

7 THE POWER OF GOD IS GIVEN SO YOU WILL SHARE JESUS!

There is romance at the heart of the universe.

-- Paul E. Billheimer

The most solemn responsibility which rests upon each Christian, and also his highest privilege and deepest joy, is that of influencing people to accept, to represent and to serve Jesus Christ.

-- John R. Mott

Enjoying a liver-quiver, holy goose bumps, or even the anointing, as ends in themselves? Well, they aren't the reason behind biblical pentecostal power. There's a soul-winning purpose behind God's blessings!

1. **Prayer and the Holy Spirit**
And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness [Acts 4:31].
2. **Indebtedness**
I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to wise and to unwise [Romans 1:14].
3. **Readiness**
So, as much as is in me, I am ready to preach the gospel to you who are in Rome also [Romans 1:15].
4. **Fearlessness**
For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek [Romans 1:16].

YOU CAN LEAD ANOTHER PERSON TO JESUS CHRIST

1. Give the appeal with sensitivity, this is where the warfare really happens!
2. Draw the net with simple questions like:

"That's pretty simple, isn't it?"

"Is there anything that would prevent you from coming to Jesus as you are right now?"

"Is there any good reason why you shouldn't repent of your sins and commit your life to Christ today?"

"Here's how you can receive Him."

3. A closing statement

"I'll pray, then you pray, asking God to forgive you of your sins and committing your life to Christ. Remember, don't talk to me, pray to God. Let's pray."

[You pray, thanking God that He will hear the person's prayer and that Christ will come into their life]. If the person needs assistance in praying, help them by saying something similar to the following.

Now you pray out loud to God after me. Say... (repeat a phrase at a time) ,

"Dear Lord Jesus,

Thank You for dying for me.

I'm sorry for my sins.

I turn from all of them right now and I turn to You.

By faith, I receive You, Lord Jesus, as my personal Savior and I now commit my life to You as my Lord. I trust Your shed blood as full payment for all my sins. Thank you for hearing my prayer and coming into my life, as You promised. Amen."

Guide The New Christian to Assurance of Salvation

1. Initial response.

"[Their first name], welcome to the family of God!"

2. Base assurance on biblical facts, not feelings.

"John, where is Jesus right now?"

"How do you know?"

Be sure the new believer knows that Christ is in his life, based on the promise of Jesus Himself (Revelation 3:20).

3. Carefully explain these verses on assurance.

"...For He Himself has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you'" (Hebrews 13:5).

"And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God" (1 John 5:11-13)

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me" (Revelation 3:20).

4. "But what if I sin?"

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us

from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9).

The Importance Of Faith

As you explain the Gospel you must realize that expressing faith is extremely important.

Remember:

- Faith is simply trusting God and the promises found in His Word.
- When a person says, “Thank you, Lord, for coming into my heart,” They are demonstrating their faith and they don’t need to go by feelings.
- People who do not place belief and trust in God and His inerrant Word are *lost*, even though they may have prayed the sinners prayer several times inviting Christ into their life. Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit’s leading so that you do not give false assurance to those who have not truly trusted Christ Jesus. Only God really knows the true condition of their heart.
- Faith is the real issue when it come to salvation and beginning a new life in Jesus. God doesn’t respond to man’s great need or crocodile tears, but to his faith. Ultimately, God’s Spirit must give a person the assurance of their salvation.
- Many times people decide to receive Christ as little children, but can’t remember the experience so well. And if you are not sure if the person is lost or saved, you can lead them in a sinner’s prayer to be sure (better safe than sorry).

The Bible Promises Eternal Life To All Who Receive Jesus

New believers must understand that they have a two way relationship with God through Christ, that they are loved children of God, that their sins are washed away and that Jesus will never leave them or forsake them.

Answer these questions after reading 1 John 5:11-13.

1. What has God given us?
2. Where is this life found?
3. Do you have the Son?
4. If you have the Son, what else do you have?
5. How do you know you have eternal life?

Answer the following questions after reading Hebrews 13:5.

1. After you receive Christ, will He ever leave you?
2. How many times do you need to invite Him into your life?

Action Plan: Share the Gospel using a tract with at least one non-Christian this week. Write down the names of those you would like to contact. Pray for divine opportunities to meet with them.

Encourage Them To Find Fellowship In A Bible Teaching Church

What is the Church?

Read: Acts 1:8, Ephesians 4:3-6, 1 Corinthians 12:12, 13, 2 Timothy 3:16, 17

The Importance of Christian Fellowship

- How does fellowship enrich and prepare the Body of Christ for witnessing?
- How has it benefited your life personally?
- How could you explain this kind of thing to a new believer in terms they could understand?

How to find a Christ-Centered Local Church

Baby Christians may wonder how to allow God to lead them to a sound church family. Most of us at some time or another will be searching for a new church home and the first thing to do is pray, asking God to guide you. Then be pro-active in visiting. Deciding on a congregation with which you can worship the Lord, and minister is not easy when you are sitting there, waiting for God to show you. Here's a good check list:

Righteous Qualities To Look For And Ask About

- Have the pastor and other leaders committed themselves to a holy life-style, to prayer and Bible study?
- Is Praise and worship pre-eminent in the service? When a church is caught up in the praises of God, the walls of pride, doubt, and fear crumble, and people are attracted to our excellent Lord.
- Are sinners being treated with kindness and receiving Christ on a regular basis?
- Is corporate prayer a must?
- Is the Word of God proclaimed in such a way that Christ is honored and exalted without compromise?
- Are the gifts of the Spirit allowed expression through the saints that attend?
- Does the congregation have a world wide vision as well as a fruitful witnessing outreach to the local community?
- Does the leadership place a special emphasis on training saints for evangelism?
- Does the pastor stress the importance of maintaining a first love relationship with Christ, studying the Bible, and walking in the power of the Holy Spirit?

How to Help Your Pastor

Can your pastor count on you? If asked, would he say you have a helpful, submissive attitude? You need to become a servant to him and regularly pray for him, for he has a difficult job and needs your encouragement. Jot down specific ways or occasions in which you can help your pastor in each of these areas.

1. Regularly intercede for him.
2. Accept him for who he is.
3. Be a friend and a good listener.
4. Compliment The aspects of his preaching that were most worthy.
5. Show him respect as an individual and as a leader.
6. Accept and support his vision.

Action Plan: Use the following chart for the next few weeks to help you enrich your church ministry. Write down the results you see as you implement these suggestions.

Make Your Church A Mission Field Too

Action

Before worship begins, be friendly.
Greet visitors warmly.

Pray for those with whom you worship. During the service, ask the Holy Spirit to powerfully touch the hearts of non-Christians.

Give visitors approved evangelistic material to take home. Let them know that you would like to call them to discuss what they think about it.

Take the initiative to get to know visitors on your own, by visiting them if they are open to that.

Get started with a system of giving at least ten percent of your income to your local church that is introducing people to Jesus Christ.

Result