

Being Witnesses to These Things

A Lord's Flock General Assembly Topic
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Just as the disciples were all witnesses, so are we. In everyday life, we witness a child's birth, college graduation, wedding anniversary, or other life-changing events. We know them to be true because we witnessed them. Most importantly, we are witnesses to the 500 years of Christianity in the Philippines. As followers of Jesus, we are supposed to testify to the truth of Jesus Christ and how He has changed our lives. We have received the Holy Spirit in our hearts so that our fruit will last eternally and we will be living witnesses.

1. What is a witness?

- 1.1. A witness is someone who sees an occurrence and is willing to give a truthful account in public.
- 1.2. Jesus' disciples heard His words and saw the miracles of healing and casting away of demonic spirits. The Lord's presence changed them, and they were witnesses also when He ascended to heaven.
- 1.3. They were troubled when He was executed. But the Lord promised them "You will receive power and you will be my witnesses (Lk. 24:45-49; Mt. 28:19-20; Acts 1:8).
- 1.4. True witnesses do not stop talking about God. Magdalene and the Samaritan woman started witnessing and brought people back to Jesus.
- 1.5. We are also followers of Jesus. We have heard the teachings. We are all witnesses of the Pentecost. We are to go out and give truthful testimony about Him.

2. Jesus Christ proved what He promised.

- 2.1. He promised the Holy Spirit. Without Him, we cannot change. The Holy Spirit will help us produce a fruitful life (Gal. 5:22-23) – a life with love, joy, peace, kindness, generosity, patience, meekness, self-control, and faithfulness.
- 2.2. We are supposed to be witnesses for Jesus, and we do that in our lives (1 Jn. 1:1-4). We will receive the power. "You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem" (Acts 1:8).

3. **The Call to Personal Witnessing.** The highest, primary call of God is for us to witness. How can people be saved if we are quiet? Every person who continues to sin is dead in the eyes of God.
 - 3.1. The call to witness takes precedence over being a missionary. It is our supreme task.
 - 3.2. It is our most precious privilege.
 - 3.3. It is our most pressing responsibility - to bestow the gift of faith to those who will hear us (Rom. 1: 14-16).
 - 3.4. Personal witnessing is the divinely ordained method of saving lost men and women. Jesus Christ used the face-to-face method to show His love as He talked to Zacchaeus, Magdalene, and the Samaritan woman.
 - 3.5. If each of us professing Christians were to win one person, one can become thousands (Isa. 60:22). We should boldly witness to the life that the Lord transformed from evil ways so that others will have hope (2 Tim. 1:7).
 - 3.6. He promised that every believer will experience the Pentecost (Acts 2: 17-18).
4. **How do we become true witnesses?**
 - 1.1. We are witnesses of God's glory. The Lord is always a rewarder. We must share our experiences so others will know.
 - 1.2. St. Peter was bold in witnessing because he saw the glory of God, the transfiguration of Jesus, and heard the voice of God (Mt. 17).
 - 1.3. We have heard the Word of God so many times. Why are we timid in sharing? We can document what we are saying by the power of God's Word; He is the greatest authority.

Conclusion:

We witness best when we share our life and the Word of God. Everything happens because Jesus is always there.

Reflection:

1. Are you afraid to be bold and witness for the Lord? What are you waiting for?
2. Are you sharing what happened to you? Who's going to know about God if you will not witness for Him, share God's Word and God's blessings?

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