

You Are a Witness

Today's Reading

1 Peter 3:8-22

Do you see yourself as a witness for Christ? I'm guessing that many people don't. Truth be told, they may even be reluctant to become His messengers in this world because of their limited vision of what that looks like. In their minds, a messenger of Christ may be a person who forces personal conversations about faith on people who really don't want to have them. Because they don't want to be part of those kinds of conversations, they don't see themselves as witnesses for Jesus.

While there may be a time and a place for that kind of approach, it is not the method found in your reading today. Here Peter outlines three responsibilities of believers that convey a message to an unbelieving world. Based on these three principles each follower of Christ is His witness...good or bad! Every believer should be characterized by...

1. ***Loving relationships with other believers*** (v. 8). While Peter commands those kinds of relationships here, Jesus reminds you that those relational interactions speak volumes to unbelievers (Jn. 13:34, 35; 17:20-23).

2. ***Righteous living in a contrary world*** (vv. 13-17). You live in a world that is increasingly interested in identifying inconsistency and hypocrisy. By living uprightly, you remove reason for accusation and draw attention to God (Matt. 5:13-16).
3. ***Gentle answers to those interested*** (vv. 15, 16). You can tell others about the reason you have hope in a world that seems to lack anything of substance on which to hang. In fact, Peter makes it clear that you should be intentionally prepared to give those kinds of responses.



So what would you share? How about your story of how you came to faith? What about truths from the Bible? Certainly part of your response should include Scripture. That will require that you commit parts of the Bible to memory. Romans 6:23 is a good single verse that contrasts the consequences of sin with God's provision of life. Commit it to memory today.

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Romans 6:23