

"Can I Get a Witness?"

Can I Get a Witness Message Series Week 4

Acts 1:1-8

Pastor Jeff Burkholder

April 7, 2019

A. Jesus has given us a mission to make disciples of all nations. (Matthew 28:19-20)

"The church in the West has made the Great Commission a mandate for full-time religious professionals—'elite believers' so to speak. But Jesus intended it as a mandate for *all believers*. The church in the West has excelled at making converts who fill the church. But Jesus commanded us to make disciple-makers who will *be* the church."

Dale Losch, *A Better Way*, Crossworld, Kansas City, Missouri, 2012, p. 25.

B. Living on mission for Christ will involve: (Acts 1:1-8)

1. The power of the Holy Spirit.

2. Being a witness wherever you are.

- "You are the salt of the earth...You are the light of the world." -Jesus, Matthew 5:13, 14
- Being a witness is who we are, not something to add to our "to-do" list.

- “For the better part of two centuries, Western evangelicalism has championed the model of *proclamation and invitation* by a religious professional. Typically, unbelievers have been invited to venture onto Christian turf (i.e. our church building) once or twice a year on Christmas, Easter or “Bring-a-Friend Day.” They listen to a full-time, religious professional proclaim a message and are then invited to accept it...While those approaches have certainly yielded some results, I would suggest that they are increasingly ineffective and inaccessible to the majority of lost people today. There is a better way than proclaiming the truth from our world. It’s *living and proclaiming* the truth in their world.”

Dale Losch, *A Better Way*, Crossworld, Kansas City, Missouri, 2012, pp. 78-79.

3. Going where He calls you to go.

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should **GO** and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.

John 15:16

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Friends in Action Moldova Trip Info:

- May 17, 2019-June 3, 2019
- Painting and repairing two buildings; no experience needed
- Contact: Paul Brosey, paulbrosey@fiaintl.org, 717.546.0208

Hungary Trip Info:

- June 15-29, 2019
- Coaching and playing baseball (no experience necessary)
- Contact: Bruce Heffner at the Welcome Center today, gospelhorn@aol.com, 717.367.5937