

Elevated Witness

The Importance of Your Witness

- ❖ We were created to be His Witness – Rom. 1:20
- ❖ You are planting seeds with your witness – 1 Cor. 3:6-8; Pro. 11:30
- ❖ Your witness is connected to God's desire – 1 Tim. 2:1-4;
- ❖ So important that God wanted you to be empowered as you witness – Acts 1:8

Four of the Types of Witness We Have

- ❖ Conscious or Intentional Witness – Acts 1:8
 - How you treat others
- ❖ Unknowing Witness –
 - How you treat others – Acts 9:13
 - You are seen when you don't think others are looking – Exo. 2:11-14
- ❖ Situational Witness – Job 14:14; Dan. 3:18
 - In challenging situations – James 1
- ❖ Restorative Witness –
 - Witness through correction – Mat. 18:15-17, 2 Tim. 3:16-17
 - Witness through repentance
 - Witness through restoration – Gal. 6:1
 - Witness through forgiveness – Luke 23:34
 - Witness through reconciliation -

The Power of Your Witness

- ❖ God will ultimately get the glory from poor or powerful witness – 1 Cor. 5; Acts 25:13-26:19

Being Aware of Your Witness

- ❖ You now represent the Kingdom of God
- ❖ The danger of misrepresentation – Gen. 20
 - Don't misrepresent God – Eze. 22:23-30
 - Don't misrepresent His Word
 - Don't misrepresent His Character
 - Don't misrepresent His Love
- ❖ Misrepresenting faith in God leads others to hopelessness and fear

Steps to an Elevated Witness

Elevation occurs in stages

- ❖ Spiritual growth –
 - New to Christ – 1 Pet. 2:2
 - Maturing – 2 Pet. 1:3-9 (KJV & MSG)
- ❖ Spiritual office – 1 Tim. 3:1-10 (emp. Vs. 6 & 10)
 - Novice: neophyte, a new convert, newly planted
 - **Able to follow instructions and leadership – Titus 1:6-9**
- ❖ Edification is part of the process of elevation –
 - Must be built up internally before externally – Eph. 4:12; 1 Pet. 3:15
- ❖ God positions us in order to use us at set times – Esther 4:14

We Must Learn How to Elevate or “Climb” the ladder

Do's

- 1) Proper setup and usage according to the Word of God – 2 Tim. 2:15
- 2) Remaining balanced while climbing – Mat. 6:33; Phil. 4:5-6; John 3:17; Pro. 29:23
- 3) Use caution when trying to carry things up with you – Heb. 12:1; 1 Tim. 5:22
- 4) Take one step at a time – Pro. 20:24; Psa. 119:105; Psa. 17:5
 - For some of us, it's past time to take the next step – Heb. 6:1(KJV&NIV); Esther 4:14
- 5) Get help when handling a heavy ladder – Gal. 6:1-5; Exo. 17:12-14; Rom. 12:15
 - Gal. 1:2 burdens: baros-heaviness, weight, trouble, also charge, influence, honor
 - Gal. 1:5 burden: phortion-responsibilities, non transferable individual burden
 - Family (1 Tim. 5:8), church (1 Cor. 12:18), personal walk w/God (1 Pet. 1:15-16)
- 6) Be careful pushing or pulling while on the ladder

Dont's

- 1) Don't climb on the back of the stepladder – Psa. 75:6-7
- 2) Don't stand too close to the top of the ladder – Deut. 8:18; Isa. 14:14
- 3) Don't climb the ladder if you aren't physically and mentally up to the task – 2 Cor. 10:6; 2 Tim. 2:21; Acts 1:8
- 4) Don't climb a closed ladder
 - Not stable – Gal. 5:19-22;
 - Not God's Way – Rom. 13:1-7
 - Not open to you – Mat. 7:7
 - Is a sign of improper preparation – 1 Cor. 1:4-9
- 5) Don't over-reach or lean to one side – Eph. 5:15-17
- 6) Don't exceed the maximum load capacity or duty rating of a ladder – Mat. 25:15; Rom. 8:28
- 7) Don't forget who enabled you to climb – Deut. 8:18; 1 Cor. 3:6-9

Steps to an Elevated Witness

Witness Killers

- ❖ Unordered Silence
 - There is a time for everything, including speaking up – Eph. 6:19-20; Isa. 62:1
 - Speaking to authority – 2 Kings 5
 - Unordered silence can be an indicator of:
 - Conviction and/or guilt
 - Shame of the gospel – Rom. 1:16
 - Fear – 2 Tim. 1:6-8
 - Lack of knowledge – John 17:3
- ❖ Lifestyle
 - Not just Christian walk but how do we carry or conduct ourselves with others.
 - Do we take care of ourselves?
 - Physically
 - Mentally
 - Emotionally
 - Financially
- ❖ Not understanding what matters the most
 - IN WITNESSING, We must focus on essentials first
 - Salvation before baptism
 - Kingdom citizen before local membership
 - Repentance before appointment
 - What Jesus said before what we like or feel – Mark 7:7

Witness Amplifiers

- ❖ The Holy Ghost – Acts 1:8; Mat. 10:19
- ❖ Genuine Prayer and Fasting – Mat. 6:16-18; Acts 13:2-3
- ❖ Signs and Wonders – John 14:11; Acts 7:35-37; John 10:37-38; Mark 16:17-20
 - There are times God wants us to yield to Him so that He can make us the miracle.
- ❖ Boldness – Rom. 1:14-24 (KJV & MSG)
- ❖ Operating in Kingdom Authority – Luke 10 (emp. Vs. 1 & 19)
- ❖ Praise – Acts 16:25
- ❖ Holiness – Heb. 12:4; Acts 6
- ❖ Being at Peace with where God has you (Alignment) – Mat. 11:11