

Matthew 4.18-22

- Most of us do not feel qualified to share Christ.
- Rejection and judgment are triggers for a lot of us.
- The majority of Christians struggle with fear.

Jesus said this - **this is Jesus** - and he called the disciples to do this - **the apostles**.

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19–20, NIV)

“But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,” (1 Peter 3:15, NIV)

How can we move toward being people that say something to those who don’t share our faith?

1. Follow Jesus

“Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.”” (Matthew 4:19, NIV)

2. Adopt the compassionate heart of Jesus for the lost.

- We have to care that people are suffering.
- It has to bother us that people will enter into eternity lost.

“When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”” (Matthew 9:36–38, NIV)

3. Say “Yes” to God, and desire to help someone else know Jesus.

*“For Christ’s love **compels us**, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God.”* (2 Corinthians 5:14–20, NIV)

4. Pray for courage (Acts 4.23-31)

“After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.” (Acts 4:31, NIV)

Tips for Sharing Christ

1. Earn the right to be heard.
2. Love and do not Judge.
3. Keep it about Jesus and the Gospel.
4. Share your story of your journey with Christ.

How to share your story

1. What were you like before Christ, or before faith?
2. How did you come to Christ?
3. What are you experiencing and learning now?

“How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone telling them?” (Romans 10:14, NIV)

Prayer

- Pray that God will give you compassion, desire, boldness, and opportunity.
- Who comes to your mind and heart that you need to share with?
- Pray those names a lot. Let the Holy Spirit give you a heart for the lost.
- Pray for an opportunity to share your story.

Your Story

Write down in your journal your story that you can share in 2-3 minutes, so you can be prepared to give an answer to the hope that is within you.