

What does it mean to be a witness for Christ?

The Word of God teaches that true witnesses for Christ are messengers who guide people to the light, Christ the Lord, and not to themselves.

That's why John 1:6-8 says, "There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light that all through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light."

Isaiah 43:10 describes a witness this way: "You are my witnesses", says the LORD. "You are my servant. You have been chosen to know me, believe in me, and understand that I alone am God."

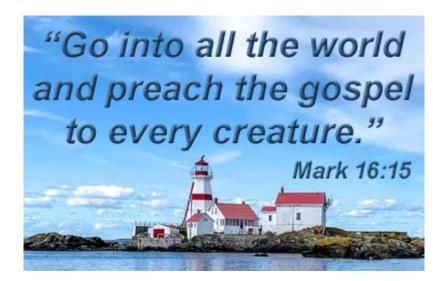
Col. 3:23-24 adds: "Whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ."

Pro. 14:25 warns, "A true witness delivers souls, but a deceitful witness speaks lies."

As such, we must live as Col. 3:17 teaches us, "Whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."

Therefore, in living to follow Christ, we must share the pure gospel message, so people are drawn to the light, which is Christ the Lord.

Do I understand the character of a true witness for Christ?



People sometimes say, "I haven't been called to be a preacher. Pastors have that responsibility."

Question: "Who is the person who first shared the message of Christ with us?" Was it a friend, relative or neighbor? Did someone at least invite us to their church to hear the message of salvation?

We may not all possess the gift of teaching the Word of God. However, as true believers in Christ, we all have the responsibility to both live as Christ taught us, and be His witnesses to the world around us.

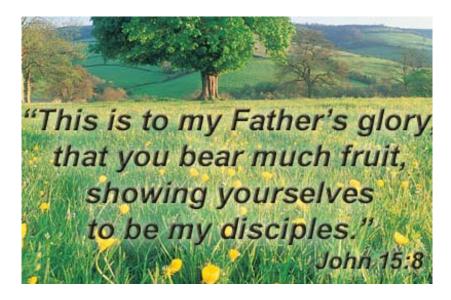
Jesus gave this command in John 20:21: "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you."

He added in Luke 12:8, "Also I say to you, whoever confesses Me before men, him the Son of Man also will confess before the angels of God."

1Peter 2:9 enjoins us: "You are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."

Then 2Cor. 4:6 clarifies this, saying: "For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."

How faithful am I to share Christ with the world around me?



In John 15:1-2, Jesus said: "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful."

Jesus evidently made it clear that to belong to Him and be His disciple, we must bear fruit to God's glory. That's why those who do not bear fruit are no more than a weed trying to benefit from the vine, and therefore will eventually be cut off and burned.

Our responsibility, focus and purpose must then be to be His witnesses to the lost so they can be convicted, believe and find salvation in Christ, so GOD is glorified through the fruit produced in our lives.

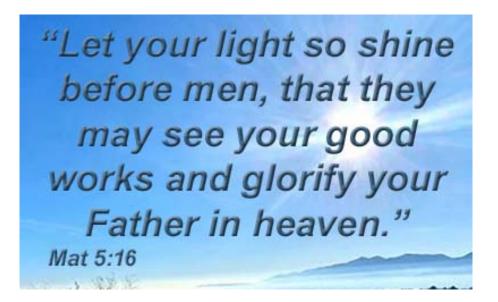
Why?

Mat 5:14, 16: "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden." "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

John 17:3: "This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent."

Rom. 1:16: "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes."

How much fruit do I bear right now in sharing the light of Christ, to draw unbelievers to the message of salvation in Christ?



Just as the true proof of salvation is found through a regenerated life in Christ, the greatest testimony for Christ is given in how we live in light of His teachings, His Word.

1Peter 3:15 says, "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear."

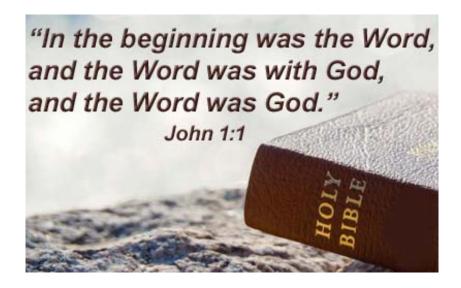
In essence, people must be able to see a transformed life in us so they can be drawn to Christ.

Additionally, we must feed our spirit on God's Word through steadfast study under the ministry of dedicated pastors and teachers committed to Christ, so we can be equipped to share God's plan of salvation with people around us.

The reason Paul said in Rom 10:17: "So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."

Then he added in 2Tim. 2:15: "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

In other words, we must become a worker for Christ through knowledge of His Word, and share the true message of salvation with the lost. And it all starts with a transformed life to the glory of God, in shining the Light of Christ through our life to the world around us. How brightly does the light of Christ shine through me right now?



As true Christians, what is our only reliable source of knowledge to know and discern the truth, and be faithful witnesses for Christ?

Hebrews 4:12: "For the Word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

Christ is the Word of God, and He came to show us the only way to God to be granted eternal life.

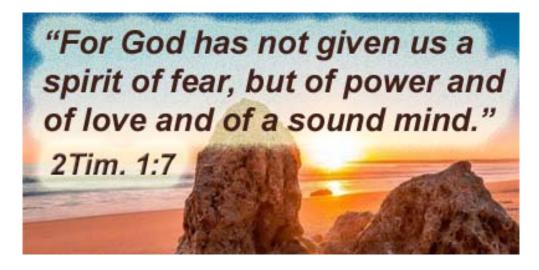
In John 3:16, Jesus made it clear when He said, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

So, the teachings that Christ gave us is the pure will and command that God has for the world.

In 2 Tim 3:16-17 Paul said, "All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

The reason Jesus said in Mat. 4:4: "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God."

How dedicated am I to study the Word of God, so I am thoroughly equipped and inspired to be His witness to this lost and dying world?



The ability to be effective witnesses for Christ can only be achieved through the power of the Holy Spirit, as scripture declare.

Rom 8:11: "If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you."

Acts 1:8: "You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me."

John 14:12: "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do, because I go to My Father."

In clear terms, the power to convict of sin and produce repentance in people is never because of how smart a person is. Rather, the only power able to bring conviction of sin is from the Holy Spirit, imparted to those who truly believe in and follow Christ.

That's why in John 15:26 Jesus said, "But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me."

Truly, our testimony is simply the channel God uses to shine the light of Christ. Our duty is to simply be a willing servant to allow God's Spirit to reach out to the lost.

Do I yield and submit to the Holy Spirit to be a witness for Christ?