

DISCIPLESHIP LESSON #10

OUR LORD'S COMMISSION

As you go through each lesson, look up the Bible verses and answer the questions in the blanks provided. When you are finished with this lesson you and your mentor will meet to discuss your answers and any questions you may have. This is not a pass/fail test, so answer honestly as you understand things. We want you to understand, not just to give the "right" answer.



The Bible teaches us that we should be soulwinners for Jesus, and that we should also witness. This is the heartbeat of The Great Commission given by the Lord Jesus – and it starts at home! You don't have to get on a plan or a ship to begin as a missionary. Go now! Start where you are!

We should be telling others who have not yet accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior that they *need* to be saved, that they *can* be saved, and then we should give them an *opportunity* to hear the gospel so they can be saved from their sins.

In the following study, we will look into some of the experiences of others as they witnessed for the Lord, and also complete instructions on just how to go about leading someone to Jesus.

1. Read John 1:40-42a. After Andrew had found Christ, what did he do?

2. Read John 1:45. What did Philip do when he found Christ and started following Him?

- 3. Read John 1:46b. When Nathanael doubted, what was Philip's answer?
- 4. Read John 4:28-29. What did the woman of Samaria do when she realized she had actually met the Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son?
- 5. Read John 9:11. After the blind man had met Christ, what did he tell his friends?
- 6. Read John 9:25. Could the blind man answer all the questions his friends asked him about Jesus?

🗆 Yes 🛛 No

7. Read John 9:25c. What did the blind man tell them?

From what we have learned so far, it is evident that those who really knew the Lord Jesus were anxious to tell others what He had done for them.

Remember: Witnessing effectively without a life to back it up is like trying to live without breathing. It is impossible!

- 8. Read John 13:34-35. What is one way in which a person's life will back up his testimony? (See also I Corinthians 13:1)
- 9. Read John 20:21b. Who is supposed to tell others about the Lord Jesus?

10. Read John 15:16a. Did the Lord Jesus ordain (appoint) all Christians to a task?

 \Box Yes \Box No

- 11. Re-read John 15:16a. What two things are we ordained (appointed) to do?
 - A. ______ B.
- **12.** Read **II Peter 3:9.** How many of your family, friends, and personal contacts does God want to save from the judgment of their sins?
- 13. Read Matthew 9:12-13. What kind of people is God interested in saving?
- **14.** Read Luke 9:26. What does our Lord Jesus Christ say about the one who is ashamed of Him?
- **15.** Why must we tell people that Jesus I the Way, the Truth, and the Life?

A. Read John 14:6b_____

B. Read Acts 4:12_____

C. Read Mark 16:16b_____

- **16.** Read II Corinthians 5:14-15. What caused the Apostle Paul to witness about the Lord Jesus?
- 17. Read Acts 1:8. Does God expect us to witness in our own strength?

🗆 Yes 🛛 No

18. Read John 14:26. If we have been obedient in reading, studying, meditating upon, and memorizing God's Word, how will the Holy Spirit help us when we try to tell others about the Lord Jesus?

Psalm 107:2 - (NASB) Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom He has redeemed from the hand of the adversary (enemy).

19. What did you learn from this lesson that you did not know?

20. How can you make this a part of your everyday life?



What I Need to Know About My New Life in Christ

MEMORIZE THESE VERSES for Lesson TEN

(pick the translation that works best for you)

Title to verses: Soul-Winning

Proverbs 11:30 (KJV) The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.

Proverbs 11:30 (NASB) The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who is wise wins souls.

Matthew 28:19-20 (KJV) Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Matthew 28:19-20 (NASB) Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and Io, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."



Write out your own testimony as though you were telling someone what the Lord Jesus has done for you. Your testimony is simply:

A. Write down those things that you know have happened already in your life due to the fact you have invited The Lord Jesus Christ into your Life

B. Write down the circumstances surrounding this event:

C. A salvation testimony should be divided into three parts:

a. What your life was like before you met Christ:

b. What led to your acceptance of Christ:

c. How your life has been different since you met Christ:

ACCOUNTABILITY PAGE

My Name:			
My Mentor's Name:			
Date I completed Lesson Ten:			
My Mentor's Signature:			
A Pastor's Signature:			
HAMILTON SQUARE BAPTIST CHURCH			
Remember: It's important to be at church whenever you are able, so you can			
continue to grow in the Lord!			
SUNDAYS			
9:45 am – Bible Study or Sunday School			
10:50 am – Morning Worship Service			
Lunch & Mingle			
1:30 pm – Afternoon Church Service			
WEDNESDAYS			
7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Study & Prayer Meeting			





HOW TO WITNESS (BE A SPOKESPERSON) FOR JESUS CHRIST



Many if not all Christian believers have a great desire to share their faith in Christ, but often feel unprepared to do so.

This section of your Lesson Ten should help to answer some of your questions about witnessing; and should help prepare you to make witnessing a regular and natural part of your life.

• FOUR IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

1. WHAT IS WITNESSING? A witness is a person who tells what he sees, what he hears, and what he feels.

1 John 1:1-3 (NASB) What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have **seen** with our eyes, what we have **looked at** and **touched** with our hands, concerning the Word of Life — 2 and the life was manifested, and **we have seen and testify and proclaim to you** the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us — 3 what we have **seen** and **heard we proclaim to you** also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.

This is what a witness is – someone who tells others of their experience with Jesus Christ.

2. HOW DO I BECOME A WITNESS? You become a witness when you become a Christian. You don't sit down and decide whether or not you're going to be a witness, because you already are one! The only question is whether or not you are willing to stand up and give your testimony, and whether you be useful as a witness or detrimental as a witness.

Your life automatically witnesses of the benefits of becoming a Christian or the problems caused by becoming a Christian.

3. WHAT IS WITNESSING ALL ABOUT? In the New Testament, Jesus Christ is pictured as being on trial before the world. The Holy Spirit is the lawyer for the defense and is convincing the world that Jesus is the Christ – the Messiah.



As the defense lawyer, the Holy Spirit calls witnesses into the court of the world to give testimony regarding who Jesus is. We are those witnesses. What our lives say to the world either depicts Jesus Christ accurately or undermines what the Holy Spirit is trying to accomplish.

Our lives and our words are an extremely important part of "the case" the Holy Spirit is building to present Jesus Christ to the world.

4. WHAT IS TO BE THE ATTITUDE OF A CHRISTIAN WITNESS?

A certain amount of sacrifice is involved. You have to care more about what the world thinks of Jesus than you do about what the world thinks of you. This helps you step out of yourself and not worry about your ego, pride, embarrassment, etc.

1 John 1:1-3 (NASB) What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have **seen** with our eyes, what we have **looked at** and **touched** with our hands, concerning the Word of Life— 2 and the life was manifested, and **we have seen and testify and proclaim to you** the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us— 3 what we have **seen** and **heard we proclaim to you** also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.

FOUR IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

- 1. WHY IS IT NECESSARY TO WITNESS FOR JESUS CHRIST?
 - a. First of all IT IS COMMANDED!



- Matthew 5:14-16 (NASB) 14 "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; 15 nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. 16 Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven."
- Matthew 28:19-20 (NASB) "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."
- ACTS 1:8 (NASB) "...You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."
- I Peter 2:9 (NASB) ... You are A chosen race, A royal priesthood, A holy nation, A people for God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light

b. Secondly – IT IS A MATTER OF THEOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE

If you have received Christ, you *are* a witness. It doesn't matter how much theology you know. The Holy Spirit will take what you say and make it accomplish what He wants. If you think you're inadequate, *you're right!* If you think He's inadequate, you're wrong. The Holy Spirit will take your inadequacy and make it adequate. Your responsibility is to say what you *do* know. At least you know that Jesus saved you, forgave your sins and put peace in your heart. If this is all you can say, the Holy Spirit will use it.

2. WHAT ARE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF WITNESSING FOR JESUS CHRIST?

a. A CHURCH'S TESTIMONY IN THE COMMUNITY

The way the community perceives the church is based upon the testimony of its individual members. This corporate testimony then gives a believable foundation for each member's individual testimony. Personal evangelism takes on unusual significance against the backdrop of a mature body of local believers.

In the New Testament, the functioning body of Christ sets the state for individual witnessing. Notice the following quotes concerning the reputation of Christians amongst the unsaved.

- JESUS said, "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." - John 13:35 (NASB)
- JESUS also said, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 19:19b (NASB)
- The Apostle PAUL SAID, "...If there is any other commandment, it is summed up in this saying, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." – Romans 13:9 (NASB)
- The Apostle PETER said, "Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation." I Peter 2:12 (NASB)

b. YOUR TESTIMONY IN THE COMMUNITY AS AN INDIVIDUAL

Your life makes your spoken testimony believable. In fact, your life says *more* than your words do. If you are living an ungodly life you will

not only undermine your own personal witness, but it will also undermine the testimony of other Christians.

Notice what the Bible says in **I Peter** concerning the importance of your personal testimony...

- **Gold The Peter 2:15 (NASB)** "...Such is the will of God that by doing right you may silence the ignorance of foolish men."
- I Peter 3:16 (NASB) "...Keep a good conscience so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ will be put to shame."

c. YOUR FAITHFULNESS TO THE SCRIPTURES

You must be able to relate your testimony to the Scriptures. That means that you must be able to define Christianity biblically; therefore, it is important to know and use the Scriptures as you witness.

Romans 10:17 (NASB) "...Faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ."

Find the verses that you find most helpful to you for witnessing and then learn them well. Here are some basic verses to *memorize* as you begin your witnessing ministry:

- John 3:16-18 (NASB) "...God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. 18 He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."
- **GROMANS 3:10** (NASB) "...It is written, "There is none righteous, not even one."
- Romans 3:23 (NASB) "...For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."
- Romans 5:8 (NASB) "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

d. THE HELP AND LEADING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Nobody ever came to Christ apart from the working of the Holy Spirit. He does the work of salvation. The following passages reveal the Holy Spirit's work in witnessing:

John 16:7-15 (NASB) "...I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. 8 And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment; 9 concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10 and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me; 11 and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged. 12 "I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. 14 He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you. 15 All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose it to you.

Acts 16:6-12 (NASB) They passed through the Phrygian and Galatian region, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia; 7 and after they came to Mysia, they were trying to go into Bithynia, and the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them; 8 and passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas. 9 A vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing and appealing to him, and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." 10 When he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them. 11 So putting out to sea from Troas, we ran a straight course to Samothrace, and on the day following to Neapolis; 12 and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia, a Roman colony; and we were staying in this city for some days.

- Acts 16:14 (NASB) "A woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul."
- **Gold 1 Corinthians 2:6-14** (NASB) ... We do speak wisdom among those who are mature; a wisdom, however, not of this age nor of the rulers of this age, who are passing away; 7 but we speak God's wisdom in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God predestined before the ages to our glory; 8 the wisdom which none of the rulers of this age has understood; for if they had understood it they would not have crucified the Lord of glory; 9 but just as it is written, "Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, And which have not entered the heart of man, All that God has prepared for those who love Him." 10 For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. 11 For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, 13 which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words. 14 But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.

Our responsibility is to give our testimony and to spread the Word of God. The Holy Spirit will then take it and make it applicable to the situation.

• WHAT ARE TOOLS I CAN USE WHEN I WITNESS FOR JESUS CHRIST?

There are three tools which are invaluable in your witness for Christ. These are your personal testimony, printed materials, and questions to help get things started.



What I Need to Know About My New Life in Christ

1. YOUR PERSONAL TESTIMONY

Using your personal testimony will allow the one to whom you are witnessing to better relate to your witness. Use following five steps to explain how you came to know Christ as your Savior:

a. YOUR FORMER DISATISFACTION

A good way to start is by discussing your own dissatisfaction with life before you met Christ. This is a good starting point, because people are basically dissatisfied and can relate to your former state. You can then comfortably work your testimony into the conversation.

b. EXPLAIN YOUR CONVERSION USING SCRIPTURE

You were dissatisfied, and then you were converted. At this point you should use the Scriptures you have memorized or some that you can quickly look up to explain how you came to Christ.

c. TELL THE RESULTS

Tell what happened to you personally when you were converted – how your outlook on life changed as well as your goals, priorities, and interests. Basically, tell how your life changed as a result of your conversion.

d. PRESENT THE GOSPEL

Talk about the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ and what it means for all mankind. Explain what it means to you personally.

e. CLOSE WITH AN APPEAL

Ask them if what you have said makes sense. Ask them "Do you want to receive Christ for yourself right now?"

If they answer, "Yes," then lead them through a prayer like the one you prayed when you asked the Lord to save you.

If they say, "No," then ask them "Why?" From their answer you will be able to discern their problem and try to help them further.

If they are not ready, don't feel as if you have failed. Your responsibility is to share the Gospel. It is God's responsibility to save them or judge them for rejecting Christ. Love them either way.

2. PRINTED MATERIALS

There is a great deal of printed material one can utilize in witnessing. Choose some from the church tract rack in the church lobby. Find ones that appeal to you. Then, read them and pass them along to other people. If you need more materials, see one of the pastors.

Gospel tracts are a wonderful way to get the Gospel out – even to people you have never met and may never meet.



- a. Any person can do it. We cannot all preach a sermon or hold a special meeting, but we can hand them out to others.
- **b.** A tract always sticks to the point. Sometimes when we talk to others we can get off point, but a tract is very direct and succinct.
- **c.** A tract never loses its temper. Perhaps you sometimes do. I have known Christian workers, even those with a lot of experience who get all stirred up; but a tract always is calm and steady.
- **d.** A person who won't talk to you publicly may read a tract privately. Leave it on a table, or in another place where he or she may pick it up and read it when nobody else is around.
- e. A tract can sometimes go where you cannot. I have known of tracts that laid in a drawer for years only to be picked up randomly by someone who never saw it before, and it was as effective as if someone had just handed it to them.
- **f. Tracts have led many people to accept Christ.** One man who wrote a tract received more than 1,600 notes from people who had been led to Christ by reading a message that he had printed into tract form!

Printed tracts are not the only way. In today's world, there are Gospel presentations available online over the Internet.

www.hamiltonsquare.org

www.The Exchange Tract.com.

Read through those materials. Download their witnessing app.

3. QUESTIONS TO HELP GET CONVERSATIONS STARTED

You should have some basic questions prepared that you are comfortable with and that you can use in different situations and random conversations that take place. It is very important to be sensitive to the individual and situation in which you introduce the Gospel to them. There are many different approaches. Here are some sample questions and approaches:

- I have really something on my heart that I would like to share with you...
- Do you ever think about spiritual things?
- •••• Who do you think Jesus Christ really is?
- Have you ever considered the significance of the Bible?
- **Gov** Suppose you were to die today and stand before God, and He were to ask you, "Why should I let you into My Heaven?" What would you say?
- Are you 100% sure that if you were to die today that you would go to Heaven?

Whichever method you use, make sure that you are praying as you speak for the Lord. **HE** is the one who saves. It's not **your** argument or convincing words. It's not anything that you can do. But, if you at least try, and keep on trying **you** will eventually see someone come to Christ – and then you have another responsibility....

• HOW DO I FOLLOW-UP ON THOSE WHO HAVE COME TO CHRIST?

- Matthew 28:19-20 (NASB) Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you...
- Timothy 2:2 (NASB) The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.
- Titus 2:7-8 (NASB) In all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds, with purity in doctrine, dignified, 8 sound in speech which is beyond reproach...



It's not enough to just present the Gospel. There must be a continuation. Jesus said to make "disciples."

That means you should do all you can do to help a new Christian to grow.

Otherwise, it's like having a baby and leaving it on a doorstep to survive on its own!

Start here...

1. Teaching - You should set aside a time each week to meet with the one you led to Christ and teach truths out of the Scripture.

- A good way to do this is to use these DISCIPLESHIP lessons.

- 2. Admonishing Warn them about certain undesirable patterns or habits in their life. You want to scripturally direct them to godly behavior. This must always be done in a loving way, like a good parent would for a child.
- 3. Setting an Example Living a consistent, godly life gives your message the authority needed to convince the one you are discipling. You need to live the kind of life that reflects the lessons you are teaching.
- 4. Disciplining When he or she violates the principles of God's Word you need to point it out with love and patience. Do what you can to get them back on track in their spiritual walk.
- Loving They need to sense your love and concern for them. You will accomplish this by serving them in humility.

Whenever one had freely received such a wonderful gift as salvation, he or she will want to share it with as many people as possible. **The best time to get started is now!** By applying the principles that you have learned, you will find your witness more fruitful as you faithfully share God's love at every opportunity open to you.



IF NOTHING ELSE...JUST BRING THEM TO CHURCH WITH YOU!

INVITE THEM TO AN ACTIVITY THE CHURCH IS DOING!





THE DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING COURSE

Lesson Schedule

Lesson #1	What Happens When One is "Born Again?"	Salvation
Lesson #2	What to Do When You Fall	Confession of Sin
Lesson #3	What About Baptism?	Baptism
Lesson #4	How to Pray & Why Should I?	Prayer
Lesson #5	Bible Study: Making it Personal	Bible Study
Lesson #6	Obedience Brings Blessing	Obedience
Lesson #7	Church Membership Matters	Membership
Lesson #8	Tithes & Offerings: Bible Principles	Giving
Lesson #9	Overcoming Sexual Sin & Temptation	Victory
Lesson #10	Our Lord's Commission	Witnessing
Lesson #11	Putting Anger & Bitterness to Rest	Bitterness
Lesson #12	Alcohol & Other Addictive Substances	Addictions
Lesson #13	Music and the Christian	Music
Lesson #14	Social Media, TV, Movies, The Internet & The Future	Media
Lesson # 15	Biblical Separation: The Dangers of Compromise	Separation
Lesson #16	Bloom Where You're Planted! Staying in the City	City Ministry
Lesson #17	Happiness Forever: The Fruit of Faithfulness	Heaven

If you have questions, ask your mentor to help you. If he or she can't help you, they will help you set up an appointment with a pastor at our church. They are here to help you!