

The Making of Disciples

Lesson 7d

Witnessing to Others

On Being and Making Disciples

- Luke 9:23; 14:26-27
- Disciples' Hand

Witnessing to Others

- The Great Commission: Matthew 28:18-20
- Christ's last words to His Disciple: Acts 1:8



To Make Disciples One MUST Be A Disciple

Lesson 7a - What Did the Master Teach?

Lesson 7b - Am I a Disciple? (See Handout)

Lesson 7c - Cost of Discipleship

Witnessing to the Lost of the World

- ★ One must be a practicing disciple to make disciples. All disciples are commanded to make disciples.
- ★ The goal: Making disciples of Christ.
- ★ Only those BURDENED with the lost of the world will want to sincerely witness to the lost as God teaches.
- ★ We are to witness to the world NOT as man teaches but as God teaches.
- ★ God nowhere promises to bless the programs of men. He does promise to bless those who are obedient to His ways. (Deuteronomy 5:33; 10:12-13; Joshua 1:7-8; 22:5; John 14:21, 23-24)

Salty Salt and Shining Lights

(Matthew 5:13-16)

- God has sent us out in the world to influence it for God and good. (John 17:15-18)
- Christians are IN the world but we are OF it. Christians are RADICALLY different from the citizens of the world. (Philippians 3:20-21; 2 Corinthians 6:14)
- (Matthew 5:13-16) Because the world is so corrupt, God provided a preservative to arrest its corruption. He provided Christians to be the salt of the earth. Because the world sits in darkness, God provided lights.
 - The world is getting worse and worse.
 - Man's morals show his condition. (Isaiah 5:20; Proverbs 17:15; Malachi 2:17; 3:15;)
 - How do we evaluate the world?
 - (Proverbs 1:7)
 - (Luke 16:15)
 - (Romans 1:18-32)
- Christ's says, **"YOU are the salt of the earth. YOU are the light of the world."**
 - ☆ What did the disciples hear when Jesus spoke these words.
 - ★ The pronoun "YOU" is emphatic.
 - ★ "YOU" is plural. This speaks to the Church.
 - ★ The world's corruption and darkness will be illuminated *unless* God's people are salty and shine.
 - ★ "ARE" stress the idea of BEING rather than DOING.
 - ★ Our Master is not commanding us to do something but stating the fact who we ARE.
 - ★ EVERY Christian is the Master's salt and light.
 - ☆ The question is are we what we claim to be.
- The value of salt. How important is it to be made "the salt of the earth."
 - "Salt's ability to preserve food was a founding contributor to the development of civilization. It helped to eliminate dependence on seasonal availability of food, and made it possible to transport food over large distances."



- Ancient Greece: *theon* - "divine.
- Romans: "Except for the sun, nothing was more valuable than salt."
- Consider the saying, "He is not worth his salt."
- Mark of friendship: When friends shared salt together they were "saying" that understood their responsibility in watching out for each other's welfare.
- Binding covenant: When two were entering into a contract (covenant) ate salt together the contract became binding.
 - See 2 Chronicles 13:5; Leviticus 2:13; Numbers 18:19.
- Why was salt so valuable? Because of its preservative characteristic!
- ★ One day God will remove His "salt and light" and then the world will see evil without limits!! (2 Thessalonians 2:7-12)
- **WARNING:** When salt loses its or has no saltiness is of NO VALUE.
 - It becomes good for NOTHING!
 - Salt from the Dead Sea. Contaminated with other minerals. It has no value.
 - Pure salt can never lose its "saltiness".
- ★ These warning from Christ must be taken very seriously.
- Shining Lights. Salt's "influence" works "invisibly", but light is obvious.
- Light exposes darkness and causes darkness to flee.
- Christ is the "Light of the World" (John 8:12) and Christians reflect His light into the world.
 - (Psalm 36:9) In HIS light we see light! (TAKE HEED - Luke 11:35)
 - (1 John 1:5-7) We are to walk in the light JUST AS He is in the light.
 - (Psalm 119:105) His light (His Word) are our guide through this wilderness.
 - (Ephesians 5:8) We **were** darkness, but now we **are** light.
 - (Ephesians 5:8) We are commanded to walk (live) as children of light. (1 Thessalonians 5:5)
 - (Ephesians 5:8-14) We are not to participate in darkness but expose it. (Romans 13:12)
 - (Philippians 2:15) We are to shine as lights in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation.
 - (Proverbs 4:18) Our light get brighter and brighter as we mature as disciples.
 - (Colossians 1:13) We were delivered out of the power of darkness into His marvelous life. (1 Peter 2:9)

- An example: John the Baptist - John 5:33-35.
- (Matthew 5:15-16) We are SHINE so that ALL can see.
- ★ "Christ never contemplated the production of secret Christians, Christians whose virtues never be displayed, pilgrims who would travel to heaven by night, and never be seen by their fellow pilgrims or anyone else." (CHS)
- ★ Christians are obligated to be seen, and they are obligated to let their light be seen.
- ★ Either one is walking (living) in darkness or in THE light. (See 1 John 2:9, 11)
- ★ It is not what we say we are but who we ARE. (Matthew 5:13)

The Purpose of BEING Salt and Light (Matthew 5:16)

- Christians are saved unto good works. (Ephesians 2:10)
- Christ's *special people* are zealous for good works. (Titus 2:14)
- Christian are salt and light NOT to draw attention to them but to GOD!
- So, in all of living, we are to be salt and shining lights so that God is glorified.
 - 1 Peter 2:12; Colossians 3:17, 23.
- NOT being salt and shining as lights does not glorify God.
- ★ So, let us stir each other up to good works. (Hebrews 10:24)

