

October 24, 2021
The Bridge Bible Fellowship
Pastor Paul S. Brown
John 15:18 - 16:4

“Witness to the World – Part 3”

- I. Believer’s Relationship to Jesus (Abide) – 15:1-11
- II. Believer’s Relationship to Believers (Loving Friendship) – 15:12-17
- III. Believer’s Relationship to the World (Witness) – 15:18 - 16:4
 - A. The Picture (Jesus’ relationship to the world)
 - B. The Promises
 - C. The Priority: Witnessing

“Successful witnessing = taking the initiative to share Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit and leaving the results to God.” (Bill Bright)

- 1. Initiative (Lk. 19:10; Jn. 1:9, 11, 14; 20:21-22)

What about 1 Peter 3:15?

- 2. Share Christ (Gospel)
 - a. Works (Mt. 5:16; 1 Pet. 2:12)
 - b. Words (Acts 2:14, 37-41; 3:12ff; 4:1-4; Rom. 1:16)

“What is the Gospel?” (See book by Greg Gilbert)

- 1) Who made us, and to whom are we accountable? [God]
- 2) What is our problem? In other words, are we in trouble and why? [Man]
- 3) What is God’s solution to that problem? How has He acted to save us from it? [Christ]
- 4) How do I – myself, right here, right now – how do I come to be included in that salvation? What makes this good news for me and not just for someone else? [Response]

“Partners 1 on 1 Discipleship Program – Lesson #1” (by Dr. Mike Fabarez)

- 1) The Background – God (Creator, Holy, Just, Loving)
- 2) The Bad News – Man (Sinful and Separated from God; Deserve God’s Punishment)
- 3) The Good News – Christ (God; Lived and Died as our Substitute; Conquered Death for Us)
- 4) The Right Response (Turn to God in Repentance; Have Faith in our Lord Jesus)

- 3. Power of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8; 4:31)

- 4. Leaving the Results to God (John 16:8-11; 3:3-7; Acts 8-9; 1 Cor. 9:22)

So What?

Discussion & Application:

1. Share with others in your group a recent time when you shared your salvation testimony and/or the gospel message with someone. Were you nervous or afraid? If so, how did you overcome it and take the initiative to speak?
2. What does the word “**Gospel**” mean? What does the Apostle Paul mean when he talks about a gospel that is different; another; distorted; and contrary in **Gal. 1:6-10**?
3. Read **2 Cor. 11:3-4**. What is Paul concerned might happen to people in Corinth? Why is this so important to him? What will ultimately happen to someone who believes in “another Jesus,” receives a “different spirit,” or accepts a “different gospel”?
4. A popular quote, falsely attributed to Francis of Assisi, says: “**Preach the gospel at all times – when necessary, use words.**” What do you like / dislike about that quote? Is it possible to preach the gospel without words? What confusion might occur if we live a godly life filled with good works but never share the gospel message?
5. Before this morning’s sermon, how would you have outlined a gospel presentation? What would have been your main points and what response would you call them to make? How does having a clear presentation ahead of time help you be bolder and more comfortable in sharing the gospel?
6. Pastor Paul likes the gospel outline: **God, Man, Christ, Response**. Read the following passages and see if you can find those main points:
 - Romans 1-4
 - 1 Cor. 15:1-5
 - Acts 2:22-40
 - Acts 3:18-19
 - Acts 10:39-43
 - Acts 13:16-43
 - Acts 17:22-34
7. Pair up in your group and practice taking one another through a gospel presentation using the outline: God, Man, Christ, and Response. Pray for one another to have opportunities this week to do it with someone who does not know Jesus.
8. **Meditate** every day this week on what you have learned from John 15 about your relationship with Jesus, with other believers, and with unsaved people in the world. How specifically will you be a wise doer of what you have learned? What will you say “no” to on a consistent basis so you can say yes to investing your life in relationships that matter?
9. **Bonus question:** What do the following cults and religious groups believe about Jesus (His Person and Work)? Jehovah’s Witnesses, Mormons, Christian Science, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism.
10. **Ministry Opportunities:** In addition to witnessing to your family, neighbors, and co-workers, prayerfully consider sharing the gospel regularly through involvement in our Children’s Ministry, Youth Ministry, Child Evangelism Fellowship, or Prison / Jail Ministry.
11. **Discipleship:** If you have not gone through the “Partners 1 on 1 Discipleship Program” with someone, prayerfully consider doing this sometime soon. Call Pastor Randy Leinen and let him know that you would like to go through it with someone. There is about 2-3 hours of preparation for each lesson, but the lessons can be spread out to accommodate your schedule.