

Life on Mission: Share
September 30, 2018
Lynn Haven UMC

Introduction

The Word that gives life was from the beginning, and this is the One our message is about. Our ears have heard, our eyes have seen, and our hands have touched this Word. The One who gives life appeared! We saw it happen, and we are witnesses to what we have seen. Now we are telling you about this eternal life that was with the Father and appeared to us. We are telling you what we have seen and heard, so you may share in this life with us. And we share in it with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. (1 John 1:1-3 CEV)

What do you think of when you hear the word witness? A protection program? A courtroom? Does it make you think of yourself? As Jesus instructs in Acts 1:8, with the help of the Holy Spirit, each of us are meant to be His witnesses telling people about Him in every part of the world. So how can our words and actions convey what we personally know about Jesus Christ? This week we will discuss the ways in which we can spread the Gospel by sharing what we have heard, seen and experienced as we strive to live our lives on mission.

Digging Deeper

As Christ's witnesses, we share what we have...

HEARD.

- How did you hear and receive the Gospel of Jesus Christ? Did someone else's testimony invoke feelings in you that made you want some of what they have? Everyone has a Jesus story. Whether it is dramatic or quite ordinary, you have a tale worth telling. You may hesitate and say, "Who me? I'm no pastor. I don't know what to say!" Christ commanded us to tell others about Him and promised to give us the power to do it. Besides, no one else can tell your story like you can. So what is holding you back? Go and share your story of what you have heard about Christ and how that caused you to respond in faith that saved you.

SEEN

- The greatest part of telling others about the Lord is that you now have the opportunity to affect the lives of others for good; now they will have the chance to come to know Christ as their Savior. If something you have seen could help accomplish this, what a privilege it would be to get to share it for this heavenly purpose! What have you seen God do lately? Go and tell someone. Be a witness for Christ.

EXPERIENCED

- In a courtroom, a witness testifies to the things they have personally seen and heard; they give an account based on what they have observed or experienced as it relates to the situation at hand. As Christians, we have the opportunity (and responsibility) to tell others what we have seen, heard and experienced in our walk with the Lord. Luke 8:39 reminds us that when God delivers us from trials in this life, the best way to honor Him is by going and telling others about His goodness. How have you experienced God in a life-changing way?

Conclusion

So what is our witness? It is more than a bumper sticker or a Scripture shared on social media. It is more than the occasional “honorable mention” of Jesus’ name. It is a lifestyle of word and deed that together presents Christ to a lost and confused world. Actively employing our witness is how we will know we are living a life on mission.