

Pastor Clifford  
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## The Wilderness Journey (Part 2): **THE POWER OF OUR TESTIMONY**

**Revelation 12:11** "And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death."

- **Why does our testimony have power?**

**Matthew 5:13-16** "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

**14** "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. **15** Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. **16** In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

Jesus here is using the analogy of salt and light. Salt can be an extremely useful when full advantage is taken of its properties but when it loses those properties it becomes useless.

Similarly with light. When light is used to displace darkness it becomes an invaluable tool in exposing and illuminating the way but if lamp is lit then covered it becomes useless.

Jesus is correlating salt and light to our good works and the result of people giving testimony to our good works is that our Father will be glorified.

Jesus also said they would recognize us by our love:

**John 13:34-35** "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

What are the factors or characteristics that define us as followers of Christ?

- Servants
- Humble
- Kind
- Speech under control

These are qualities that Jesus wants in our lives but the problem is we, because of our nature to sin, are not that. But we can become that if we will submit and allow Him to make us like Him.

**Luke 8:23-26** "And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. **24** For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. **25** For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself? **26** For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels."

- **SERVICE**

**2 Corinthians 9:12-14** "For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God. By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission flowing from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others, while they long for you and pray for you, because of the surpassing grace of God upon you."

**Hebrews 13:1-3** "Keep loving each other like family. **2** Don't neglect to open up your homes to guests, because by doing this some have been hosts to angels without knowing it. **3** Remember prisoners as if you were in prison with them, and people who are mistreated as if you were in their place."

- **HUMILITY**

**Philippians 2:2-8** "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. **4** Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. **5** Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, **6** who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, **7** but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. **8** And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross."

- **Be Kind!**

**Romans 2:4** "Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?"

**Micah 6:6-8** "With what shall I come before the LORD,  
 and bow myself before God on high?  
 Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
 with calves a year old?  
 7 Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
 with ten thousands of rivers of oil?  
 Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
 the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"  
 8 He has told you, O man, what is good;  
 and what does the LORD require of you  
 but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
 and to walk humbly with your God?"

- **Our Speech**

**Ephesians 4:25-30** "Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. 26 Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, 27 and give no opportunity to the devil. 28 Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. 29 Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption."

**Ephesians 5:4** "Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving."

**1 Peter 3:8-12** "Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. 9 Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing. 10 For

“Whoever desires to love life  
and see good days,  
let him keep his tongue from evil  
and his lips from speaking deceit;  
**11** let him turn away from evil and do good;  
let him seek peace and pursue it.  
**12** For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,  
and his ears are open to their prayer.  
But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

Colossians 4:6 “Let your conversation be always full of grace,  
seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.”

**Proverbs 15:1-4** “A soft answer turns away wrath,  
but a harsh word stirs up anger.  
**2** The tongue of the wise commends knowledge,  
but the mouths of fools pour out folly.  
**3** The eyes of the LORD are in every place,  
keeping watch on the evil and the good.  
**4** A gentle tongue is a tree of life,  
but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.”