

Maximizing Opportunities To Glorify God

(Part 1)

John 15:1-8

Series Objective

Glorifying God is the intentional deliberate act of honoring God through various means of expressions! We Glorify God through our: Acclamations, Acknowledgements and Accomplishments. Our goal is to be instruments to do things through God's ability that will bring Him glory and honor! This teaching will be to maximize: Management of Financial Resources; Manifestation of Fruits of Righteousness; and Ministry to Family Relationships

Subtitle: The Intentional Sacrifice of Evangelism – Rom. 12:1-2

Objective

This lesson is to prepare us for the greatest harvest in years. My goal this morning is to get you stirred in faith to use every available opportunity to touch the lives of others.

Review

1. Fruit in the Bible references many things among them:
 - a. More Souls *John 15:16*
 - b. Manifested Scripture *Mark 4:20*
 - c. Maturing Spiritually *Gal. 5:22*
 - d. Material Prosperity *Ps. 1:1-3*
 - e. Ministry to the Saints *John 15:16*
2. The harvesting of any type of fruit requires sacrificial effort for success *Luke 13:6*
3. When it comes to the Pursuit of Souls through compassion we are moved to sacrifice

**Def. Sacrifice is going above initial expectations, going without desired experiences, going beyond derailing emotions and to go outside your reasoning paradigm to accomplish or acquire better! Mark 10:28-30 In the midst of sacrifice many feel deprived or discouraged which teeters on depression instead of having joyful confidence in an investment that is being made. When we sacrifice we attract the supernatural Life in Christ characterized by: *Economic Sacrifice *Effort Sacrifice *Emotional Sacrifice *Evaluation Sacrifice *Egotistical Sacrifice*

Introduction

The resurrection of Jesus Christ was all about the commencement of a time of Hope brought about through the sacrifice of the Son of God. This sacrifice and resurrection brought the hope of a supernatural life for all who believe. It models for us the message of sacrifice that we have been teaching. God has given us an assignment to impact lives in a greater way this year than we have done in times past. He is expecting us to pursue this mandate with a great passion. The Spirit of God said; “to the degree that we will put reaching others first we will never have lack in our lives.” **Matt. 6:33**

I. The Urgency Of The Saints Witnessing Acts 1:8

A. The Seriousness Of God’s Mandate to Witness

1. It was Modeled by the Savior **Matt. 9:10-13**... Nicodemus, Woman at the Well
2. It is the Mandate of Scripture **Mark 16:15-18 Luke 24:46-47**
3. It is the Mission of the Saints **Matt. 28:19 Acts 18:10**

B. The Sacrifice For God’s Mandate to Witness Luke 15:4-6

**The Life in Christ that manifests the Fruit of Righteousness is characterized by five essential areas of sacrificial involvement! Witnessing, like giving, must be an intentional deliberate effort! The cultivation of these in the believer’s character will yield the possibility of application in life!*

1. Witnessing Requires An Economic Sacrifice – your giving makes TV possible
2. Witnessing Requires An Effort Sacrifice – going outside of your convenience
3. Witnessing Requires An Emotional Sacrifice – address intimidation, fear & shame
4. Witnessing Requires An Evaluation Sacrifice – nobody is too hard for God to reach
5. Witnessing Requires An Egotistical Sacrifice – to lay aside your agenda & ambitions

C. The Source Of God’s Motivation For Our Witness Acts 5:32

1. The Salvation Decision Postponement Is Reckless **Heb. 2:3**
2. The Sharing Of Dynamics Of Pleasantries We Received
3. The Seeing The Delivering Power Of His Restoration
4. The Savior’s Documented Promise To Reward **John 15:16**

II. The Ultimate Strategy For Witnessing John 20:21

**Def.: Lifestyle Evangelism is the promotion of the lifestyle and love of Jesus in and around the unsaved, the untaught, the unchurched and the uncommitted through genuine*

relationship to allow the Holy Spirit to coordinate a moment to witness and share the Gospel message!

A. The Scriptures Of God's Models For Witnessing *Rom. 15:4*

**I want to impact your thinking about the power of just one person in the scheme of life to bring effective lasting change to others in the Bible. This consciousness can change a church overnight!*

1. The Model of the Witness of the Demonic *Mark 5:19-20*
2. The Model of the Witness of the Good Samaritan *Luke 10:30-35*
3. The Model of the Witness of the Woman at the Well *John 4:28-30, 39-42*

B. The Simplicity Of God's Methods For Witnessing

The case study of the nameless woman who encountered Jesus at the well best illustrates a model of contemporary Christian *John 4:28-30, 39-42

1. The Woman's Importance – is seen because Jesus made a special trip to meet her
2. The Woman's Issues – were known but were not a factor to hinder restoration
3. The Woman's Ignorance – her lack of spiritual focus is common to most people
4. The Woman's Interest – Jesus tapped into her consumer thirst to get her attention
5. The Woman's Inspiration – the encounter caused a redemptive refreshing
6. The Woman's Initiative – her joy overflowed with compassion for others
7. The Woman's Influence – she went to those who she knew needed help
8. The Woman's Invitation – she invited others to experience Jesus

C. The Spiritual God Mentality For Witnessing *Rom. 10:9 Rom. 6:16*

**There are different states of our lordship commitment which really determines our consciousness to reach out to others.*

1. The Resentment Mentality – harboring thoughts of missing out on life
 2. The Contentment Mentality – passive irresponsible stagnant satisfaction
 3. The Entitlement Mentality – selfish “what's in it for me” attitude of demanding
 4. The Excitement Mentality – the overflowing excitement an appreciation that births a desire to tell others. I remember my first job... a friend told me about it... I remember my first visit to a Spirit filled church... a friend told me about it... ***Acts 8:4***
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Conclusion

I grew up in church hearing others testify but I had not been through anything so I could not identify with them. Hearing the talk about the goodness of God was a blessing because when I faced my challenges I remembered what God had done for them. Now I have my own testimony... Got my own story! Everybody has a story that can help others... But it's good to have a testimony of your own... I can't testify like some about abuse... I can't testify like some about deliverance from drugs... I can't talk about Him putting my life back together after a long prison term... But I can say that when my life was in turmoil... I came to know Him in a brand new way! And now I can identify with the songs I heard growing up – What a wonderful change in my life has been wrought since Jesus came into my heart!... I have life ...I'm so glad that Jesus lifted me!
