

# **THE DARKNESS** **THE LOST** **THE BACKSLIDER** **THE FAMILY** **FIGHT-INVITE-RENEW-ENCOURAGE**

Isaiah 6:8 "And I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Who will I send, and who will go for us? Then I said here am I; send me!"

## **- "OUR COMMISSION & MISSION, GIVES US PERMISSION" -**

We have been called by God and our Lord Jesus Christ to make disciples of all people. This is a command from Jesus, it is not a suggestion! So, as it has been said before, "there are only two types of Christians in the world: Missionaries or imposters." While the mission field will change, the calling never does. In many forms and ways we are all given a mission field. We are all gifted in various ways, yet these gifts are given to support and facilitate the spreading of the Good News about Jesus. This will be our focus in this two-part Bible study.

### *MATTHEW 28:18-20: THE DECLARATION OF AUTHORITY & ENLISTMENT*

1. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me." **Jesus has the Authority to command the troops and give us our orders.**
2. "Go therefore" **This is our Commission from Jesus; the commission gives us authority to act on behalf of the one who sends us. We speak and act as if Jesus Himself was standing in front of the people we talk to.**
3. "And make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." **This is our Mission. We are commissioned officers in the Army of God. We have been given orders. We follow these orders to the Glory of God!**
4. "And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." **We are never alone in this mighty work. The One who gives the authority to do what we do is always with us to back up our right and privilege to work for the kingdom of God.**

### *WE ARE NOW CALLED TO BE AMBASSADORS OF CHRIST & THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*

2 Corinthians 5:20 "Therefore we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making his plea through us. We plead with you on Christ's behalf, "Be reconciled to God!"

**As Ambassadors, you are called to seek what is best for the Kingdom of Heaven, and the One who has enlisted you into the service of Heaven.**

2 Timothy 2:3-4 "You therefore must endure hardship, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. (4) **No soldier on duty entangles himself in the affairs of life, that he may please him who enrolled him as a soldier.**"

**Jesus gave us the perfect example on how to go about this work.**

**1 Peter 2:21-22** “For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving you an example, that you should follow his steps, (22) who didn’t sin, “neither was deceit found in his mouth.”

## LET'S LOOK AT THE PERFECT EXAMPLE OF JESUS

- **Jesus' goal is now our goal.**

**John 3:17** “For God didn’t send his Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world should be saved through him.”

- **Jesus' call is now our call.**

**Luke 5:31-32** “Jesus answered them, “Those who are healthy have no need for a physician, but those who are sick do. (32) I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

- **What Jesus sought is now what we seek.**

**Luke 19:10** “For the Son of Man came to seek and to save that which was lost.”

- **Jesus' declaration is now our declaration.**

**Matthew 4:17** “From that time, Jesus began to preach, and to say, “Repent! For the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.”

**Mark 1:14-15** “Now after John was taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the Good News of God’s Kingdom, (15) and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and God’s Kingdom is at hand! Repent, and believe in the Good News.”

- **Jesus' words must be our words.**

**-John 14:10a** “Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? The words that I tell you, I speak not from myself;...”

**John 6:63** “It is the spirit who gives life. The flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and are life.”

- **Jesus' Works Must Be Our Works.**

**-John 14:10b** “...but the Father who lives in me does his works.”

## THE BENEFITS OF BEING AN AMBASSADOR

### POWER TO ASK

**John 14:13-14** “And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. (14) If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.”

➤ **The Qualification For This Release Of Power.**

**John 15:7-8** “If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you want, and it will be done for you. (8) My Father is honored by this, that you bear much fruit and show that you are my disciples.”

### POWER TO BIND AND LOOSE

**Matthew 18:18** “I tell you the truth, whatever you bind on earth will have been bound in heaven, and whatever you release on earth will have been released in heaven.”

➤ **The Qualification For This Power Release.**

**Matthew 18:19-20** “Again, I tell you the truth, if two of you on earth agree about whatever you ask, my Father in heaven will do it for you. (20) For where two or three are assembled in my name, I am there among them.”

# Work-Reward-Treasure

**2 TIMOTHY 4:5** “BUT YOU BE SOBER IN ALL THINGS, SUFFER HARDSHIP, DO THE WORK OF AN EVANGELIST, AND FULFILL YOUR MINISTRY.”

I have come to learn that one of the greatest rewards in ministry is in the “doing”. Being used by God is a wonderful feeling. To think the God of the Universe is allowing me to partner with Him and go forth and speak His word. Well, that just blows my mind. He could have come up with a million other ways. But He has chosen humanity to bring Him glory. In that I find great reward and pleasure. He has many more treasures awaiting us in Heaven, but for now,  
**God is my great reward! He always will be!**

### ❖ Time to get to work and punch that clock!

**1 Corinthians 3:8-9** “The one who plants and the one who waters work as one, but each will receive his reward according to his work. (9) We are coworkers belonging to God. You are God’s field, God’s building.”

**1 Corinthians 15:58** “So then, dear brothers and sisters, be firm. Do not be moved! Always be outstanding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.”

**Colossians 3:23-24** “Whatever you are doing, work at it with enthusiasm, as to the Lord and not for people, (24) because you know that you will receive your inheritance from the Lord as the reward. Serve the Lord Christ.”

### ❖ Work despite the persecution.

**Matthew 5:10-12** “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to them. (11) “Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you and say all kinds of evil things about you falsely on account of me. (12) Rejoice and be glad, because your reward is great in heaven, for they persecuted the prophets before you in the same way.”

**Hebrews 10:32-36** “But remember the former days when you endured a harsh conflict of suffering after you were enlightened. (33) At times you were publicly exposed to abuse and afflictions, and at other times you came to share with others who were treated in that way. (34) For in fact you shared the sufferings of those in prison, and you accepted the confiscation of your belongings with joy, because you knew that you certainly had a better and lasting possession. (35) So do not throw away your confidence, because it has great reward. (36) For you need endurance in order to do God’s will and so receive what is promised.”

### ❖ Your work will be tried in the fire.

**2 John 1:8** “Watch out, so that you do not lose the things we have worked for, but receive a full reward.”

**1 Corinthians 3:12-15** “If anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, or straw, (13) each builder’s work will be plainly seen, for the Day will make it clear, because it will be revealed by fire. And the fire will test what kind of work each has done. (14) If what someone has built survives, he will receive a reward. (15) If someone’s work is burned up, he will suffer loss. He himself will be saved, but only as through fire.

### ❖ Don’t invest in the wrong treasure.

**Matthew 6:19-21** “Do not accumulate for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and devouring insect destroy and where thieves break in and steal. (20) But accumulate for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and devouring insect do not destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. (21) For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

**Luke 12:16-21** “He then told them a parable: “The land of a certain rich man produced an abundant crop, (17) so he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ (18) Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. (19) And I will say to myself, “You have plenty of goods stored up for many years; relax, eat, drink, celebrate!”’ (20) But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded back from you, but who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’ (21) So it is with the one who stores up riches for himself, but is not rich toward God.”

**Matthew 19:21** “Jesus said to him, “If you wish to be perfect, go sell your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

### ❖ **Behold, He comes quickly and He will reward.**

**1 Peter 1:17-19** “If you call on him as Father, who without respect of persons judges according to each man’s work, pass the time of your living as foreigners here in reverent fear: (18) knowing that you were redeemed, not with corruptible things, with silver or gold, from the useless way of life handed down from your fathers, (19) but with precious blood, as of a lamb without blemish or spot, the blood of Christ;”

**Matthew 16:25-27** “For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, and whoever will lose his life for my sake will find it. (26) For what will it profit a man, if he gains the whole world, and forfeits his life? Or what will a man give in exchange for his life? (27) For the Son of Man will come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and then he will render to everyone according to his deeds.”

**1 Timothy 5:17-18** “Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and in teaching. (18) For the Scripture says, “You shall not muzzle the ox when it treads out the grain.” And, “The laborer is worthy of his wages.”

**Revelation 22:12-14** “Behold, I come quickly. My reward is with me, to repay to each man according to his work. (13) I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. (14) Blessed are those who do his commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter in by the gates into the city.”

# WITNESSING TIPS: THE DO'S AND DON'TS

## THE DO LIST - PART 1

1. Do always carry a small Bible/Bible Phone App.
2. Do have a pleasant and confident demeanor.
3. Do have a clean body, and fresh breath.
4. Do always introduce yourself and your partner.
5. Do, if at all possible, try to have Man and Woman teams. Man to Man, Woman to Woman.
6. Do find out which person has the best rapport with the person being witnessed to, and let that person talk to him. The others should pray silently.
7. Do not let distractions deter the conversation. If possible, the silent partner should take care of all distractions.
8. Do listen closely for hints of hang ups and indecision. Confront those before asking them to give their life to Christ.
9. Do observe all things in the room or surroundings. There could be someone else listening. The silent partner should go and talk with that person.

**DO NOT LET ANYONE OR ANYTHING DISTRACT YOU ONCE YOU HAVE  
STARTED LEADING SOMEONE TO THE LORD!**

## PRO TIPS - PART 1

- 1.) With all people that are strong in their opinions, the greatest witness is always our life style and practicing what we preach. They can deny every Bible verse, but they can't deny the life of a Christian.
- 2.) Don't argue. It is better to lose an argument than to lose a soul.
- 3.) Remember that it's not a Christians purpose to answer every question, but to be the living embodiment of the answer.
- 4.) Don't strive to convert souls, but just be able to witness the conversions. (God is the soul converter, not Christians.) It is our blessing to be the conductive tool that He uses. Ask God to place you in the position for His best interest. He will use you.

**IT'S NOT SAFE... BUT IT'S SO GOOD**

## ~CLOSING:

Like the old saying goes: Is there enough evidence in your life to convict you of being a Christian in a court of Law?

If the leader and originator of Christianity tells His followers to make disciples of all people, could we not conclude that a true believer would be doing just that? It would convey to those investigating the life of a self-proclaimed Christian that this individual must be what they claim for to obey their leader. Yet, if the investigators found that this individual knew of this command but refused to follow it, then the investigator would conclude that individual was not a true believer. They would be marked as an imposter or free agent, pretending to follow Jesus. This is what we find in western Christianity. Either poorly educated believers never being taught of this command by Jesus, or complacent disobedient believers. Then there is the very few "Remnant" who actively make it a priority every day to find ways to share the love of God and Jesus. Those who obey God receive special blessings and assurance from God and Jesus, along with great rewards for their efforts. Please open your heart and mind to the guidance of the Holy Spirit concerning this. If you want a spiritually fulfilling and meaningful walk with God, you must be in the service of your Lord.

## ~CLOSING VERSE: BE THE WISE & FAITHFUL SERVANT

**Luke 12:42-48** "The Lord replied, "Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom the master puts in charge of his household servants, to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? (43) Blessed is that slave whom his master finds at work when he returns. (44) I tell you the truth, the master will put him in charge of all his possessions. (45) But if that slave should say to himself, 'My master is delayed in returning,' and he begins to beat the other slaves, both men and women, and to eat, drink, and get drunk, (46) then the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not foresee, and will cut him in two, and assign him a place with the unfaithful. (47) That servant who knew his master's will but did not get ready or do what his master asked will receive a severe beating. (48) But the one who did not know his master's will and did things worthy of punishment will receive a light beating. From everyone who has been given much, much will be required, and from the one who has been entrusted with much, even more will be asked."