

## **How To Grow Your Ministry**

### **Mark 1:35–45**

#### **What Does The Bible Say?**

35 Before daybreak the next morning, Jesus got up and went out to an isolated place to pray.

(Mark 1:35 NLT)

36 Later Simon and the others went out to find him. 37 When they found him, they said, “Everyone is looking for you.”

(Mark 1:36–37 NLT)

#### **Your ministry advances through prayer.**

38 But Jesus replied, “We must go on to other towns as well, and I will preach to them, too. That is why I came.” 39 So he traveled throughout the region of Galilee, preaching in the synagogues and casting out demons. (Mark 1:38–39 NLT)

#### **Your ministry advances through preaching.**

5 And you are living stones that God is building into his spiritual temple. What's more, you are his holy priests. Through the mediation of Jesus Christ, you offer spiritual sacrifices that please God. (1 Peter 2:5 NLT)

**We are all priests, or you can say “preachers!”**

40 A man with leprosy came and knelt in front of Jesus, begging to be healed. “If you are willing, you can heal me and make me clean,” he said. (Mark 1:40 NLT)

41 Moved with compassion, Jesus reached out and touched him. “I am willing,” he said. “Be healed!” (Mark 1:41 NLT)

42 Instantly the leprosy disappeared, and the man was healed. (Mark 1:42 NLT)

**Your ministry advances through touching the untouchable.**

43 Then Jesus sent him on his way with a stern warning:

44 “Don't tell anyone about this. Instead, go to the priest and let him examine you. Take along the offering required in the law of

Moses for those who have been healed of leprosy. This will be a public testimony that you have been cleansed.” (Mark 1:43–44 NLT)

45 But the man went and spread the word, proclaiming to everyone what had happened. As a result, large crowds soon surrounded Jesus, and he couldn’t publicly enter a town anywhere. He had to stay out in the secluded places, but people from everywhere kept coming to him. (Mark 1:45 NLT)

**Jesus exchanged His life for Ours!**

**How Can You Obey?**

**Select a special place you can go to daily for quality time with the Lord.**

**Who is on your list to share the gospel (as a preacher)?**

**Who do you know that is down and out and needs someone to touch them with love?**

## **Additional Notes:**

If you want to use your home to disciple others, check out our training at [www.crosswaveschurch.com/host](http://www.crosswaveschurch.com/host). Cross Waves has produced short videos to train you to use your home to reach others for Christ. So please check it out.

## **Explore:**

Christianity is about more than attending church and living a good moral life. Being a Christian is about having a vibrant personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Every Sunday School teacher or Bible study leader should want to see each learner enter into this relationship—their eternal destiny depends on it. As you work toward this goal, keep the following in mind:

Following Christ is more than a mere decision; it is about a lifelong relationship. Jesus called us to make disciples, not mere decision-makers. Aim for long-term faith, not momentary emotion.

Salvation is a matter of grace, not works. Our works do not save us (Ephesians 2:8-9), nor do they keep us (Galatians 3:2-6).

Good works are a product of salvation, not a prerequisite to it.

Don't confuse sanctification with salvation. Holiness follows salvation; it doesn't precede it. Don't try to impose "Christian" expectations on men and women who don't know Christ.

- Keep it simple. Being born again is not complicated. Here's a simple way to explain it:

- Acknowledge your sinfulness and need for a Savior (Romans 3:10, 23).

- Trust in Christ's sacrifice for your sins and His resurrection (Romans 10:9-10).

Surrender your life to God's transforming power (Romans 12:1-2).

Remember that your job is to tell the truth in a way others can understand, answer their questions, and allow them to respond.

If you do that faithfully, some will respond and join the band of Christ-followers. When they do, Heaven will rejoice!

### **Question 1 of 4**

What constitutes "preaching" besides what a pastor does on Sunday mornings? Is there a kind of "preaching" that any Christian man or woman can and should do?

### **Question 2 of 4**

How can you strengthen your prayer life?

### **Question 3 of 4**

How would you define people who are untouchable today?

### **Question 4 of 4**

How do you explain that Jesus took your place on the cross to someone who does not know about salvation?