

WORLD

Christians need to know how to live in the world without being a part of it (Jn 17:14-19). Satan is temporary "god" and "ruler" of the world system (II Cor 4:4, Jn 12:31, 16:11) and the world lies in his power (I Jn 5:19). However, Satan is a defeated foe (Col 2:15, Rev 20:10) and Christians are to continue Jesus work of destroying the works of Satan (I Jn 3:8).

Christians have a responsibility to share the love of Christ by reaching out to unbelievers (evangelism); and by helping the poor and needy (Mt 28:19, Mt 25:31-46, I Pet 3:15, II Cor 5:18-21, Col 4:5-6, Luke 10:25-37, Gal 6:10). We are Christ's ambassadors and should be conducting ourselves with wisdom towards outsiders and be a good witness in word and deed (Col 4:5-6, II Cor 5:18-21).

Christians need to love each other, live a holy lifestyle, be above reproach and do good works so that unbelievers can see goodness in action (Jn 13:35, Mt 5:16, Phil 2:15, I Pet 2:12, Jn 16: 8-11, I Pet 3:13). We need to get close to people and build relationships, so that they ask questions which we can then answer (Col 4:5-6, I Pet 3:15). But, we need to avoid being "unequally yoked" with unbelievers and avoid participating in their deeds of darkness (II Cor 6:16-18, Eph 5:7-11).

SHARING OUR FAITH

Summary:

1) Take the Message In

2) Get the Message Straight

3) Give the Message Out

TAKE THE MESSAGE IN

We need to have something worth sharing. Personal spiritual growth is essential.

Prayer (spiritual breathing - Phil 4:6-7)

Word (spiritual food - II Tim 3:16-17)

Accountability (spiritual stimulation to love & good deeds - Heb 10:24)

Good Works (spiritual exercise - Phil 2:10; Mt 5:16)

GET THE MESSAGE STRAIGHT

Be ready to share your own testimony. Learn a simple gospel presentation (eg 4 Spiritual Laws, Steps to Peace With God, etc.)

GET THE MESSAGE OUT

Keep in mind:

- 1) Our own life is very important. Holy Spirit works best through a clean life.
- 2) Imitate Jesus -- serve people and meet needs.
- 3) Remember that you are presenting a PERSON, not a system or a "religion".
- 4) Keep it simple.

Possible questions to help evaluate a person's spiritual position:

- * (After a person has heard a gospel presentation) WHAT DID YOU THINK OF _____?
- * WHEN DID YOU RECEIVE JESUS AS YOUR PERSONAL SAVIOR AND LORD?
- * IF YOU WERE TO DIE TONIGHT, WOULD YOU GO TO HEAVEN?
- * IF YOU WERE TO STAND BEFORE GOD AND HE WERE TO SAY "WHY SHOULD I ACCEPT

YOU INTO MY HEAVEN", WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

"LETS SEE WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS"

OPERATION ANDREW (Billy Graham)

Jn 1:40-42 "Andrew then went to find his brother (Simon Peter)... and he brought him to meet Jesus".

- 1) LOOK AROUND - identify unbelievers God has placed in your life. Make a mental or written list.
- 2) LOOK UP - pray regularly for yourself and the people on your list.
- 3) LOOK OUT - for ways to build relationships with each person.
- 4) LOOK FORWARD - to opportunities to share the gospel and/or invite to an evangelistic event.
- 5) LOOK AFTER - encourage people who receive Christ or show interest in the gospel. Continue to love and pray for those who have not yet responded.

PRAYER GUIDELINES

1) Pray for Believers

- a) Power of Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8)
- b) Eyes opened to the power of God (Eph 3:14-21)
- c) Good witness with our actions; good works (Mt 5:14-16; Col 4:4-6)
- d) Opportunity; open doors (Col 4:3-5)

e) Boldness (Eph 6:19-20; Acts 4:31)

f) Clear, graceful and edifying speech (Col 4:4-6; Eph 4:29)

g) Readiness and ability to explain (I Pet 3:15; Col 4:6)

h) Sending of workers into the harvest (Mt 9:36-38)

2) Pray for Unbelievers

a) Work of the Holy Spirit -- conviction, faith (Jn 16:7-11)

b) Against blinding of unbelievers; open eyes (II Cor 4:3-4; Acts 26:18)

c) Open hearts (Acts 16:14)

d) For binding of Satan, evil spirits, and evil influences in the name of Jesus (Mt 16:19; Mt 18:18; Mt 12:29)

e) Gospel message to be received; gospel to spread rapidly and be glorified (II Thes 3:1)