

Five practical steps to everyday witness for Christ.....

1. Recognize that God has us in our time and in our space for His purposes. Acts 17: 26-27
2. Pray a scary prayer. Ask God for someone for us to engage with about Him every day.
3. We need to be prepared and willing, not expert salesmen! 1 Peter 3: 15-16
4. Meet people where they are but don't settle for leaving them where they are at.
5. Remember that the message of the gospel should always include turning from sin and turning to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

### **Taking it Further**

Who has God placed on your heart to have a simple conversation about Jesus with that you have been resisting His prompting?

Answers: heaven, cost, confession, fruit, practice, submission, turn, Intellectual, Emotional, Volitional

Adult Sunday School – EBC

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Matthew 7: 21-23      “I never knew you”

When we engage with someone about the Gospel, what do the majority of our conversations look like?

- The pervasive way of evangelism in our culture today is to convince people to believe in Jesus so they can go to \_\_\_\_\_ but they have no real interest in talking to people about the \_\_\_\_\_ of being a disciple.

<sup>21</sup> “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven *will enter*. <sup>22</sup> Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, in Your name did we not prophesy, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name do many [miracles]?’ <sup>23</sup> And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.’ Matthew 7: 21-23 LSB

*Not everyone who says to Me, “Lord, Lord” .....*

- \_\_\_\_\_ is essential to salvation (Romans 9: 9-10 Matthew 10: 32-33)

*But he who does the will of My Father who in in heaven will enter.*

- Good works are the natural \_\_\_\_\_ of a changed life. (2 Corinthians 5: 17)

*I never knew you.....*

- Knew – ginōskō; usually used in a stronger sense than our English to know as a matter of understanding a fact.
  - In context, implies intimacy of the absolute or completeness.

*DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.*

- Jesus is quoting Psalm 6: 8 – David lamenting his adversaries who are workers of iniquity
- Translation implications.....how could “away from me, you evildoers” be misleading?
- Best translation....”depart from Me, you who \_\_\_\_\_ lawlessness.”

In the final analysis of these verses, we have to understand that those who were claiming Jesus as Lord were claiming that their works was the justification for entering the kingdom of heaven. But the Lord Jesus showed that their works did not qualify them for an intimate relationship with Him. The natural result of and unrepentant heart lead them to practice lawlessness which disqualified them. What was the difference then between one who claims Jesus as Lord with practicing lawlessness and one who claims Jesus as Lord without the practice of lawlessness? - \_\_\_\_\_ through repentance.

“Repentance is not a pre salvation attempt to get your life cleaned up. It is not a call to stop sinning so you can get saved. Not at all! It’s the thing that God produces in you when He saves you.” John MacArthur

<sup>24</sup> And the Lord’s slave must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged, <sup>25</sup> with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may give them repentance leading to the full knowledge of the truth, <sup>26</sup> and they may come to their senses *and escape* from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.

Simply put, there are three unique elements of repentance.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ to God
2. Turn from evil
3. Serve God

Repentance is also inherent in believers in three ways.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ – Recognition of our sin nature, our responsibility to the consequences of sin, and that our sin is an affront to God
2. \_\_\_\_\_ – Produces Godly sorrow, shame, new desires, and impulses.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ – It enacts the will to forsake stubborn disobedience and redirects the will to life change.