THE WORD

DR. CURT DODD

JOHN 1:1-18



THE WORD

Part 6: The Witness - A Call To Keep

John 1:6-8

INTRODUCTION	NOTES
Every single human being on this earth is living a different life. We all have different experiences, different relationships, and different circumstances. But God uses all of those aspects of our lives to prepare us to share the gospel of Jesus Christ. He shaped you the way He shaped you so you can be faithful to the call He has given you. And that call is to be a witness for Him. You have a call to keep, and that call is exactly what we're going to break down in today's message as we take a look at the ministry of John the Baptist.	
KEY POINTS	
1. We Keep Our Witness Clear Through Our Words	
God wants us to speak the gospel out loud. Unfortunately, many of us have spiritual lockjaw, and we don't speak out about our faith. God wants us to not only let our lives point others to Christ, but our words as well. John the Baptist set an amazing example for us in this. He said what he felt. He called sin, sin. He minced no words, and He didn't try to appeal to the religious crowd. He spoke the truth in love out loud, and we should all be striving to do the same if we want to be strong witnesses for Christ.	
2. We Keep Our Witness Reliable Through Our Lives	
When you and I speak truth, it is backed up with the quality of our lives. That is why many of us don't speak because we don't feel like we are worthy enough. We haven't lived holy lives, so the enemy convinces us that we aren't good enough, we don't know enough, and we're going to be rejected, therefore we should keep our mouths shut. But we can't listen to that discouragement. How we live is so important, because it gives credibility to our message. We should all live our lives in a way that backs up our words and points people to Jesus.	
3. We Keep Our Witness Secure Through Our Faithfulness	
No matter what you go through in your lifetime, no matter how many mountains and valleys you walk, God wants you to remain faithful to the very end. Once again, we can look to John the Baptist for an example. John experienced some great pain in his life, just like the rest of us. Our lives have been littered with hardships and trials. When these painful circumstances start to show up, doubts can begin to surface. We wonder, "Am I in God's will? Is this my path? God, are you still there?" When these questions start to bubble up, it's so important that we don't give into the doubt. Instead, we must rely on the power of the Holy Spirit within us to remain faithful to the Lord through all of the ups and downs of life. When we do this, we will surely keep our witness.	

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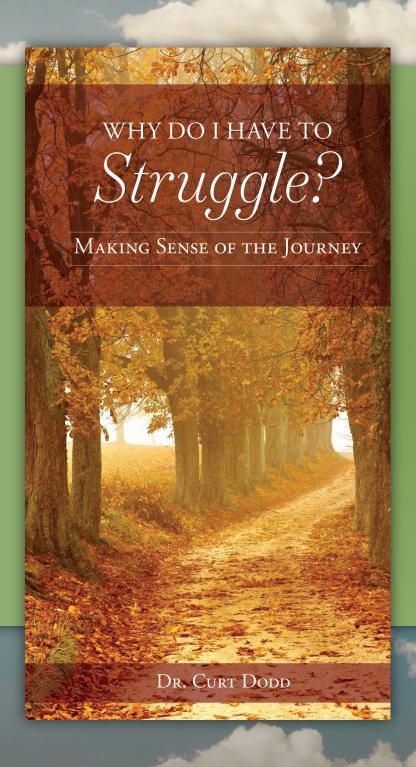
John 1:6-8

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- 1. When was the last time you shared the gospel with someone with your words?
- 2. If someone were to compare the way you speak about your faith and the way you act out your faith, would the two match up?
- 3. Are you going through a difficult time in your life right now? If so, what's one step you can take to show you're determined to remain faithful to the Lord in the midst of this tough season?

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WE ALL HAVE STRUGGLES



God is with us when we are struggling the most.

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