

A Pastor's Heart

Encouragement from Pastor McGill

Stand up for the Gospel

Romans 1:16, "For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."

I have noticed that many people who go to church have no problem witnessing and testifying to people who are in church. It is human nature to be at ease talking to people who are like-minded. Jesus has ordained us to be a witness to everyone especially to those who are outside of the church and have yet to receive salvation. Too often we believe that we must be called into evangelistic ministry in order to win people to the Lord. Once we are born again, we become soldiers who have been given the authority to witness and are qualified at that moment to testify. There are many factors that I have found that contribute to our being timid when it involves witnessing to others. Fear is the main culprit. Fear of rejection, low self esteem, fear of not being astute enough in scripture or feeling unqualified are just a few. These are all feelings. We must not allow feelings to rob us of God's best for us. I will remind you of the woman of Samaria that Jesus encountered at the well in John's Gospel chapter 4. This woman was a sinner, living in sin and hiding from church people. Jesus made sure He arrived to meet her at a time when she wasn't expecting. He engaged her in conversation. He began the conversation. He treated her with kindness and did not judge her condition.

How terrible it would be if a patient who was diseased and broken went to the doctor for help and the doctor immediately began to judge and mock and reprimand the patient for being in that condition. No doctor would do such a thing. They would immediately begin treatment to help the patient to a path of recovery. Too often we don't view people as being diseased or sick spiritually. Jesus saw this woman's sickness and healed her. He had to look beyond the flesh. How many people have we encountered that looked good on the outside but were broken and lost on the inside. The woman immediately left and began to witness to people she knew and didn't know in her home town. She got the whole town excited about this Man who had transformed her life. Jesus gave her no formal evangelistic training; He did not take her through school or minister's class. He took the time to minister to her where she was.

This woman was not ashamed of the Gospel. She realized its power and evangelized an entire city. Every person we will ever encounter is in need of a savior. We cannot be moved by appearances. We must be moved by His spirit. How many people have you talked to this week about Jesus? How many people have you invited to church to hear about Jesus? How many people have you personally witnessed to this week? We can all do more for the cause of Christ. We are not ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Make it a great day.

Blessings and Peace

Pastor McGill