wisdom
 - f) Eternal life

- 8 When we say that Christ is Living Bread for those who are hungry, what do we mean?
 - a) He will never let us be hungry.
 - b) He satisfies the hunger or desire deep within us to know God.
 - c) If we have no food, He will provide it through a miracle.

- 9 List at least three ways your life has been changed because you know Christ.
 - a)
 - b)
 - c)

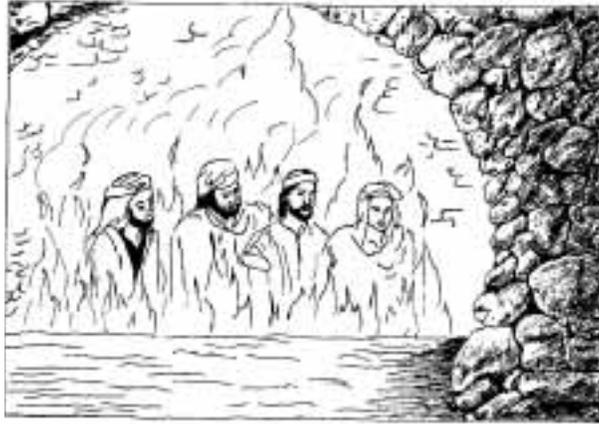
SHARING WHEN IT COSTS

Objective 4. Give examples of those who have shared the good news even when it cost them something.

Sometimes it costs something to share our experience. I have heard how the first Christians in Burkina Faso were made to suffer. Some of them are still alive and faithful to Christ. Many of them were cursed and cut off from their families. This is very hard for an African. To be cursed and cut

off means to be considered as dead. No one in your family or village will greet you or take anything from you. For many, going to church on Sunday required fasting. They were not given any food if they went to church.

I thank God that Christians in Burkina Faso were faithful to Christ even when it cost them many hardships. Because of them, I, too, have experienced Jesus Christ in my life.



Let's consider the case of the three Hebrew young men in the Old Testament. Read Daniel 3: 8-25. These three men were God's people. They decided to serve God no matter what happened. They had to face decisions and hardship. Because of their testimony before the king, they were thrown into a burning furnace. They had chosen to die rather than deny their faith in God. They set the example, so we also can be inspired to share our Christian faith and life.

Sharing cost God His Son. In order to share His great love with humankind, God had to send us His only Son. Because Adam and Eve sinned, there was no other way for God to have fellowship with humans. But because of His love for us, He was willing to do this.

Sharing cost Jesus His life. Jesus knew many hardships. The prophet Isaiah was right when he called Jesus a Man of sorrows (Isaiah 53:3). During His ministry, He was faced by people who wanted to kill Him. But there was no other way for Him to save people from sin. He took upon Himself our sin. He knew what it cost to face death, to be separated from God. But because He loved us, He was willing to pay the price for our salvation.

Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wants to come with me, he must forget himself and carry his cross" (Matthew 16:24).

There is a price to pay if you really want to share with other people your Christian experience. You may lose friends. Your parents may not understand you. You may seem strange to others.

Do not let any hardships, whatever they might be, keep you from sharing your faith. Remember what Christ was willing to do for you. This will help you to share Him with others, no matter what it costs.



For You To Do

10 Do you think God suffered when Jesus was crucified?

.....

11 Why was Jesus willing to suffer?

.....
.....

12 Do you know someone who has suffered in order to be a Christian?

How has that person suffered?

.....

13 How can these examples help you in sharing the good news about Jesus?

.....
.....



Check Your Answers

- 1 a) I may not have another chance.
d) my friend may never find the Lord.
- 2 b) He went to them and made opportunities for sharing.
- 3 There is no *best* place. We can share Him anywhere!
- 4 a) Jesus was not ashamed to die for our sins.
b) We must not let ourselves be ashamed to talk about Jesus, because this is the only way God has chosen for people to know about Him.
- 5 Now that you have learned this verse, ask God to help you never to be ashamed of the gospel of Christ.
- 6 c) Show all the wonderful things Christ will do for him or her.
- 7 a) True joy
c) Meaning in life
f) Eternal life
- 8 b) He satisfies the hunger or desire deep within us to know God.
- 9 Your answer. Aren't you glad He has changed your life?
- 10 Yes, I believe God suffered just as a parent suffers when his or her child is hurting.
- 11 Because He loved us so much, He wanted to make it possible for us to be saved from sin.
- 12 Your own answer.
- 13 When we realize that others are willing to suffer for Christ, it gives us strength to serve Him whatever the cost.

Now that you have completed the first unit, you are ready to answer the questions in your student report for UNIT ONE. Review the previous lessons, then follow the instructions in your student report. Send your answer sheet to the address given on the copyright page of the study guide.

Lesson
5

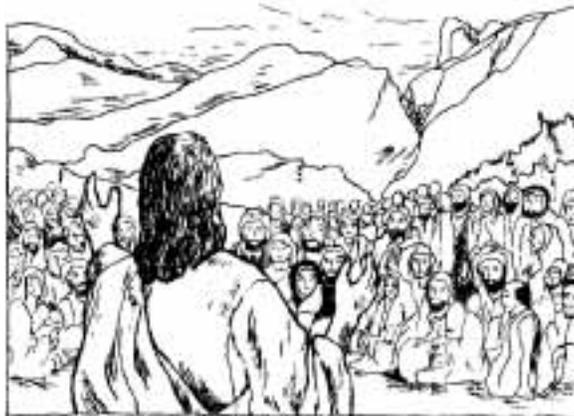
Understand the Task

It was at the end of three months of hard work in the fields in Burkina Faso. There had been enough rain that year, and the harvest was good. The chief called for a big celebration day. Men and women, boys and girls covered the big marketplace. They came from every direction.

Many dancing groups were performing. People were walking to and fro. The whole village seemed to have moved into the market. Then, about midday, a loud, deafening cry was heard from among those in the crowd. A person cried out as if he were in danger. All attention was directed to him.

“What happened?” The question went from one person to another. Some thought a person had become insane, but the man explained the reason for his cry. He said, “When I looked at this crowd, I thought how the day is coming when all of us will be under this earth we now walk on. The feeling of loss was so great upon me that I couldn’t help but cry out. I meant to cry deep within myself, but I could not control it. It just came out!”

This story reminds me of the last day of a festival in Jerusalem. People from all nations were about to leave Jerusalem without meeting God.



Christ, sensing a great loss, could not help but call out to them: “Whoever is thirsty should come to me and drink” (John 7:37).

Jesus’ invitation came from a desire to help. The need is great around us. People are dying without Christ. The loss is great. Unless we realize that, we will not do our utmost to pass on our experience. May this lesson open your eyes to the great need for personal evangelism—sharing the good news!

In this lesson you will study . . .

- Workers Are Needed
- Dedication Is Needed
- Humility Is Needed
- Know the Assignment
- Vision Is Needed
- Prayer Is Needed
- Understanding Is Needed
- Know the Bible

This lesson will help you . . .

- Explain what a worker needs in order to be effective in doing personal evangelism.
- Realize the urgency and importance of sharing the good news.

WORKERS ARE NEEDED

Objective 1. *Give reasons why each of us must be involved as a worker in personal evangelism.*

If we look around us, we will see millions of people without Christ. If we go to the hospitals, we will see that great numbers of people are dying without Christ. Everywhere you go, you will see many more who have never heard of Christ and His good news.

When Jesus spoke to His disciples about the greatness of the task, He compared it to a very large field ripe for harvest. But He added that the workers are few. (See Matthew 9:37.)

Many Christians are not aware of this great need. Some have even said that it is not their business to win souls. Some are stopped by fear, or because they do not know how to approach people. Yet more than at any other time in the church's history, the Lord of the harvest is short of workers. He is calling and pleading every day, "Who will go for me? Who will tell the unbelievers of my sacrifice for them? Who will be my feet to walk, and my mouth to speak?"

Angels would have been willing to do the job, but God has not chosen to use them. His will is to use men. If only every Christian would be involved in personal evangelism, many people would not die in their sin, and there would be many more Christians in the world.

The command of Jesus was not given to just one nation. It was given to the *whole* world. It was to *all* nations. It was to include the ends of the earth. The task Jesus gave us certainly is not small. It is greater than we can even imagine. There is a need for workers everywhere.

It is true that we hear of many people coming to Christ today. Millions are praising Him all over the world. We thank Him for this wonderful work. But the world's population is growing very fast. This means that the harvest field keeps on increasing. When we look at what remains to be done, we cannot help but cry out in sorrow, because many millions are still living in sin.



Our efforts at times seem unfruitful, but when each believer seeks to follow God's leading, God will give opportunities to speak for Him. Our sense of responsibility and obedience to His Spirit will bring results. When each one of us becomes a personal evangelist, fully aware of our God given burden for lost people around us, we will see a wonderful spiritual harvest.

Let us pray to the Owner of the harvest, that He will send out workers to gather in His harvest. And when you do pray, also be willing to answer, "Lord, here am I, send me." If you do this, you will know the joy of being a co-worker with Christ.

It is true that certain ministries are given to some in the church. (Read Ephesians 4:11.) But personal evangelism is for every Christian. As someone has said, "Personal evangelism is the

whole work of the whole church for the whole world.” We have been born again. We no longer belong to ourselves. Let us then wholly serve our new Lord and Master.



For You To Do

- 1 Who is the Owner of the harvest?
- 2 Who are the workers in the harvest?
.....
- 3 What is being harvested?
.....
- 4 Circle the letter in front of each TRUE reason why there is a shortage of workers in personal evangelism.
 - a Christians don't know what to do.
 - b There aren't enough Christians to do the work.
 - c Many Christians don't realize how many people are dying without Christ.
 - d Christians are sometimes afraid to witness.
 - e God has only chosen a few workers in each area.
- 5 What is God's answer to the need for workers in His harvest field?
 - a) He wants us to pray that workers will go.
 - b) He will send angels to do the work.
 - c) He wants the Holy Spirit to do the work.
- 6 List three reasons why each of us must be involved in personal evangelism.
 - a
 - b
 - c

VISION IS NEEDED

Objective 2. *Explain why vision is needed in personal evangelism.*

We are living in troublesome days with great needs worldwide. Regardless of the country or place, the needs are the same—economical, spiritual, or political. Some people are giving up their faith in God. Others are obeying deceiving spirits and following ungodly teaching. The whole world seems to be going from bad to worse. Moral values are changing. Social institutions are breaking down. The radio, television, and newspapers tell us about murders, wars, famines, and starving people. Everywhere, urgent cries of helpless souls can be heard.

But unless God gives us a vision (a specific burden and reality), we will not be able to see the need and hear the cries. As a personal witness, you and I need to have a clear vision or understanding of the condition of the unsaved. This vision will give us the strong desire to help these needy people.

When the apostle Paul saw the vision of the begging Macedonian man (Acts 16:9) he did not waste any time. He and his co-workers went over and, as a result, that part of Europe was turned upside down. Since then, many hundreds of thousands of people have been won to Christ.

It was when He saw the general condition of the people in Jerusalem that Jesus began to weep with compassion. He knew that if they had understood His love, they would have accepted Him, and He would have sheltered them even as a hen shelters her brood (Luke 13:34).

Vision will give us strength and courage in our daily battle against sin. Vision will help us keep our eyes on the nearby harvest and see people the way God sees them. Vision will help us rescue people from death.

Unless we have this powerful vision, the people around us will die in their sin. There is no time to lose. Let us ask the Lord of the harvest to give us this vision, so that we may do His will.



- 7 To have vision means to see
- a) all the things that are wrong with the world today.
 - b) lost and dying men and women as God sees them.
- 8 We need to have vision because
-
-

9 Check your vision. Be very honest with yourself as you put an X in the box that describes you.

MY VISION	Always	Most of the Time	Not Very Often
I feel the needs of others.			
I care what happens to people.			
I have courage to witness.			
I want to tell others about Jesus.			
I want to help others find Christ.			

DEDICATION IS NEEDED

Objective 3. *Explain what is the secret to true dedication.*

Personal evangelism is a form of evangelism that all Christians are commanded to do. But unless we are totally dedicated to that job, unless we realize that it is part of our life, we will not see good results. Jesus was so dedicated that He even said to His disciples: “My food is to obey the will of the one who sent me and to finish the work he gave me to do” (John 4:34). Jesus, the greatest personal evangelist who ever lived, went on eating this “food” until the day He cried, “It is finished!” He had completed the work for which He was sent.

The apostle Paul was dedicated to personal evangelism. His life and writings demonstrated this. The Holy Spirit revealed that he would go through many hardships in Jerusalem. His co-workers tried to keep him from going to Jerusalem, but Paul said,

What are you doing, crying like this and breaking my heart? I am ready not only to be tied up in Jerusalem, but even to die there for the sake of the Lord Jesus (Acts 21:13-14).

Paul saw the work as more important than even his own life. For him it did not make any difference whether he lived or died. He did what he was sent to do.



For You To Do

Choose the correct word in parentheses and write it in the blank space.

- 10** The apostle Paul saw his (work/food) as more important than his (health/life).
- 11** We can say, then, that the (work/worker) is more important than the (work/worker).
- 12** The secret to true dedication in doing God’s work is
a) that I put God’s will ahead of my own desires.
b) that I do what I think is best for me.

PRAYER IS NEEDED

Objective 4. *Describe what happens when Christians pray about the need for workers.*

When Jesus showed His disciples the great size of the harvest, what do you think He did next? We might think that He should send them immediately into the harvest field. But no, He did not do that. He said, “Pray to the owner of the harvest that he will send out workers to gather in his harvest” (Luke 10:2).

When we pray to the Owner of the harvest, we are showing our great concern. When we show concern, love, and compassion for the spiritually lost, this will lead us to pray and to share the message of Christ.

When Israel disobeyed and God was about to bring judgment upon the nation, Moses interceded in prayer and compassion. God heard his prayer, and the request was granted (Exodus 32:30-32).

God poured out His Spirit on 120 believers on the Day of Pentecost because Jesus had promised it. The result of that outpouring was great concern for the lost (Acts 2:1-4). The disciples had seen Jesus go up to His Father in Heaven. They all heard Him when He commanded them to wait in Jerusalem for the coming of the Spirit (Acts 1:1-5). Then, 120 of them gathered to wait in prayer to receive the promise. Those were the first ones whom the Lord sent out into His harvest.



For You To Do

- 13** Christians who are really concerned about lost souls will
- a) pray.
 - b) worry.
- 14** Those believers who prayed on the Day Pentecost were
- a) the ones God chose to send out into his harvest.
 - b) not really very dedicated to God's work.
- 15** When we pray that God will send out workers we must realize that
- a) He may not answer our prayer.
 - b) He may send us.

HUMILITY IS NEEDED

Objective 5. *Define humility and tell why a Christian worker needs it.*

One of the greatest dangers in personal evangelism is for the workers to look at their success as something they have done themselves. You and I have been sent by God. We are using our Lord's name in all our work of witnessing. If the Owner of the harvest blesses our work and causes it to produce results, we should be careful not to take pride in ourselves. Rather, we should rejoice in our Lord who was willing to humble himself and give all the glory to His Father.

David offered to fight Goliath (1 Samuel 17:34-37). What was his purpose? To glorify God! Listen to what he said to Goliath:

“You are coming against me with sword, spear, and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the Israelite armies.... This very day the Lord will put you in my power; I will defeat you ... Then the whole world will know that Israel has a God, and everyone here will see that the Lord does not need swords or spears to save his people” (1 Samuel 17:45-47).

David did not say that the whole world would know that he, David, was brave or courageous. His desire was that people would know that God was not limited—that He does save in all circumstances.

As workers in the harvest field, we must be humble. We must never take glory for what is done. We must give all the glory to the Owner of the harvest. We must be willing to let Him use us so that others will see His glory. This is the true spirit of the worker in personal evangelism.



For You To Do

- 16** The word humility means the opposite of the word
- a) unselfishness.
 - b) pride.
- 17** A Christian worker should be humble and give all the glory to God because
- a) without God the worker could do nothing.
 - b) the worker's part is greater than God's.

UNDERSTANDING IS NEEDED

Objective 6. Describe two things a worker in personal evangelism needs to know in order to be effective.

Know the Assignment

Trying to do a job that is not ours will lead to difficulties. We are workers together *with* God (1 Corinthians 3:9). We are not just working *for* God. In personal evangelism, just as in any other ministry in the church, we have a part to play, and so does God. Good results come when the two parts fall into their proper places.

We are sent to sow the seed, to plant, and even to water. This means that we share the good news of what Christ has done for us, and we take every opportunity that comes to us for sharing. The rest belongs to God, to His Son, and to the Holy Spirit.



It is good to see people saved. It is good to see them turning to God through our testimony. But remember that we cannot convict people of sin through our speaking. It is the Spirit of God that convicts them when we speak. We cannot save people from sin. But Christ can *through* us.

So, whether you see many results or not, remember that our job is to spread the good news and to warn people of the danger of dying without Christ. For He who sent us has told us that His Word will never fail to reach its goal (Isaiah 55:11). Let us not mix up or try to trade responsibilities with God.

Know the Bible

A worker in personal evangelism cannot expect to be effective without at least a general knowledge of the Bible, the Word of God. We should know its major and minor divisions. We should know where to find key verses that will help us in talking with people about Christ. We should be able to interpret and apply these verses. Every Christian soul winner should have a basic knowledge of the Bible for the sake of Christian growth and experience.

As personal evangelists, we should also keep in mind that it is the Word that gives faith. It is the Word that brings conviction. It changes lives. It teaches us about holiness. It keeps us from falling into sin. When we know the Word, it will help us to speak the right words at the right time.



For You To Do

18 Circle the letters in front of the TRUE statements.

- a** Our work for God is to convince people that they are sinners.
- b** As workers with God, we have our part, and He has His part.
- c** We need perfect understanding of the Bible in order to be personal evangelists.
- d** If we don't see results in our personal work, that means we aren't doing our part.
- e** The main work of the Christian is to spread the good news about Jesus Christ.
- f** We know that the Word of God will always reach its goal in bringing people to Christ.

19 In your own words write one sentence to explain what each of these statements mean.

a Know the assignment

.....
.....

b Know the Bible

.....
.....



Check Your Answers

- 1 God
- 2 Believers in Christ
- 3 The souls of men and women
- 4
 - a True
 - b False
 - c True
 - d True
 - e False
- 5 a) He wants us to pray that workers will go.
- 6 (In any order)
 - a People are dying without Christ.
 - b Population is increasing.
 - c God has chosen to use us as His workers.
- 7 b) lost and dying men and women as God sees them.
- 8 that is the only way we will see the great need of those who are without Christ.
- 9 Think about people you know who are lost and dying. Ask God now to give you more vision to go to them with the good news.
- 10 work, life.
- 11 work, worker.
- 12 a) that I put God's will ahead of my own desires.
- 13 a) pray.
- 14 a) the ones God chose to send out into His harvest.
- 15 b) He may send us.
- 16 b) pride.
- 17 a) without God the worker could do nothing.
- 18
 - a False
 - b True
 - c False
 - d False
 - e True
 - f True
- 19 Your answer. I would say something like:
 - a We are to share the good news about Jesus Christ and let God do the rest.
 - b We need a general understanding of the Bible and its key verses to be effective witnesses.

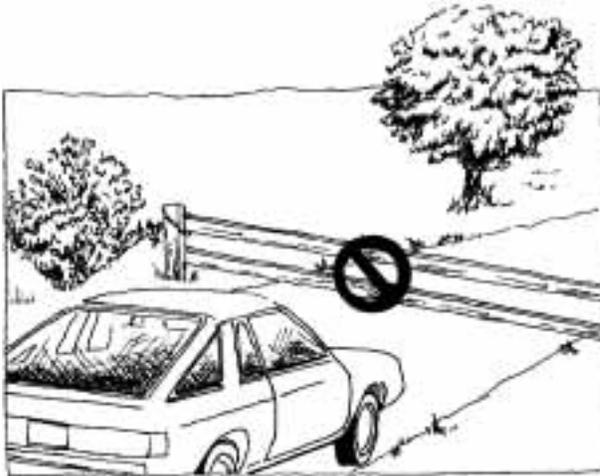
Lesson
6

Overcome the Barriers

The apostle Paul was in prison. He could no longer preach the good news of Christ. He was no longer free to minister to people's needs. He, whose desire was to speak about his Savior, was chained to a stock. Yet he was able to say, "But the word of God is not in chains" (2 Timothy 2: 9)!

There are many barriers or roadblocks that we may experience in trying to share the good news of Christ. These barriers will be different from one country to the next and from culture to culture. We cannot ignore these problems if we are to win men and women to Christ.

Since having witnessed Christ's wonderful power, I believe there is no barrier strong enough to prevent the spreading of the gospel. God's Word is to go to all people everywhere. Christ's good news knows neither border nor nationality.



One proverb says, "Prevention is better than cure." The more we know about the barriers, the better we will be able to overcome them. We saw in our last lesson some of the needs for sharing the good news. Now we will see how to overcome some of the barriers to sharing the gospel. Remember that with God the impossible becomes possible!

In this lesson you will study . . .

Identity Barriers
Religious Barriers
Language Barriers
Social Barriers

This lesson will help you . . .

- Identify barriers to personal evangelism and know how to overcome them.

IDENTITY BARRIERS

Objective 1. *Explain how God looks at man's identity.*

In many countries of the world today, there is a great desire in the hearts of men to find their true identity. Every person wants to be recognized by the country of his or her birth. Everywhere, people are proud of who they are. This is normal.

As Christian workers, we should look at people as God sees them. The love of God covers all. He has so *loved* the whole world! And this means *all* nations, *all* races, whatever the language or color might be. When the Holy Spirit came to give the disciples power to witness about Christ, people from all nations of the earth were present in Jerusalem. All of them heard the disciples glorifying God in their own language (Acts 2:1-12).

As a country, Israel has had a unique position in the world. In Bible times it was said to occupy the central part of the known world. It was a crossroads for communication. Ships from many nations traveled the seas around this small country. God surely had all nations in mind when He sent Jesus there. This put the gospel within reach of the entire earth.

In heaven there will be people from all nations, singing and praising God in every language. The apostle John saw a vision of it (Revelation 7:9).



The same Jesus who saved me is the One who saved you, no matter what nationality you are. We are different from one another. We eat different types of food. We talk differently. We are different in the way we dress. But Jesus makes us all as one. The Holy Spirit unites us.

In some countries it has been the practice for people to take a Christian name when they become Christians. But we must remember that taking a Christian name does not change a person's life. Christ has not sent you to change people's names or their way of doing things. He has sent you to share your Christian life and faith with them, so that their *lives* will be changed.

The same Spirit that led Philip to the African in the desert (Acts 8:26) also led Paul to Europe (Acts 16:6-9). The same Spirit that came upon the disciples on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:4) is the One that came down in Cornelius' house (Acts 10:45). If you and I are aware that God treats all men alike, we will be able to see all men as God sees them. We will be able to overcome barriers of race and color. Then God can use us not only in our own home and country, but also among other people who may be very different from us.



For You To Do

- 1 God wants to change our (identity/life).
- 2 In the eyes of God, all men are (alike/in classes).
- 3 When we talk about our *identity*, we mean (how we act/who we are).
- 4 As Christians, we need to get rid of (unity/barriers).

RELIGIOUS BARRIERS

Objective 2. *Tell how a Christian worker can best overcome a religious barrier.*

There are many religions in the world. In some of the developing countries, each tribe or area has its own or several religions. This is, of course, one of the greatest barriers we will meet in trying to win people to Christ.

Several times people have said to me, "I cannot leave my father's religion. I must be loyal to my father's traditions. Christianity is foreign to my ancestors, and it is a white man's religion. I cannot believe it." What can you do when you face a barrier like this?

First, let the people who say these things see the change in your life. Tell them that God loves them. Do not argue—you will not get anywhere! Remember what the apostle Paul said. He was also like these men. He had his father's religion. He was loyal and truly committed to all the traditions of his family. He had taken men, women, and children who were speaking about Jesus and put them in prison. For him Christianity was something new, totally against his culture and his father's religion. Saul had consented to the killing of some of these witnesses of the good news (Acts 8:1-3). Yet this same man met Christ and was ready to forget all that he had been taught before.



In Acts 8:9 we read about a man named Simon who surprised everyone by his powers of magic. I have also seen people like him who seemed to have great power in their religious practices. They were looked upon as great people. No celebration, no sowing of seed, no marriage or burial, could be done without their advice. Yet I have seen some of them accept Jesus as their Savior. Their lives were completely changed. They burned all their idols and quit practicing magic. No one forced them to do this. They did it because they had found Christ.

There is no barrier that the power of the good news cannot break. Do not be discouraged in your work of witnessing. Do not be afraid to share what Christ has done for you. Our Lord is forever the same. “Go,” He said, “for all power in heaven and on earth is given to me”(Matthew 28:18, paraphrased). And not even death or hell can stop the spreading of the good news. The Roman Empire tried but failed. There is no religious barrier that the power of the gospel cannot turn upside down! We cannot do it alone, but the Holy Spirit working in us will do it!



For You To Do

- 5 The best way to overcome a religious barrier when talking to people is to
 - a) try to convince them that their religion is wrong.
 - b) tell them you tried their religion and it didn't work for you.
 - c) show by your life that you have something better to offer.
- 6 We don't need to be afraid to share the good news with religious people because
 - a) the power of the gospel is greater than any other force.
 - b) they are basically good people.
- 7 Have you or someone you know come to Christ from another religion? If you answered *yes*, why did you decide to change?
.....
.....

LANGUAGE BARRIERS

Objective 3. Give two language barriers and ways to overcome them.

You know your own people better than anyone else. You know their language. That is why it is easy for you to follow Christ's pattern for personal evangelism by witnessing at home.

When Christ saves us and sends us out to be witnesses of His love, He can also help us to overcome language barriers. He can help us to learn other languages, to share with people of other cultures what Christ has done for us.

Many Christian workers in my country have been able to learn other languages in order to reach people of other tribes for Christ. If the Lord gives you an opportunity to study another language, do it. This will give you more opportunities to pass on the good news of Christ's saving power.

The apostle Paul did not need an interpreter, for he knew how to speak both Hebrew and Greek and perhaps other languages as well. If God leads you to share the good news with those who speak another language, you have no reason to let this barrier stop you.

There is another language barrier, which we face with two-thirds of the world's population. That is the problem of illiteracy—not being able to read or write one's own language.

The United Nations spends large amounts of money for educational programs and many countries have emphasized mass education as necessary to their economic growth. The Bible has been translated into well over 1000 languages. Yet, according to the UNESCO 2000 report, 20.3 % of the world's people (15 years old and over) are illiterate. Women make up 2/3 of the world's illiterate population. In my country, according to the same report, 66.1% of the men and 85.9 % of the women cannot read.

How can we overcome such a strong barrier? We cannot give the Bible or Christian literature to those who cannot read it. Will this stop us from trying to win them to Christ? Far from it!

Our Lord overcame this barrier. When speaking to the educated Pharisees, He referred to the written Word of God: "Have you not read . . .?" (Matthew 19:4). But when speaking to the common people, He spoke of things from their daily life. He did this to get them to understand the love of God. For example, Christ said that God cared for us so much that even the hairs on our head are numbered (Matthew 10:30). In describing the kingdom of God, He told them stories about a man sowing a seed, about a wedding feast, and about a lost coin. He was so practical that all the common people listened to Him gladly (Mark 12:37).

People who cannot read and write can be taught to memorize Scripture verses. When they have the Word in their hearts, it will keep them from sin (Psalm 119:11).



For You To Do

- 8 Two language barriers are
 - a
 - b
- 9 How did Jesus overcome the barrier of illiteracy?
 - a) He taught the people how to read the Scriptures.
 - b) He used stories from their own daily lives to teach them spiritual truths.
- 10 If God sends you to people whose language you do not know, what is the best thing to do?
 - a) Try to learn their language.
 - b) Find someone you can talk to who will pass your message on to the people.

SOCIAL BARRIERS

Objective 4. *Explain what a personal evangelist should do when faced with social opposition.*

The way certain groups are organized may be a barrier to personal evangelism. For instance, in most African countries, wisdom is associated with age. It is believed that the older you are, the wiser you get. So it is not considered proper for a younger person to speak on matters like faith to an older person. A young person needs boldness and courage to speak in this situation.

We are not alone in facing barriers like this. Even Jesus faced them. At the age of 12 he talked to the doctors of the law, and they were all amazed. For them, it was very unusual to see such wisdom in a young lad (Luke 2:47). Later in his ministry, those who were trying to stop him from spreading the good news of God talked about His humble social background. Even His friends were beginning to ask themselves whether He knew what He was doing (Mark 3:21).

When the blind man whom Jesus healed tried to tell the Jewish religious leaders that Jesus must have come from God, they would not accept this. They did not even think He was worthy to speak to them about God. They were the elders, and therefore wiser than He (John 9:28-29,34).

Timothy was the young pastor the apostle Paul put in charge of the church at Ephesus. He, too, faced this social barrier of youth. That is why Paul wrote to encourage him. Paul charged him before the Lord and His holy angels to accept his responsibility (1 Timothy 4:11-12).



You may also face social opposition. You may be led to witness to men of a higher position in the world, to people with more education, or to those with great riches. They may look at you as being unworthy to tell them about God's love. But do not ever stop sharing the good news. Just remember that He who has sent you is always with you. He will give you wisdom. Christ overcame. Timothy overcame. You will overcome too!



For You To Do

- 11** Circle the letter in front of the TRUE statements.
- a** If I follow Jesus' example, I will not be afraid to witness to people of a higher position in life.
 - b** I must speak about Christ only to those younger than myself.
 - c** Wisdom and boldness are needed in sharing the good news with people who are different from us.
 - d** I should be ready at all times to speak to anyone about Christ.
 - e** If we feel unworthy to talk to someone about Christ, we should keep silent.

12 What is the most important truth you have learned in this lesson?
.....
.....



Check Your Answers

- 1 life.
- 2 alike.
- 3 who we are.
- 4 barriers.
- 5 c) show by your life that you have something better to offer.
- 6 a) the power of the gospel is greater than any other force.
- 7 Your answer. I'm so glad that Jesus Christ has given my life new meaning!
- 8 a) wanting to share the good news with someone, but not knowing their language.
b) trying to witness to someone who cannot read the Bible (illiteracy).
- 9 b) He used stories from their own daily lives to teach them spiritual truths.
- 10 a) Try to learn their language.
- 11 a) True
b) False
c) True
d) True
e) False
- 12 Your answer. I would say I have learned that God's Word cannot be chained, and there is no power that will keep the good news from spreading to all people everywhere!

Lesson
7

Consider Your Approach

My people have a proverb that says: “With one rod you can look after 100 sheep; but with 100 people, you need 100 rods.”

People are all different. Even within one nation, one tribe, or one family, you cannot treat everyone alike. What is effective in one country may not work in another. Very often we must use several different approaches with one person. When we speak of *approaches* in personal evangelism, we mean the steps we take to reach a person for Christ.

You may ask what specific method can be used for a certain person. There is no single method that always works. You must keep trying until you find the right approach. Be willing to change your method when necessary, and let the Holy Spirit lead you.



We have just studied how we can overcome some important cultural barriers. Do keep that in mind as you study how to approach people.

In this lesson you will study . . .

Be Natural
Do Not Condemn
Show Respect
Have Concern

This lesson will help you . . .

- Understand how the right approach will help you to win people to Christ.
- Practice using positive approaches in sharing the good news with others.

BE NATURAL

Objective 1. Give an example of a positive natural approach in sharing the good news.

If we are to win souls, we need to understand what approaches will help us to share the good news. First, we must let our words and actions be living examples. Then we must be natural, and look for ways to share with people from a point of view they will understand.

Jesus approached the Samaritan woman as a traveler in need of help. Even this sinful woman could be of help to Jesus. He did not think of Himself as too holy to be helped by her. On the contrary, He said, "Give me a drink of water" (John 4:7). In my country this kind of approach is called the *stranger* or *traveler* approach.



By using such a natural approach, Jesus was able to meet the innermost need of this woman. He was able to give her *living* water. We read in the Old Testament that Abraham's servant used this same approach at the well when he asked Rebecca, "Please give me a drink of water from your jar" (Genesis 24:17).

Wherever I have gone, I have noticed that people like to help others who have needs. If you give them the opportunity to do just a little service for you, they are likely to listen to you as you share the good news.

The apostle Paul used the natural approach. When he went to Athens, he was very sad when he saw that the entire city was full of idols. Yet when he spoke to the people, he used wisdom. He was able to speak to them from their point of view. He said:

I see that in every way you Athenians are very religious. For as I walked through your city and looked at the places where you worship, I found an altar on which is written, "To an Unknown God." That which you worship, then, even though you do not know it, is what I now proclaim to you (Acts 17:22-23).

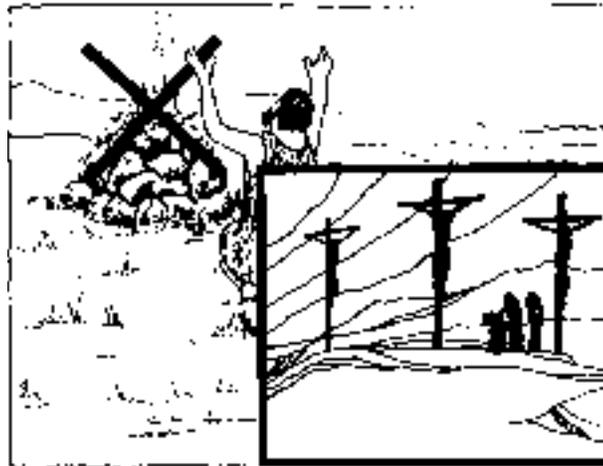
By this simple method of talking about something in their lives, Paul was able to get their attention. Even though they were idol worshippers, he was able to pass on the good news by making use of their worship of idols. As a result, some of them joined him and believed (Acts 17:34).

Suppose the apostle Paul had said, "You are sinners. You will go to hell. An idol worshipper will never see God." If he had done this, I believe the response would have been much different. Probably no one would have believed him that day.

Remember how someone told you about Jesus. Did they use a natural approach? We cannot win people with a negative approach. We must identify with them by being natural and positive.

One day several years ago I led my blind uncle, a pastor, to a village. I can still remember the way he approached the people. The people in this village made animal sacrifices in hopes that their gods would be pleased with them. My uncle told them that animal sacrifice was not a new thing. He told them that God was pleased with sacrifice, and that at one time He told His people to do this regularly.

Up to this point, the whole village just stood there listening. They had never heard such a thing before. They were used to negative approaches. Then my uncle went on to explain that when the time came, God sent His Son Jesus as a sacrifice. He told them that Jesus died on the cross to save all mankind. And from that time until now, God no longer wants animal sacrifices. Jesus has taken care of it all. We can come to Him, speak to Him, and He will hear us.



My blind uncle used a positive approach to a subject of interest to all the people and was able to draw many of them to Christ. Some of these people are now in their turn spreading the good news about Christ.



For You To Do

- 1 How can we best help those who are living a sinful life?
 - a) Tell them they will go to hell if they don't change.
 - b) Join them in what they are doing so we can help them more.
 - c) Show how our sinful life has been changed by Christ's love.
- 2 Write **1** in the blank space in front of each approach that is *positive*. Write **2** in the space if the approach is *negative*.
 - **a** Being critical
 - **b** Being natural
 - **c** Being helpful
 - **d** Receiving help
 - **e** Judging
 - **f** Showing love

DO NOT CONDEMN

Objective 2. Give two examples from the Bible of God's attitude towards sinful men.

God has not condemned us. When Adam and Eve fell into sin, God could have destroyed them at once. But He did not do this. He came to them with a pleading voice, calling, "Adam, where are you?" (Genesis 3:9).

During the time of King David, the whole world was filled with sin. People of all nations were worshipping idols. Some were sacrificing their children to their gods by putting them into fire (Leviticus 18:21). Even the people of Israel had abandoned their God. They were like other nations. As a matter of fact, King David wrote this:

They are all corrupt, and they have done terrible things; there is no one who does what is right....But they have all gone wrong; they are all equally bad. Not one of them does what is right, not a single one (Psalm 14:1,3).

You would think that when God looked upon the world and saw its sin, He would have condemned us and caused His anger to fall upon us. But no, listen to what He says:

The Lord says, "Now, let's settle the matter. You are stained red with sin, but I will wash you as clean as snow. Although your stains are deep red, you will be as white as wool" (Isaiah 1:18).

God is pleading with men. He does hate sin, but He loves the sinner. When He looks down from heaven, He does not just see sinful people. He sees people sitting in darkness, not knowing where to go and what to do. He sees them damaged by sin. He can no longer say that all is good. In spite of all this, we read that He loved the world so much that He gave us His only Son. He did not want to condemn the world, but He wanted to save it (John 3:16-17).

Jesus did not condemn us. It was not part of His mission. When He talked to the Samaritan woman, He knew she was living in sin. He knew that according to the law she should have been stoned to death. But He had compassion, and He offered her eternal, living water. He knew that this living water would draw her to God and away from sin (John 4:10).

We read in the Bible about another woman charged with adultery. There were more than two witnesses against her. No one, not even her husband or the cry of her children, could have saved her from being stoned to death. But Jesus was there. He said, "Whichever one of you has committed no sin may throw the first stone at her" (John 8:7). No one was found without sin to cast the first stone. Jesus alone would have been the one to do it. But He said:

"Is there no one left to condemn you?"

"No one, sir," she answered.

"Well, then," Jesus said, "I do not condemn you either. Go, but do not sin again" (John 8:10-11).



Just try to imagine this woman going back to her home, rejoicing because she had been set free! Jesus was not sent to condemn but to give life to all those who will believe on Him.

Let us follow our Lord's example. Our work is to give the message of hope to those whose sins have already condemned them. We must approach them with His love, seeing them through His eyes.



For You To Do

- 3 What was Jesus' attitude to the two sinful women?
 - a) He punished them.
 - b) He forgave them.
- 4 What was God's attitude toward the Israelites when they sinned?
 - a) He wanted to punish them
 - b) He wanted to wash them white as wool.
- 5 What was God's answer to man's sinful condition?

.....
.....

- 6 Why did God send Jesus to die for our sins?
 - a) Because He hated sinners so much
 - b) Because He loved us so much
- 7 What should be our attitude toward sinful men?

.....

SHOW RESPECT

Objective 3. *Give an example of how a respectful attitude can bring results in personal evangelism.*

We have already talked about the importance of knowing how to approach those whose age or position are different from yours. We see many examples of this in the Bible.

Look at the way a little Israelite girl approached her mistress. She said, "I wish that my master could go to the prophet who lives in Samaria! He would cure him of his disease" (2 Kings 5:3) There is great wisdom in such an approach. Being young, being a servant, and living in a foreign land, the young girl could only suggest to them what she felt would help. When she did so, the result was positive, and her master, Naaman, went to the prophet.

Again, when the prophet told Naaman to go and wash himself in the River Jordan, he could have made the wrong decision. Because of his position, he did not want to wash himself in the dirty water. He was going to go back home without doing as the prophet said. But his servants approached him and said, "Sir, if the prophet had told you to do something difficult, you would have done it. Now why can't you just wash yourself, as he said, and be cured?" (2 Kings 5:13).



This careful, positive approach to their master made him willing to humble himself and go down into the muddy waters of the Jordan River. As a result, he was healed completely!

In my country, many villages have been opened to the gospel because the approach was positive. Some are still closed because of a wrong approach, even though the Christian workers had the right intentions.

One day, someone went to King David, sitting on his throne, and said, “Let us go to the Lord’s house.” And King David replied with joy, “I was glad when they said to me, ‘Let us go to the Lord’s house’” (Psalm 122:1). This, too, was a positive approach of a simple, ordinary person to the King of Israel.

There may be times when the right approach is straight and hard. But we must be certain that we are led by the Holy Spirit at all times.



For You To Do

8 Can you give an example of how your respectful attitude helped you witness to someone?

.....

.....

9 The story of the little Israelite girl teaches us that we can show respect by

- a) showing concern.
- b) not saying what we think.

10 What do you think would have happened to Naaman if his servants had been afraid to speak the truth to him?

.....

HAVE CONCERN

Objective 4. *Explain why we need to show concern for people.*

In personal evangelism, more than anywhere else, we should have concern for other people’s needs. As those sent by Christ, we should learn to walk where He walked, and to let our hearts be touched with the needs around us.

Human needs may vary from place to place, but they are basically the same. Jesus was invited to a wedding ceremony. He went, and because He was there, He was able to meet a need. Suppose He

had refused the invitation. What would have happened? The joy of the wedding might have turned to sorrow. His disciples might not have believed in Him so soon. We would not have known of his loving care and concern in this situation (John 2:11).

When a woman from Sidon cried out to Jesus on behalf of her daughter who was possessed by devils, He met her need. Though His earthly ministry was limited within the borders of Israel, He did not remain indifferent to her cry. Truly Jesus wept with those who wept, and He rejoiced with those who were happy. You and I have been given the same mission.

During an evangelistic campaign, a deacon and I were going from compound to compound. We were inviting people to our evening service and sharing with them Christ's good news.

In one compound, we found a woman whose child had just died. Many people were there to comfort her. We talked to the woman and her husband. We shared with them the experience that Eve had when she lost her son, and how God had comforted her by giving her another son (Genesis 4:25). We talked about King David who knew sorrow too, and how God had comforted him.



The hearts of these parents were opened. We could see it. They both asked for our prayers. We asked God to comfort them even as He had done for Eve and others.

One year later, this same woman gave birth to a lovely daughter. She had experienced God's comfort in a personal way. The only thing these parents regretted was not having met Christ before.

Because we were concerned with their need, God was able to do wonderful things in their lives. Through their testimony, other people in the village have accepted Christ.



For You To Do

- 11 Another word for *concern* is (care/belief).
- 12 When we show concern for someone, they know that we (need/love) them.
- 13 Earlier in this study guide, we saw a Scripture verse that told us how much God loves us. Can you remember what it was? Write it down and memorize it.
- 14 Now it is time to start practicing what you are learning. In an earlier lesson you wrote the name of someone with whom you would like to share the good news. You have been praying for that person.

Now begin to share your Christian experience with this person. Write his or her name here, and the date you first shared. Then add other names and dates as you share with people.

.....

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Check Your Answers

- 1 c) Show how our sinful life has been changed by Christ's love.
- 2 a) 2) Negative
b) 1) Positive
c) 1) Positive
d) 1) Positive
e) 2) Negative
f) 1) Positive
- 3 b) He forgave them.
- 4 b) He wanted to wash them white as wool.
- 5 He gave His Son, Jesus, as a sacrifice for our sin.
- 6 b) Because He loved us so much
- 7 We should follow Jesus' example and love them, not condemn them.
- 8 Your answer. I hope you are always respectful. Remember that you can be very truthful with people about their spiritual needs if you speak in love.
- 9 a) showing concern.
- 10 Probably he would not have been healed.
- 11 care
- 12 love
- 13 The verse is John 3:16. Look it up in your Bible and memorize it.
- 14 Remember that you are to plant the seed and water it. God will do the rest!

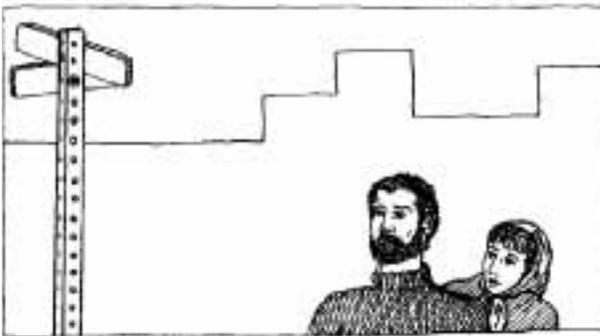
Lesson
8

Expect Rewards

Do you know of a street or building that has been named to honor a person? Look around you and see that streets, buildings, planes, airports, boats, towns, villages, rivers, and other things have been given the names of people. This is done to reward and pay tribute to them. They have been rewarded because they have done something to help their people or their community.

The Nobel prizes are awarded each year to those whose work has helped all humankind. An ambassador from another country was highly honored by being given the golden key of our capital city. All of these are great and priceless rewards. No salary can be compared to such honors. And yet all these rewards will one day pass away.

But what about rewards that come from God? If we know how to pay tribute to each other, will not God do much more for all those who love Him? Of course He will! Just the thought that Christ will honor us before His Father should keep us faithful to the end. “So then, let us rid ourselves of everything that gets in the way, and of the sin which holds on to us so tightly, and let us run with determination the race that lies before us” (Hebrews 12:1). We can expect rewards!



In this lesson you will study . . .

Present Rewards
The Lord's Presence
Satisfaction
Future Rewards
Known Rewards
Unknown Rewards

This lesson will help you . . .

- Realize that God has prepared wonderful rewards for those who will share the good news about Jesus.

PRESENT REWARDS

Objective 1. *Give examples of rewards we can expect as we do personal evangelism.*

Personal evangelists do not work for reward. Reward is not the goal. They work because God has loved them and Christ has saved them. They reach people in obedience to Christ's command. The work because sharing the good news becomes part of their new nature in Christ. They work because they love other people and want them to have the same hope and the same meaning in life that they have found in Christ Jesus.

Yet, even though rewards are not the goal of the Christian worker, it has pleased God to give many rewards. In my opinion, there is no other work in the world more rewarding than personal evangelism. The rewards are present and future, temporal and eternal, material and spiritual.

The Lord's Presence

One of the greatest present rewards in personal evangelism is our assurance of the continual presence of the Lord. After His death and resurrection, Jesus sent His disciples throughout the whole world to share His good news with all people. The task was indeed great. There were many difficulties. The disciples probably wondered how they, just ordinary men filled with fear, could ever cover the world with Christ's good news.

But even before they could express their fear, Christ went on to assure them of His continuous presence. "Go, then ... And I will be with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20).

Jesus has all power in heaven and on earth. His power knows no limit, no barrier. Death and the grave were not able to keep Him. He does not need any passport, for there is no country where He cannot go. To have such a Person always in our daily life and service is surely the greatest reward that we can ever have. This reward helps us have confidence in our Lord and Savior.

God always makes it possible for faithful workers to do His will. He sent Moses to deliver the people of Israel from slavery in Egypt. All the people were in the great desert. Moses knew the work was too heavy for him. He began to have doubts and questions. How could he possibly carry this nation all by himself? It was impossible. Moses, after realizing his weakness, went to God. God promised that His continuous presence would be with them all the way through that great desert until they reached the Promised Land. In reply to God, Moses said, "If you do not go with us, don't make us leave this place" (Exodus 33:15).

For Moses, the only way he could do his work was to be assured of the continual presence of God. The only way for us to be able to share our Christian life and experience with success and courage is to have the constant presence of the Owner of the harvest with us day and night.

The apostle Paul was put in prison. He knew many hardships because he proclaimed the good news of Christ. When he appeared before the judge to present his case, no one stood with him. And yet, writing to Timothy he could still say, "But the Lord stayed with me and gave me strength. So that I was able to proclaim the full message for all the Gentiles to hear" (2 Timothy 4:17).

Do you want to have this full confidence in your daily life and service for Christ, even in times of loneliness and hardship? The reward is truly great, but there is one condition. You must go first. For the promise is: "Go . . . And I will be with you always" (Matthew 28:20).



For You To Do

- 1 What wonderful promise did Jesus give His disciples when He sent them out to share the good news?
.....
- 2 How can we receive the same promise?
.....
- 3 Who stayed with the apostle Paul when he was put in prison?
.....
- 4 How was Moses able to lead the Israelites through the desert to the Promised Land?
.....
- 5 What should be our goal in sharing the news about Christ?
 - a) Rewards
 - b) Bringing people to Christ

Satisfaction

If there is any reward that a worker likes to have, it is certainly the joy of a job done well. It is better than a high salary. Jesus gave us a good example of this in the story of the three servants (Matthew 25:14-30). All three were given some work to do, each one according to his ability. But only two of them had the great joy of hearing “Well done, you good and faithful servant.” The third one came with fear and trembling, because he had not done what was expected of him. He received no reward.

For four years, I served as a schoolteacher in my country. One year, I was given a class of beginners. There were about 70 children in the class. All came from the villages, and not one of them could speak a word of the French language. I had to start from nothing!

At the end of the school year, they could understand French and talk to each other in the French language. They could even read and write French. It was amazing! For me, there was no greater reward than to feel the joy of a job well done.

This is also true in personal evangelism. When we see a new convert living a Christian life, singing hymns, speaking to a group of young people, or doing personal work of sharing Christian experiences with someone else, this is indeed a reward that cannot be measured in terms of earthly riches. It is rewarding to know that we have been used to rescue a soul from eternal loss, and that the angels in heaven are rejoicing. Jesus told Peter,

And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times more and will be given eternal life (Matthew 19:29).

Many early African Christians in my country went through hardships. Some of them were cut off from their families and friends. They suffered a great deal. But the Lord was faithful. They were brought into a new family, the family of God. They have been blessed with all sorts of good blessings. Everywhere you go in this world, as a Christian, you will find brothers and sisters in Christ. You may not speak their language. The color of your skin may be different. But you will know and feel love uniting you all. If you lose one friend in this world for accepting Christ or

for sharing your personal Christian experience, you will be rewarded with many friends in God's big family.

Abraham left his home, his friends, his family, and his fields to obey God. As a reward, he was given a beautiful land. He was made a father of many nations. Indeed, he was blessed with all kinds of earthly and heavenly riches. One of his servants spoke to Laban,

The Lord has greatly blessed my master and made him a rich man. He has given him flocks of sheep and goats, cattle, silver, gold. . . camels, and donkeys. Sarah, my master's wife, bore him a son when she was old. (Genesis 24:35-36).

If we obey Christ's command to go everywhere proclaiming the good news, if we let Him use us, we will be like those who wept as they went out carrying the seed. We will come back singing for joy as we bring in the harvest (Psalm 126:6).

The 70 disciples Jesus sent out came back rejoicing at what they were able to do in the Lord's name. Indeed, there is no greater satisfaction than to be used of God in bringing other people to Him.



For You To Do

6 What happened to Abraham when he left his home to follow God?

.....

7 What reward can personal evangelists expect when they go out carrying the seed?

.....

8 Put an **X** by the rewards you have received since you have accepted Christ as your Savior.

- a New brothers and sisters in Christ
- b The joy of seeing someone come to Christ through my testimony
- c Satisfaction in serving Jesus
- d Many new friends who love Christ
- e God's presence with me always

FUTURE REWARDS

Known Rewards

Objective 2. Explain the kinds of rewards we can expect in the future if we share our Christian experience.

Besides our present rewards that we can enjoy right now, many future eternal rewards are also promised to those who follow Christ's command to share the good news.

The first of the two kinds of future rewards are those that are clearly revealed to us in the Word of God. These are the *known* rewards. We will consider some of them.

1. "Those who have taught many people to do what is right will shine like the stars for ever" (Daniel 12:3). Scientists tell us that stars are very far from the earth, and that it would take months for spacecraft traveling at the speed of light to reach the nearest ones. And yet from here on earth, we can see them shining! Isn't it wonderful to know that one day you and I will shine like stars forever in God's kingdom if we have led many people to Christ.

2. We will reign with Christ! Christ has saved us so that we can have eternal life. This in itself should make us leap for joy. There is no greater gift or reward than that. But He has also promised us His throne. Yes, we will reign with Christ. We will be like Christ. We will live with Him forever. He made this clear before leaving His disciples to go back to His Father.



3. The Lord has also promised many crowns to all those who love Him. Let us list them:
- a. A crown of righteousness (2 Timothy 4:8)
 - b. A crown that will last forever (1 Corinthians 9:25)
 - c. A crown of life (James 1:12)
 - d. A crown of glory (1 Peter 5:4)

All of these rewards will be ours if we do the work the Lord has given us to do. We must do it with zeal and faithfulness until the end. Remember that you are not wasting your time as some people may say to you. You are not running after the wind. You have fixed your eyes on heavenly things. For this world and all its riches will disappear. But our work for the Lord will stand forever.



For You To Do

9 What must we do if we want to shine like stars?

.....

10 What does it mean to say that we will reign with Christ?

- a) We will share in His heavenly kingdom.
- b) Many people will bow down and worship us.

11 The most important work we can do is what we do for the Lord, because that work

- a) will soon be over.
- b) will stand forever.

12 Read 2 Timothy 4:8; 1 Corinthians 9:25; James 1:12; and 1 Peter 5:4. What is the subject of all of these verses?

.....

Unknown Rewards

In His revelation to John, Jesus said, “I am coming soon! I will bring my rewards with me, to give to each one according to what he has done” (Revelation 22:12).

Speaking to His disciples, He said this:

Happy are you when people hate you, reject you, insult you, and say that you are evil, all because of the Son of Man! Be glad when that happens and dance for joy, because a great reward is kept for you in heaven (Luke 6:22-23).

The apostle Paul reminded the Corinthians of the great promises of God:

What no one ever saw or heard, what no one ever thought could happen, is the very thing God prepared for those who love him (1 Corinthians 2:9).

We do not know all the rewards God has planned for us. One of the joys of heaven will be to see what He has prepared for us. A greater joy will be to see in heaven men and women, boys and girls with whom we have shared the good news of Jesus Christ! What a day that will be!



For You To Do

13 We know it is worthwhile to serve Jesus even when it causes us hardships because

- a) God will punish those who persecute us.
- b) we will be rewarded if we suffer for His sake.

14 What is the most wonderful reward we will receive when we get to Heaven?

.....

.....

.....

.....

Congratulations! You have now finished the course. May the Lord bless you as you seek to share His good news with all those to whom He sends you. And as you share, you may want to reread some lessons to remind yourself of the steps involved in personal evangelism. When you are discouraged, read this final lesson again. And never forget that Jesus Christ is with you at all times! He will help you.





- 1 He promised always to be with them.
- 2 By being faithful in sharing with others what Christ has done for us.
- 3 The Lord.
- 4 God was with them.
- 5 b) Bringing people to Christ
- 6 He received more than he ever had before.
- 7 They can expect to come back rejoicing.
- 8 I have put an **X** by each of these rewards. I expect you have, too.
- 9 We must teach many people to do what is right.
- 10 a) We will share in His heavenly kingdom. (We will all worship and glorify Him forever!)
- 11 b) will stand forever.
- 12 The crowns we will receive because we love and serve Jesus.
- 13 b) we will be rewarded if we suffer for His sake.
- 14 The joy of seeing there those people who accepted Jesus because we shared His good news with them.

Now you are ready to fill out the last half of your student report for Lessons 5–8. Review these lessons, then follow the instructions in your student report. When you send your answer sheets to your instructor, ask about another course of study.

One Final Word

This is a special kind of book because it was written by people who care about you. These are people who have found good answers to many of the questions and problems that trouble almost everyone in the world. These people believe that God wants them to share with others the answers they have found. They believe that you need some important information in order to answer your own questions and problems and find the way of life that is best for you.

They have prepared this book in order to give you this information. You will find this book based on these fundamental truths:

1. You need a Savior. Read Romans 3:23, Ezekiel 18:20.
2. You cannot save yourself. Read 1 Timothy 2:5, John 14:6.
3. God desires that the world should be saved. Read John 3:16-17.
4. God sent Jesus who gave His life to save all those who believe in Him. Read Galatians 4:4-5; 1 Peter 3:18.
5. The Bible shows us the way of salvation and teaches how to grow in the Christian life. Read John 15:5; John 10:10; 2 Peter 3:18.
6. You decide your eternal destiny. Read Luke 13:1-5; Matthew 10:32-33; John 3:35-36.

This book tells you how to decide your destiny, and it gives you opportunities to express your decision. Also, the book is different from others because it gives you a chance to contact people who prepared it. If you want to ask questions, or explain your needs and feelings, you may write to them.

In the back of the book you should find a card called *Decision Report and Request Card*. When you have made a decision, fill out the card and mail it as indicated. Then you will receive more help. You may use the card to ask questions, or make requests for prayer or information.

If there is no card in this copy of the book, write to your ICI instructor and you will receive a personal answer.

Personal Evangelism

UNIT STUDENT REPORTS AND ANSWER SHEETS

STUDENT REPORT DIRECTIONS

When you have completed your study of each unit, fill out the answer sheet for that unit. Do only one unit at a time. Return each answer sheet to your ICI instructor or office in your area as soon as you have completed it.

The following are directions on how to indicate your answer to each question.

EXAMPLE

There is one best answer. Blacken the space for the answer you have chosen.

- 1** To be born again means to
- a) be young in age.
 - b) accept Jesus as Savior.
 - c) start a new year.

The correct answer is b) *accept Jesus as Savior*, so you would blacken space **b** like this:

1	A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C
---	---	-------------------------------------	---

Now read the questions in your Student Report and mark your answers in the answer section as we have shown in our example. Choose your answer and blacken the space **a**, **b**, or **c** according to your choice.

STUDENT REPORT FOR UNIT ONE

For all questions, be sure the number beside the spaces on the answer sheet is the same as the number of the question.

- 1** God revealed how He felt about people by
 - a) making provision for them to be saved.
 - b) condemning them for their sin and disobedience.
 - c) providing many ways to find forgiveness for their sins.
- 2** The one purpose of Jesus in His ministry was to
 - a) help people who needed Him most.
 - b) do the work and will of God the Father.
 - c) visit Samaria.
- 3** Jesus' command to go to all people everywhere with the good news of the gospel was for
 - a) His disciples only.
 - b) preachers and missionaries.
 - c) all believers who loved Him.
- 4** What did Jesus mean when He said, "I sent them into the world, just as you sent me into the world?"
 - a) He sends us into the world with His mission— to set people free.
 - b) He sends us into the world to rule and to judge those who are wicked.
 - c) He sends us into the world to live our normal lives.
- 5** Jesus told us to witness
 - a) only in our own country.
 - b) to people we like.
 - c) in all of the world
- 6** To know Christ personally, you must
 - a) spend time with Him.
 - b) memorize scripture verses that talk about Him.
 - c) learn effective ways to bring others to Him.
- 7** Jesus told His disciples to wait until they were prepared to witness for Him because they needed to
 - a) memorize Scripture.
 - b) know Him better.
 - c) watch other workers.
- 8** When Christians share the gospel, they can be sure
 - a) everyone will believe it.
 - b) the Lord's presence will be with them.
 - c) they will never have hardships.
- 9** In order for us to fight the devil and share the good news, we must confide in
 - a) our strength and power.
 - b) Jesus' name and the Word of God.
 - c) our ability to sing praises to God.
- 10** What is our most important tool in personal evangelism?
 - a) Training
 - b) The church
 - c) The Bible

- 11** What is perhaps the most important requirement for personal witnessing?
- a) Obedience
 - b) Knowledge of Scripture
 - c) Being willing to endure suffering
- 12** In what way is salt like the nature of a Christian?
- a) Salt is a beautifully formed, white, crystal substance.
 - b) Salt is best in small quantities and absolutely necessary for life.
 - c) Salt in its purified form reminds us of holiness.
- 13** Our involvement in personal evangelism means that we are each responsible to
- a) tell our own people about Christ, and let others do the same.
 - b) hope that somehow others will learn about Christ.
 - c) first tell our own people, and then share the good news with other people.
- 14** To be committed means to
- a) give yourself completely to something.
 - b) make a promise and you will try to do something.
 - c) be admitted into a hospital.
- 15** Whom has God chosen to tell the world about Jesus?
- a) Preachers
 - b) Angelic beings
 - c) All of us who love Him
- 16** Which sentence describes Jesus' method in sharing with others?
- a) He went everywhere sharing with those who needed Him.
 - b) He waited for the people to come to Him.
 - c) He wrote all His thoughts in a book.
- 17** People will be more likely to listen to you when you share Christ, if you
- a) give new ideas about religion.
 - b) tell them their beliefs are wrong.
 - c) show that Christ is the better way.
- 18** Why should we NOT be ashamed to share our testimony of Jesus?
- a) Our testimony will be received if we are well prepared.
 - b) Personal sharing is God's way of drawing people to Himself.
 - c) We cannot all be great preachers or evangelists.
- 19** When Paul was in prison, he
- a) shared the good news with everyone.
 - b) only wrote books.
 - c) made plans about what he would do when he was released.
- 20** What is our main reason for sharing Christ with those who do not know Him?
- a) So God will be pleased with us.
 - b) So their lives will be changed.
 - c) So we can be highly rewarded.

End of requirements for Unit One. Please stop here and return your student report Answer Sheet for Unit One to your instructor. Continue your study in Unit Two.

STUDENT REPORT FOR UNIT TWO

For all questions, be sure the number beside the spaces on the answer sheet is the same as the number of the question.

- 1** What is God's answer to the need for workers in His harvest field?
 - a) He wants us to pray that workers will go.
 - b) He will send angels to do the work.
 - c) He wants the Holy Spirit to do the work.
- 2** Why is a vision necessary in personal evangelism?
 - a) Moral values and social institutions will change and break down.
 - b) People will give up their faith in God.
 - c) We will not be able to see the need, and people will die.
- 3** What is the secret to true dedication?
 - a) obedience
 - b) fasting
 - c) prayer
- 4** What should we do to obtain workers for God's harvest?
 - a) Make every effort to recruit workers.
 - b) Cease our present occupations and become missionaries.
 - c) Pray that God will send out workers He has chosen.
- 5** What should be our response to success as a Christian worker?
 - a) Be careful not to take pride in ourselves.
 - b) Review our techniques so that we can instruct others.
 - c) Double our efforts to do more.
- 6** If we are to witness effectively for Christ, people must
 - a) like what we say.
 - b) be able to see that our lives have been changed.
 - c) know that we have a good knowledge of the Bible.
- 7** God wants to change people's
 - a) customs.
 - b) hearts.
 - c) personalities.
- 8** The best way to overcome religious barriers to accepting Christ is to
 - a) understand the teachings of the other religions.
 - b) let people see the changes in your life.
 - c) be ready to debate the superiority of Christianity.
- 9** A good way to overcome language barriers is to
 - a) ask God's help in learning the other person's language.
 - b) study the Bible in its original Greek and Hebrew.
 - c) Confine your ministry to countries that speak your language.
- 10** We can communicate the Gospel to those who cannot read or write by
 - a) joining the United Nations in their literacy program.
 - b) speaking of things in daily life that they are familiar with.
 - c) avoiding references to Paul's epistles and the book of Revelation.

- 11** How might we respond when we encounter *social* opposition to our witness?
- Pray for wisdom. God the Holy Spirit is always with you.
 - Attempt to get someone else who would be socially acceptable.
 - We should concentrate on our own social circle when witnessing.
- 12** By *approach* in personal evangelism we mean the
- methods we use to win people to Christ.
 - times of fellowship we have with other Christians.
 - type of personality we have.
- 13** Which is the best approach to people when we share the good news?
- Be thoroughly aware of their language and thought patterns.
 - Be a learner yourself; ask questions in a natural and positive way.
 - Let people know that you have become righteous and they can, too.
- 14** What is God's attitude toward sinful people?
- He forgives those who really try to improve.
 - He blesses righteous men that condemn sinful people.
 - He loves the sinner and wants to save him from death.
- 15** Naaman's servants told him to obey the prophet because they were
- afraid of the prophet.
 - concerned about their master.
 - passing by the Jordan River on their way home.
- 16** Why is it necessary that we show personal concern for those to whom we preach?
- So they will understand that God loves them.
 - So they will have a good example of how a Christian should act.
 - To insure that God will honor our prayers for the salvation of the lost.
- 17** Present rewards for the Christian include
- a crown of glory.
 - reigning with Christ.
 - great joy because a soul has come to Christ
- 18** A sure reward for personal evangelism is
- going to heaven when the church is raptured.
 - the assurance of the continuing presence of the Lord.
 - being given the skills necessary to preach and teach
- 19** Future eternal rewards for the Christian worker include
- earthly fame and power.
 - earthly riches.
 - reigning with Christ.
- 20** Which of the following is specifically identified as a future or heavenly reward for witnessing?
- shining as stars forever
 - a resurrected body
 - a permanent dwelling place in heaven

End of requirements for Unit Two. Please return your student report Answer Sheet for Unit Two to your ICI instructor. Now that you have completed your study of this course, ask your instructor to recommend another course of study.

Personal Evangelism

Answer Sheet for Unit One

CL5150

Please fill in the blanks below:

Your name

Your ICI Student Number

(Leave blank if you don't know what it is.)

Your Mailing Address

.....

City State or Province

Zip or Postal Code

Country

Age Sex

Occupation

How many members are in your family?

How many years have you studied in school?

If you are a member of a church, what is the name of your church?

.....

What responsibility do you have in your church?

.....

How are you studying this course: Alone? In a group?

What other ICI courses have you studied?

.....

Now, turn the page and answer all questions.

ANSWER SHEET FOR UNIT ONE

Blacken the correct space for each numbered item.

1	A	B	C
2	A	B	C
3	A	B	C
4	A	B	C
5	A	B	C
6	A	B	C
7	A	B	C

8	A	B	C
9	A	B	C
10	A	B	C
11	A	B	C
12	A	B	C
13	A	B	C
14	A	B	C

15	A	B	C
16	A	B	C
17	A	B	C
18	A	B	C
19	A	B	C
20	A	B	C

Write below any questions you would like to ask your instructor about the lessons.

.....
.....
.....

Now look over this answer sheet to be sure you have completed all the questions. Then return it to your ICI instructor or office in your area. The address should be stamped on the copyright page of your study guide.

For ICI Office Use Only
Date Score

Christian Life Program

Personal Evangelism

Answer Sheet for Unit Two

CL5150

Please fill in the blanks below:

Your name

Your ICI Student Number
(Leave blank if you don't know what it is.)

Your Mailing Address

.....

City State or Province

Zip or Postal Code

Country

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

The ICI office in your area will be happy to send you information about other courses that are available and their cost. You may use the space below to ask for that information.

.....
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Now, turn the page and answer all questions.

ANSWER SHEET FOR UNIT TWO

Blacken the correct space for each numbered item.

1	A	B	C
2	A	B	C
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4	A	B	C
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16	A	B	C
17	A	B	C
18	A	B	C
19	A	B	C
20	A	B	C

Write below any questions you would like to ask your instructor about the lessons.

.....

.....

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CONGRATULATIONS

You have finished this course. We have enjoyed having you as a student and hope you will study more courses with ICI. Return this student report answer sheet to your instructor or to the ICI office in your area. When we have checked your answers, we will send you a certificate for this course in your program of studies.

Please print your name below as you want it to appear on your certificate.

Name

For ICI Office Use Only
Date Score

Christian Life Program

CL5150 Personal Evangelism
Decision Report and Request Card

After studying this course, I have placed my trust in Jesus Christ as my Savior and Lord. I am returning this card with my signature and address to your ICI office for two reasons: first, to testify to my commitment to Christ and, second, to request information about more material to help me in my spiritual life.

NAME.....

ADDRESS

.....

SIGNATURE



**THE GREATEST OF ALL
IS THE SERVANT OF ALL**

Serving is one of the greatest ways we can show our love to God. ICI courses prepare you to better serve others.

Using our courses will create an orderly system of Bible study and encourage a better understanding of spiritual truths.

To begin preparing for God's service, we suggest enrolling in courses offered from our **Christian Service Program**.

Some courses from the **Christian Service Program** are:

- THE GREAT QUESTIONS OF LIFE
- GOD LOVES YOU
- WHO JESUS IS
- WE BELIEVE
- GOD'S DESIGN—YOUR CHOICE
- CHRISTIAN WORSHIP
- PERSONAL EVANGELISM
- ALIVE IN CHRIST
- CHRISTIAN MATURITY

If you desire a more detailed description about each course or directions on how to enroll in any of these courses, contact your local ICI director.

**SEND US THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES
OF YOUR FRIENDS**

We will send them Lesson 1 of
“The Great Questions of Life.”

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