



Every Christ follower has been commissioned by Jesus to continue His mission. We are to have *credible character*; our lives are to become more credible (Christ-like). We are to have *close connection* with others; we develop relationships with people who do not know God. We are to have *clear communication*; to communicate the Gospel (Good News) with clarity. Of these 3 areas, which would you identify as the area you would like to grow most in?

Read Matthew 5:14-15. Light by its very nature is to shine. It dispels darkness, it enables people to see, it reveals, and light shows the way. Jesus teaches that the effectiveness of light is conditional, it is not to be concealed, covered, or hidden. On a scale of one to ten, with one being dim & ten being radiant, how bright do you shine?

Sometimes we make excuses for not witnessing for Christ. For some of us, we don't think we are able to do so. We may feel that we are not gifted enough or that we are not educated enough. Have you ever used this excuse to not witness for Christ? If so, describe your experience(s).

Sometimes we feel we don't know what to say to people. We don't feel confident in our answers or that we fully understand doctrine. Sometimes we may feel we don't know how to lead someone to Christ. Read Luke 12:11-12. The Holy Spirit empowers us to BE Jesus' witnesses. He fills us with love, He convicts us, guides us, gives us courage and gives us the words to say. Have you ever experienced the Holy Spirit's power in a situation where you have been sharing Jesus with someone? Share your experiences.



Read 1 Corinthians 1:22-24. The Gospel can be a stumbling block or foolishness to many people. As such, we can sometimes feel people won't respond to us or that we don't have any influence with others. We need to remember, it is not up to us to save anyone, it is God's work. Read Acts 16:14. God does the internal work in people, we are instruments to communicate His message. Are there examples in your life where the pressure, awkwardness or worry ever deterred you from showing and sharing the love & Truth of Christ? Additionally, Beau Crosetto said, "Awkwardness is the gateway to many breakthroughs with people around you. If you want to see God move then you need to enter into the awkwardness." Is there a current opportunity of awkwardness that you can step into?

Read Mark 1:14-15, Luke 8:1, Luke 9:1-2, Acts 1:3, Acts 8:12, Acts 28:31. Gerry described the Good News of Jesus as the opportunity to experience new life in the kingdom of God; provided in & thru Jesus Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit and received by faith. The Gospel is not simply salvation after death, the fullness of the kingdom is available to us today. Gerry described 4 ways to have a spiritual conversation with someone about the kingdom of God:

- we ask people questions about their spiritual journey
- we answer people's questions re: our hope
- we help people understand Jesus & the Gospel
- we tell people our story (experiencing Jesus)

Discuss examples in your life of times where you have talked to someone about Jesus in these 4 ways. What has gone well? What would you say differently next time? Practically speaking, what are some of new things you would talk about &/or ask?