

Dear God... Save Someone I Love

(Sharing your Faith)

March 20-21, 2010

Know what you believe.

Work hard so you can present yourself to God and receive his approval. Be a good worker, one who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly explains the word of truth.

2 Timothy chapter 2, verse 15 (915)

- ✓ You don't need a theology degree to share your faith.
- ✓ We all should be learning the basics of our faith.
- ✓ A big part of our spiritual growth is knowing God's truth.
- ✓ Get involved in a bible study such as WOW or B & B.
- ✓ Realize that you can't answer every question that a seeker asks.
- ✓ It's ok to say "I don't know but I trust God with it"

Know your story.

"But I know this: I was blind, and now I can see!" John chapter 9, verse 25 (818)

- Sharing your faith is simply a matter of telling your story about who you love and what he's done for you.
- A changed life is the most powerful thing you can share with someone.
- Your story is powerful because it's about a rescued life.

As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon possessed begged to go with him. But Jesus said, "No, go home to your family, and tell them everything the Lord has done for you and how merciful he has been." Mark chapter 5, verses 18-19 (765)

Your story consists of three things.

Part One - What events in your life caused you to seek a relationship with God?

Part Two - How did you come into a personal relationship with Christ?

Part Three - What has happened since? In other words, what difference has knowing Christ made in your life?

Know that God will bring lost people across your path.

And if someone asks about your Christian hope, always be ready to explain it. But do this in a gentle and respectful way. 1 Peter chapter 3, verse 15 & 16 (936)

- ✓ God is working behind the scenes so be ready to be used.
- ✓ Are we aware of the lost and hurting people around us?
- ✓ Realize that your actions will always speak louder than your words.
- ✓ Are you a good neighbor with a good reputation?

A vast crowd was there as he stepped from the boat, and he had compassion on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he taught them many things. Mark chapter 6, verse 34 (766)

Know that the Holy Spirit is the one who changes hearts.

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts chapter 1, verse 8 (831)

And when he comes, he will convict the world of its sin, and of God’s righteousness, and of the coming judgment. The world’s sin is that it refuses to believe in me.

John chapter 16, verses 8-9 (824)

- Don’t argue religion with people.
- Don’t judge their sin. Let God do this.
- “be gentle and respectful”

Going Further...

1. Begin a personal study of the basics of the Faith.
 - Know What You Believe – by Paul Little
 - Be familiar with Bethel’s “What We Believe” statement
 - Ask God for Understanding
2. Write out your story/testimony.
 - Share it with another person.
3. Begin praying everyday for lost friends and family by name.
 - Connect with them so that they can connect with Jesus.
 - Show love and compassion knowing that this is the best way to share Christ
 - Trust God for the results.

Next Week... How to encourage someone who’s walked away from God.