

# ***“Be-come-ing a Biblical Witness”***

week #2 January 13, 2013

Acts 1:8

**INTRO: VIDEO = “LIFE Curve”**

\*\*\* Last week we received that command/commission (Matthew 28)

\*\*\* This week we receive the capability/capacity (Acts 1:8)

(\*\*\* This week we receive the capability/capacity - Acts 1:8)

Setting of Acts 1:8 (***Authority, Blessing, Mission***)

Words of Acts 1:8

1. ***AUTHORITY:***

- a. “you WILL”
- b. “you will receive POWER”

2. ***BLESSING:***

- a. receiving the POWER of GOD
- b. when the Holy Spirit fills you
- c. “...you will BE My WITNESSES...”

3. ***MISSION***

- a. “...you will be My witnesses”
- b. “...in Jerusalem”
- c. “...in Judea & Samaria”
- d. “...to the ends of the earth.”

Implications of Acts 1:8:

\*\*\* (***concentric circles***)

- A. Local, Regional, Global
  1. Here @ home
  2. Vermont (12’ & 13!)

3. Global:
    - China
    - Lottie Moon
    - Linda Deems
  - B. Today think in reverse...
    1. Family
    2. Friends
    3. Faces
- \*\*\* 15' DAILY CIRCLE!  
 \*\*\* (tight circles = tough)

**VIDEO: “Big Buts”**

Application of Acts 1:8 === relate “make disciples” to “be My witnesses”

T/S: Let’s look at some biblical examples...

**“I Must Evangelize!”**

by  
 Thomas P. Johnston, Ph.D.

*“I must evangelize!”* Who said these words? ...**Jesus in Luke 4:43**. Here’s the context:  
*And when day came, He departed and went to a lonely place; and the multitudes were searching for Him, and came to Him, and tried to keep Him from going away from them. But He said to them, “I must evangelize the kingdom of God to the other cities also, for I was sent for this purpose.”* (Luke 4:42-44)

The words **“I must evangelize”** are found from the mouth of Jesus when the multitudes desired that he not leave them. The mission of Jesus, His “apostleship,” His reason for being sent, was (in large part) to evangelize.

**FAMILY:**

**John 1:35-42** ( “*what do you want...*”) = Illustration of Acts 1:8 (family)

**Andrew immediately goes to his brother Peter...**

- “we have found the Messiah...”
  - “...and he (Andrew) brought him (Peter) to Jesus...”
- \*\*\* You don’t have to be an expert. You don’t need a degree in theology.
- \*\*\* A new Christian once asked Dwight Moody, “How long does a person have to be a Christian before he can start telling other people about Jesus?” **Moody said, “How long does a candle have to burn before it starts lighting up the room?”**

## **FRIENDS:**

**John 1:43-46** ( "*come and see...*" ) = Illustration of Acts 1:8 (friends)

**Philip immediately goes to his friend Nathanael...**

- "...we have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law..."
- "...come and see..." (the easiest evangelistic engagement...)

\*\*\* **"Tell your good friends... about your Best Friend!"** – Idleman

## **VIDEO:    "*Letter from Hell*"**

Key to winning family & friends:   YOUR WITNESS!

**1 Peter 3:15** = always be ready to give a testimony  
to the Hope that you have...

example:       **Transformation Through Christ**  
                    **By Emily Victoria Poquette**

"...the most amazing change that has ever occurred in my life was my transformation from the helplessness of a life devoid of joy, peace, or love, to the power of a life filled with Christ and everything found in Him...."

"Many people who have depression would describe the feeling as having a hole in their chest, and that was how I felt when I battled clinical depression for many years. But when Christ entered into my life, that hole was filled. It's only a shadow of a memory now. My life has been filled by Christ's love and God's grace. It has been a little more than 3 years now, but the difference between Emily Before Christ and Emily After Christ... well, the two are not even remotely the same person. I even refer to myself before I became a Christian as someone different, separate from myself.

Becoming a follower of Christ is truly a rebirth. The old Emily died, and the new Emily was born. I hated the old me. She was miserable, mean, selfish, manipulative, and didn't care whether she lived or died. But now that I abide in Christ, I can see growth in myself in love, truth, grace, peace, and joy. My life has purpose now. And though I hate the sin that dwells within me, I love that Christ has taken up residence in my heart and I am now a new creation in Him...   **That relationship started because someone took the time to share Jesus with me."**

**FACES:**    (*Friendly Faces... Familiar Faces... Faint Faces...*)

Think about your 15' daily "circle"

*FRIENDLY Faces* = You may or may not know their name

*FAMILIAR Faces* = Don't know name... but recognize face

*FAINT Faces* = One-time encounters or distant "least of these"

## **VIDEO: "One Need"**

### **John 4 (Jesus with Samaritan woman at the well)**

- Jesus goes to "**despised**" place
- Jesus goes to a "**despicable**" person

Lessons from Jesus' encounter with the woman:

- Jesus created the encounter... ("You cannot touch... what/whom you cannot reach." – JDP)
- Jesus used questions...
  - Questions are relational...
  - Questions extend respect...
  - Questions test responsiveness...
  - Questions generate responses...

\*\*\* **Key: Your questions must be natural, authentic, & personally relevant (without necessarily being "spiritual" initially)**  
EXAMPLE: "English Corners"

### Jesus steers the Temporary to the Eternal!

- Jesus steers to the spiritual...
  - Natural conversation/questions about drinking water...
  - Jesus shifts conversation to "Living Water"
- Jesus shifts from the spiritual to the personal!
  - "Bridges of God" – Donald McGovern (principle!!!)
    - Look for hurting people (pain is a real bridge)
    - Look for major life changing stages... (birth of baby)
    - Look for unique and less than obvious "bridges"
  - KEY OBSERVATION: read John 4:19...
    - When Jesus gets personal... she gets uncomfortable
    - People try to derail the personal...
    - There is safety in the superficial...
    - People like to hide in the shadows of personal pain
    - Jesus gets personal... she gets theological!!!
- Jesus answers... but stays on course!

- Jesus never gets drawn into debates...
- She ultimately meets & accepts Christ as Living Water

Notice the common thread between this Samaritan woman & the disciples above...

- The Samaritan woman “goes and tells” everyone that will listen...
- Others come to Christ because of her simple “going & telling”
- NOTE: she had “no training,” no resume, no “giftedness,” etc...
- She did have a truthful, transformational encounter with Christ!
- “Stop hiding behind what you don’t have... & start sharing what you do.” - JDP

### **Question of Application:**

*Will you be like Andrew, Philip, & the Samaritan woman?*

- Will you invite others to “come and see” Jesus, our Living Water?
- Will you go to the Family, Friends, & Faces that are in your circles?

T/S: To that end...

I want to close today by showing you something.... & then giving it to you...

**so that you can SHARE IT with someone else...**

**VIDEO:**    *“Invitation”*

**Explain:**

The DVD...

“Be-Come-ing” Series / LIFE Groups...

Matt. 28:16-20 / Acts 1:8 / **Living H2O...**

**Let’s Pray!**