

# CAN I GET A WITNESS | TOPICAL | PASTOR MARK BOFILL | 9/14/2025

I. Definition of a Witness | II. Definite Examples of Witnesses | III. Determining Your Witness

**INTRO:** [Show Picture] On **September 10, 2025**, the whole world **witnessed the atrocious assassination of Charlie Kirk**, CEO, and founder of Turning Point USA. – **If you don't know who Charlie was**, I want to make clear first and foremost that **Charlie was a Born-Again Christian man**, who became a **BOLD VOICE** for the Gospel of Jesus Christ, who attested to the power of the resurrection!

- **At the young age of 18, Charlie started TPUSA** and had an impact on several high school and college campuses. He spoke to kids, delivered speeches, and **effectively debated ideas using rationality, logic, courage, and peace**. – **He greatly loved this nation and was truly an American patriot**. But his core allegiance was to Jesus Christ!
- **When questioned in an interview**; “If he could be associated with **‘one thing,’** how would he want to be remembered.” His reply, **“I want to be remembered for ‘Courage for My faith.’**”
- **This is exactly what he did! His Courageous Faith Bore Witness to what he believed!** – On his Instagram post he said: **“I believe in the Bible, and I believe that Christ rose from the dead on the third day. This is the foundation of my faith and guides my actions.”** – In Charisma magazine he said: **“Jesus Christ was God in human flesh. Who first and foremost taught us how to live and secondly and most importantly He was a gift to us; that if we accept Him as our Lord and Savior then we can have eternal life...”**
- **Charlie is with the Lord now... what an awesome man of God he was!** His life and testimony and love for the Lord allowed him to become **a Modern-day Martyr for the name of Jesus Christ**. He stood for righteousness, and he will be rewarded. – Pastor Mark

And so, in my sermon today, I felt compelled by the Spirit to pause our Expository Teachings in the Gospel of Luke and present a Topical Message to help us all Refocus our eyes on the One who can **make sense of the critical times in which we live**, so that we too can be a Witness.

**I. DEFINITION OF A WITNESS** – The word {Grk, *Martys*: mar-toos} can mean: **Testimony** or **Evidence**. – It is used **175 x's** in the Bible, and **99 x's** in the NT. – Easton's Bible Dictionary describes a **MARTYR**: **One who bears witness of the truth and suffers death in the cause of Christ** (Act 22:20; Rev 2:13; 17:6).

**A. The First Martyr** – The Bible tells us that **STEPHEN** was the first NT martyr **READ (tt. Acts 7:57-60)**

- The WORDS that Stephen said brought conviction to his persecutors, so they **STONED HIM TO DEATH!** – He **“invested in”** his generation and was **“willing to risk everything for Gospel truth”** (Matt 6:10). – And at his death, his eyes were fixed on Jesus... and Jesus' eyes were fixed on Stephen!
- In a similar way, **Charlie's “Controversial Statements”** brought conviction to the opposition, so they **SHOT HIM DEAD!** – **Charlie assassination was not necessarily because of politics**, (Though some may view it as such), it's because **he fought for Righteousness and Truth**, according to his understanding of the Gospel! – He **stood** for what He believed, and **I like to think that Jesus Christ stood when He received Charlie into His presence!**

**B. The Jesus Mindset** – In the final week of his ministry on earth, Jesus Christ gave a profound statement about HIS DEATH, and **how it would bring glory to the Father** (John 12:23-24), **“The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified. 24 Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain.”**

- Jesus understood that His death would bring life to many who would follow Him in faith. – He knew that this would bring glory to Godhead. *(In a moment, we will examine a few more examples of those who understood and followed Jesus meaning here).*
- **Jesus' Statement had a TURNING POINT implication!** – To be an **effective witness** in our society, we too must learn to die to self and become **living sacrifices (Rom 12:1)**, *willing to lay down our life if Jesus Christ calls us to it! (Charlie's assassination is a wakeup call to everyone professing Christianity!)*

**P/A** – One of the biggest issues in the Church today is that so many Christians have come to believe that political issues are not Christian issues, and **it's just not the case anymore!** – **Pastor's and Churches have been silent for far too long...** the result is a **Compromised Spirituality**, a **Low Morality** and a **Wrecked Society!**... **CAN I GET A WITNESS!** *(It time to step it up Church, time to follow Biblical examples...)*

**II. DEFINITE EXAMPLES OF WITNESSES** – All throughout scripture, we can see **God's plan to use His people to be His witnesses** to the other nations around them. He calls a people to Himself to know Him, to be set apart to Him, and to tell all the nations about Him, (cf. Ezek 38:23; 1 Pet 2:9)

**A. Alpha Witness** – Alpha mean the *first in a series* (Rev 1:5) says, **Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth.** *(Authority and Power to Witness is from Jesus!)*

- **RE: Authority (Matthew 28:19,20).** *"All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen. (The Great commission!)*
- **RE: Power (Acts 1:8)** *But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*  
*(It breaks my heart to see that many in the Church haven't a clue about the need for Power to witness!)*

**B. Accounts of Witnesses** – The Bible presents **Five Detailed Accounts:** Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Acts. – **Additionally**, in (Heb 11), we have an **extensive list of OT believers** who received a **good testimony of faith**, of which (Heb 12:1) refers to them as **"Cloud of Witnesses."** – **Historically**, we have books like, **Foxes Book of Martyrs**, which highlights **the lives of many who believed in the resurrection of Jesus Christ**, and **were called to the same honor of Martyrdom, by PERSECUTION!**

- **James the great** was beheaded, **Philip** was scourged and crucified, **Matthew** was slain with a halberd, **James the less** was beaten, stoned, and had his brains smashed with a club. **Still there was Mathias**, who was stoned and beheaded, **Andrew** who was crucified transversely on a cross; **Mark** was dragged and pulled to pieces in Alexandria, **Peter** was crucified upside-down by request; **Paul** was beheaded, **Jude** was crucified, **Bartholomew** was beaten and crucified, **Thomas** was thrust with a spear, **Luke** was hanged on an Olive Tree, and **John the beloved disciple** was boiled in hot oil, then banished to Patmos. – **These all drank "The CUP" of martyrdom in their own time, which brought GLORY to the Godhead.**
- **CAN I GET A WITNESS?... Martyrdom didn't end with the apostles... Countless Others followed throughout History.** – **Their belief that Jesus rose from the grave was what drove these people to RISK everything**, even though there was no justification for death!

**P/A** – How does the Courage and Faith of these Witnesses impact you? – **(tt. Heb 12:1-3)** *We are called to run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith...*

**CHURCH...** the Bible **WARNED US** of the **Times** which have come upon us! **(2 Tim 3:1,4b)**, *"But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come... men will be... lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God!"*

**III.DETERMINING YOUR WITNESS** – Speaking of last days... Jesus warned that the events we are currently witnessing are just, “...the beginning of sorrows. 9 “Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name’s sake. 10 And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another (Matt 24:8-10). – Are you ready for what’s next?

**A. Know the Time (Rom 13:11)** And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now, our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.

- The Assassination of a Christian Man in BROAD DAYLIGHT reveals THAT SOMETHING HAS CHANGED! – I believe that the HOLY SPIRIT has confirmed this in many of our hearts. – IRONICALLY... it’s a TURNING POINT... And it’s time for you to confirm if you are For Christ or Just Playing Church! – Jesus said: “If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first.”
- If you are FOR CHRIST then it is possible that you may face the same fate at Charlie Kirk (Amen!)

**B. Know Your Enemy (Eph 6:12)** For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. (KNOW... but also BE prepared spiritually!)

- Unbeknownst to many, Our world is currently experiencing Fifth Generation Warfare! – It’s not knives, or guns, or even missiles. It’s all of that with the addition of complex psychological strategies. – A hybrid of nonlinear warfare which targets societies and their belief systems. – It’s a SPIRITUAL BATTLE and the ones pulling the strings are influenced by demonic entities which operate in the spiritual! – So, what do we do?

**C. Know Your Weapons (Eph 6:11-18; 2 Cor 10:3-4)** For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. 4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds (So Put your gear on and ENGAGE in the spiritual war!) How? By Prayer!

**D. Know Your Position (Eph 6:10)** ... Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might! – Only when we are on our knees can we access the Power of God, which helps us to be strong!

- Hold your Position! – Here are 3 TRUTHS we must HOLD ON TO when the Wicked ATTACKS!

**1. STAND FIRM!** – Violence cannot stop God’s purposes! – Bullets cannot silence the Gospel!

Jesus said, “...I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.” (Matt 16:18)

**2. CHRISTIANS MUST NOT COWER!** – Darkness will not drive us into hiding! The Apostle Paul said, “...according to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. 21 For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. (Phil 1:21) – Whether in life or death, Christ is to be magnified!

- We are enabled to Speak Truth WITH Boldness! (Prov 28:1), “the righteous are as bold as a lion”

**3. PRAY WITH FAITH, STAND WITH COURAGE!** – Christians don’t wring their hands in FEAR... they lift them in PRAYER! (Acts 4:29-31,33) – READ (tt. Jude 17-23) Pray against the attacks!

- Pray for opportunities to give witness to the Resurrection of Jesus! – The church is most effective when it is praying for God’s kingdom to come and His will to be done!
- Above all, know this: The wicked will not prosper...God will have the final say!

**CLOSING THOUGHTS:** The Willingness to Witness is a DETERMINATION each one must make! It's willingness to **Step-up** and **Stand-Firm** in the face of adversity! – SO... **CAN I GET A WITNESS?**

**CHARLIE KIRK** demonstrated for us *what it looks like to stand firm in faith*, without denying Jesus. He **stood for Righteousness** by exposing Wokeness. **He fought for Truth** to expose the Lies... **He went after our children** to give them the Hope they need... **Jesus Christ!** – And a generation is responding!

*Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain.*

**Well done Charlie Kirk... thanks for being a witness!**

- Charlie's witness has **Emboldened Me** to Stand and SPEAK Truth without compromise!
- **Let's take the Gospel further and farther than ever before...** Let's reach the LOST, even though it may COST!

**ALTAR RESPONSE:** If the **Holy Spirit** has been challenged your heart to LIVE or the CAUSE of CHRIST, then I want to give you an opportunity **TAKE A STAND.** With every eye open and with everyone looking around, if you are ready to say, **GOD...I AM READY TO GO DEEPER,** then **STAND NOW** and **FLOOD THE ALTAR** as we worship in truth. I believe God's going to touch you in a profound way when you **ASK HIM to EMPOWER YOU!**

*"May God raise up a million Charlie Kirks—bold, confident, and unafraid to stand for truth."*

- John Bonner