

“To Bear Witness of the Light”

HOW TO BE A WITNESS FOR JESUS CHRIST

Lessons About Winning Souls From the Book of John

LESSON 1: FINDING SOMEBODY

(Chapter 1)

We are going to read the Book of John again, this time looking for help in our personal efforts to bring others to Jesus. If you are not now following the church-calendar through-the-Bible plan, you may wish to concentrate on reading John in your devotions in the next seven weeks. You could read the whole book seven times between today (February 2) and March 23, the day the final lesson will be taught. This would be an excellent idea, and would involve reading John once a week at three chapters a day. At the end of the seven weeks, your Bible will open automatically to the Book of John! Also you will become very familiar with the wonderful truths taught in this the most basic portion of scripture. Another idea would be to read John twice over the next six weeks, at one chapter a day. Today's lesson is about the first witnesses for Christ brought to us in the Book of John, and about the principle of going out and *finding somebody* to win.

1. Followers (verses 1-37).

John the Baptist pointed his followers to Jesus.

“Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples; and looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God! And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus.” (vs. 35-37)

Nearly all of us have people who look to us for leadership: employees, younger colleagues, students, admirers, certain acquaintances. We have an unusual opportunity to influence such people to accept Jesus Christ as their Savior. Notice that John was . . .

- a. *“A man sent from God”* (v. 6).
- b. *“A witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe”* (v. 7).
- c. *“Not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light”* (v. 8).
- d. *“The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord”* (v. 23).
- e. One who *“bare record that this is the son of God”* (v. 34).

We too are to bear witness to Christ, that He is the Son of God and the Light of the world. Those who look to us for guidance should hear our testimony of faith in Him.

2. Family-members (verses 38-42).

One of John's disciples, named Andrew, *“findeth his own brother”* and pointed him to Christ. Those won should win others, and they can all do it!

The key to success is often just *finding somebody* and *trying* to win him to the Lord Jesus. Whom could you find this week and work to win? Andrew went after his brother Simon. Do you have a relative that is still unsaved? Why don't you just set out to get him saved? Relatives often will listen to us when others won't.

"If by any means I may provoke to emulation them which are my flesh, and might save some of them." (Romans 11:14)

"How knowest thou, O man, whether thou shalt save thy wife?" (I Corinthians 7:16)

"Ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; while they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear." (I Peter 3:1-2)

3. **Friends** (verses 43-51).

Notice in verse 43 that Jesus "*findeth Philip*" and in verse 45 that "*Philip findeth Nathanael*." The result was that both Philip and Nathanael became followers of Jesus. There is great power in just going out and finding someone to win! If you know very little about how to win a soul to Christ, you can be instrumental in winning some by simply *trying*. Pick a friend, and set out to win his soul. Work on him to come to Sunday School and church. Ask him to let you take him in your car. Pray for him every day. Be earnest about it. Seek his salvation until it is secured. Give him Gospel literature. Get him back to church a second time. Work at it, and see the Lord bless your efforts. Many sinners never come to Jesus because no one is even trying to bring them to Him! Obviously Nathanael was Philip's friend. Do you have a friend you could find and point to Jesus Christ?

USING JOHN 1:1-14 TO SHOW THE WAY!

1. **The issue of sin: verses 4-5, 9-11.**

Men live in the darkness of sin and reject the Light of God. We have all done it, and are guilty.

2. **The issue of Christ: verses 1-3, 14.**

Jesus Christ is God and the Son of God. Only through Him may men be saved from the penalty for their sins. He died for our sins, and rose again for our salvation.

3. **The issue of faith: verses 6-8, 12-13.**

Sinners are saved when the "*believe on*" the Lord Jesus Christ, which is the same as receiving Him.