



Being a Witness – Lessons from The Expert

Series: Gospel of John [#10]

John 4:1-42

Pastor Lyle Wahl

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Jesus' example of personal witness.

1. Planned and purposeful. (4)
2. To all people. (4, 7; see also 3:1-21)
3. Personal and without gimmicks. (7-15)
4. Deal directly with sin. (16-19)
5. Answer questions without being sidetracked. (20-30)

Jesus' encouragement to His disciples.

1. Focus on mission. (31-34)
2. Be harvesters. (35-38)

Jesus' expansion through multiplication.

1. Those saved reach others who reach others. (39-42)
2. Invest in new believers. (40)

In My Life This Week

As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.

Monday. In chapter one we learned some lessons about being a witness from an expert—John the Baptist. In chapter four we learn some lessons from *the* expert—Jesus. Read 4:1-15. Focus on three lessons today—your witness being planned and purposeful, to all people, and personal without gimmicks (check the outline for Bible references). Evaluate your witness on each point. List steps you need to take to improve your witness.

Tuesday. Jesus' example teaches us that as witnesses we are to deal directly with sin (verses 16-19) and also to answer questions without being sidetracked (verses 20-30). The gospel is not complete without its truth about sin. Many people today not only do not accept this, but also do not understand it. Diverting attention away from the issue is a common response to things that are unknown and uncomfortable. How are you handling these challenges?

Wednesday. Jesus encouraged His disciples in their service by instructing them to be focused on their mission as He was (verses 31-34) and to be harvesters (verses 35-38). Are you focused on your mission as a witness of Jesus? Are you actively seeking opportunities to be a harvester, to lead people to faith and life in Christ?

Thursday. Jesus' public ministry was limited in time, perhaps 3½ years or so. For the gospel to spread and change peoples' lives, two principles He demonstrated are critical: multiplication by [1] those who are saved reaching others (verses 39-42) and [2] multiplication by investing in new believers (verse 40). These are indispensable priorities for you, for all of us. How are you doing?

Friday – Saturday. On Sunday we plan to look at 4:43-54, and faith that makes a difference. Read that passage in preparation for our time together.