

GOD the SON - "How To Share Your Faith... like Jesus!" - John 4:27-42

"And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman; yet no one said, 'What do You seek?' or, 'Why are You talking with her?' The woman then left her waterpot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, 'Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?' Then they went out of the city and came to Him. In the meantime His disciples urged Him, saying, 'Rabbi, eat.' But He said to them, 'I have food to eat of which you do not know.' Therefore the disciples said to one another, 'Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?' Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors." And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of His own word. Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world."

I once heard of a well-known family... the Smith family. They were proud of their family heritage because their ancestors came over with the Pilgrims, on the Mayflower. In their family tree were senators and pastors and Wall Street wizards. The Smith family wanted to compile a family history to pass on as a legacy to their children and grandchildren, of the family tree and history. They hired an author to write about the family. There was only one problem, which they knew about, and were sensitive about: Uncle George, a criminal in their family history, had actually been executed in the Federal prison for murder; he was electrocuted in the electric chair. The Smith family didn't know how the author was going to write about that. However, author said, don't worry about it, I'm good at spin, I'll come up with something very creative. And so when the book was finally completed, the family immediately wanted to see what he wrote about Uncle George. This is what he wrote: 'George Smith occupied a chair of applied electronics, at an important government institution. He was attached to his position by the strongest of ties, and his death came as a real shock.'

*In 1949 a man named John Currier, was convicted of murder, and then sentenced to life imprisonment. He was living out his life sentence when after several years he was paroled to a work farm environment, and a work farm near Nashville, Tennessee. Then in 1968, his sentence was terminated, and a letter was sent to him to tell him he was a free man. He never saw the letter. He never got it. He never was told about it, he never read it, and so he stayed working on the farm for ten more years, until finally a state parole officer heard about it, and he personally told him about it, found the letter, showed it to him. John Currier was released. Here's the question that follows that story. **Would it matter to YOU if somebody sent you an important message, the most important message of your whole life, but year after year after year after year it WASN'T DELIVERED TO YOU?!?***

*I want to take a little survey here this morning... I need all of your participation. This is a census; you have to be involved in this, for accuracy purposes. How many of you came to faith in Jesus Christ by watching television, some program on television? How many of you by listening to something on the radio, you listened to the radio and you received Christ? How many of you received Christ at a church service? **How many of you came to faith in Christ because of the witness of another person in your life, somebody personally led you to faith in Christ?***

- ***The population of planet earth is estimated at 6.8 billion people on it. The task of evangelism on this planet is enormous because most of them don't know what we know about Christ. It's been estimated that if you took all of the unsaved, lost people on planet earth and they formed a single file-line, the line would go around the whole earth, thirty times... and that line is growing twenty miles longer every single day!!***
 - ***51% of the population on planet earth, just slightly over half, have tasted Coca-Cola.***
- ***In 1963, it took the world 2 hours to hear about the death of John F. Kennedy when he was assassinated in Dallas.***
- ***In 1999, it took the world 2 minutes to hear of the death of JFK, Jr. when his plane went down in the Atlantic.***
- ***2000 years ago Jesus died on a cross and rose from the dead. But even with all our modern technology and tools, most people around the world haven't heard it.***
- ***"Are you winning souls for Jesus? Does your life example show to the world that Jesus is the Precious Savior, that died to save them?" - Carrie Breck***
- ***The soul-saving strategy of Jesus, is based on ordinary people, going to ordinary places, and talking about Him, our extraordinary Savior, to other ordinary people." - Ron Hutchcraft***
- ***"All around us are people who are lost and separated from their loving, Heavenly Father... and we have a responsibility to tell them about Jesus." - Billy Graham***

I. The NOURISHMENT to Witness.(v.27-34)

II. The URGENCY to Witness.(v.35-38)

III. The FOCUS of Witness.(v.39-42)

I. The NOURISHMENT to Witness. (v.27-34)

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one another, "Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do **the will** of Him who sent Me, and to finish **His work**."

- **MOTIVATION in life is everything...**

- Athletes... are so intensely motivated, they dedicate their life to training!
- Mothers... are so motivated by love for their children, they'll do anything!
- Military... are so dedicated, they will sacrifice their lives, when necessary!
- **YOU?!!** - What is **YOUR** motivation in life? Why do **YOU** get up in the morning? What is it in your heart of hearts, in the depths of your soul that keeps YOU going, keeps you fighting?

- **Jesus here focuses on the WILL of God, and the WORK of God, as the focus/nourishment of His life!**

- The **WORK** of God:

- **Luke 10:2**- "The harvest is great, but **the workers are few**. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; **ask Him to send more workers** into his fields."
 - "Why has God provided so many hours of every day, for the purpose of work? It is because work makes men." - **Henry Drummond**
- **1 Cor 15:58**- "So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. **Always work enthusiastically for the Lord**, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless."
 - "Labor is God's education." - **Ralph Waldo Emerson**
- **Matt 6:33**- "Seek the Kingdom of God **above all else**, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need."
 - "When Christians discover their spiritual calling from God, they are not called to laziness, but rather to work diligently in God's harvest field, and spend their life in doing laborious service." - **Jonathan Edwards**

- The **WILL** of God:

- **Phil 1:21**- "...to **live is Christ**, and to die is gain."
 - "I started to read the Bible, to find out what the ideal life was, and I found that the only thing truly worth doing in the whole world, was to do the will of God; whether it was done in the pulpit or in the slums, whether it was done in the college or class-room or on the street corner, didn't

*matter at all. All that matters is doing the will of God.”-
Henry Drummond*

- **2 Pet 3:9**-*"The Lord isn't really being slow about His promise, as some people think. No, He is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but **wants everyone to repent**."*
 - *"Work you whole will in my life, at any cost!"- Elizabeth Elliot*

- **1 Tim 2:4**-*"..this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, Who **desires all men to be saved** and to come to the knowledge of the truth."*
 - *"Through doing the will of God, and delighting in the will of God, lies the only way to the heart of our Father.. and His only way to our heart."- Andrew Murray*

II. The URGENCY to Witness. (v.35-38)

*"Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are **already white for harvest!** And he who reaps receives **wages**, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may **rejoice** together. For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors."*

- **In regards to sharing our faith, Jesus here speaks of URGENCY and ETERNITY.**

- **Urgency**- People are ready!!
 - Acts 8 - Eunuch

- **Eternity**- Rewards are coming!!
 - 1 Cor 3 - Bema Seat

- **Personal Testimony**.. was searching!

III. The FOCUS of Witness. (v.39-42)

*"And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, "**He** told me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of **His own word**. Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe, not*

because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed **the Christ, the Savior** of the world.”

- As you walk the path of witnessing, as you go down the road of “sharing your faith”, there are hundreds of **detours** that will threaten to take you **off course**:
 - “Church hypocrisy”
 - “Church errors”
 - “Religious disagreements”
 - Silly questions..
 - Weird confusions..
 - **GOLDEN RULE: Bring it back to JESUS!**

*There was once a farmer who wanted to be an evangelist. He was in his mid-life and he was going through his mid-life crisis and he thought he wanted to leave the farm and preach the gospel. And he was sitting under a tree one day, looking up at the sky in between chores, and he noticed what seemed to him like letters being formed by the clouds. And maybe he was reading into it, but he thought he saw two letters P C and he thought, huh, PC, what could that mean? Oh! He said, I get it! It's a sign from God. He wants me to preach Christ! He went off on that and sold his farm and started an evangelistic ministry. The only problem was the guy couldn't preach his way out of a bucket. He was just a poor speaker. And at one evening at a failed evangelistic event one of his dear neighbors, who was also a farmer, went up to the man and whispered in his ear, "**Maybe God was simply trying to tell you plant corn.**" (We're all called to preach Christ, whether you see a sign or not, or whether you're a good speaker or not!)*