**CHRISTCOMPANIONBIBLECHURCH**

 **Weekly Bible Study**

***Branch: Headquarters Date:03/01/2023***

***"YOU SHALL BE WITNESSES UNTO ME".* (Part2). Study2**.

 **TEXT**: Act.1:8-17, Pro. 11:30.

**MEMORY VERSE**: Jude 1:23 **And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.**

 The Apostles did not only understand the message of Christ on witnessing, they went all the way to seek God for grace and practically got committed towards fulfilling it. The real focus and target of witnesses must be to win and bring the souls to the saving knowledge of Christ. This realization was evident in the early Church according to the scripture. Acts 2:38-47.

 **PRACTICAL STEPS TOWARDS EFFECTIVE WITNESSING. ACT.1:8-17.**

 Looking at the life of Christ, you would discover that effective witnessing was his vision, mission and life goals to pursue. See Luke.4:18-22. He knew what to get, how to get it and where to get it!

 Also, he created a system to make it work even after his departure from the earth. We can always get results when we follow the Master's step in witnessing:

**1. Believe in the power of the gospel to save and to set free from sin, deliver from the power of darkness. Preach with confidence, hope and assurance that the souls will be saved. Romans1:16,17**. This was the first emphasis of Christ. A rest assurance and confidence in power of His message to convict, convert and transform sinners to saints! John 9:4-7.

**2. Create a suitable and workable system that encourages the converts to abide in Christ and grow in the fellowship (i.e the Church): Acts 2:41-47.**

*i. A family life where bond is formed with converts. Matthew 12:50.*

*ii. A loving and caring culture.*

*iii. A nurturing and faith building environment.*

**3. Define and determine your targeted scope of work. Are you aiming at the conversion of: children, youths, couples, elites, drug addicts, prostitutes, orphans, disables, underprivileged, neighbour etc ?**

 Your targets will help to determine the strategies you will adopt to achieve your goal. For example:

*i. Provision of free meal on every Sunday evening for the street urchins with Bible study session can be a step towards reaching out to orphans in a community.*

*ii. Educational support fund and welfare package for underprivileged students in a community with sessions of spiritual seminars, weekend rally etc., can be organised to bring them to Christ.*

*iii. Many more practical approaches can help towards active conversion of souls. Proverb 11:30.*

**4. Apart from corporate approach to witnessing, personal steps towards soul winning is a very effective measure that has brought millions to Christ. Act 8:5.**

*i. Begin with private intercession for specific targets of group or individual(s).*

*ii. Plan means of first contact, which can be: Electronic (message), prayer schedule, preaching, counseling, approach for friendship etc.*

*iii. Reach out prayerfully with focus to bringing the soul to Christ.*

*iv. Allow the Holy Spirit to take control.*

**5. Provide means of keeping in touch with your converts on regular basis. Acts 15:36.**

*i. Through literature, magazine, tracts, WhatsApp, personal contact etc.*

*ii. Invite to attend fellowship regularly.*

*iii. Organise prayer session physically or virtually regularly.*

**6. Be a role model in faith, appearance, character and charisma. People always want to be around Christ. His warmth personality, gracious relationship, uplifting words/parables, etc. always make people to flock around him. Matthew 21:9.**  Have genuine interest in human being, their spirit will always respond to your call and love for Christ.

**7. Be a person of honest deed, integrity, good report and authority prayer.** When you have solution to people's problems through the power of Christ, it becomes very easy to influence and lead them to Christ. Ruth1:16-18. Ruth saw something special in Naomi that made her "all out" for her!Same can be true with you and your converts. ***Note: Individual target for witnessing in the year 2023 for every member of CCBC is:12 converts per person.*  *Meaning that, you are to trust God and work to win and disciple 1 soul per month***. Amen.

 **HYMN: MUST I GO AN EMPTY HANDED**

1. “Must I go an empty-handed”

 Thus my dear Redeemers meet?

 Not one day of service give Him,

Lay no trophy at His feet?

 *“Must I go and empty handed?”*

 *Must I meet my Saviour so?*

 *Not one soul with which to greet Him;*

 *Must I empty-handed go?*

2. Not at death I shrink nor falter;

For my Saviour saves me now;

But to meet Him empty-handed,

Thought of that now clouds my brow

3. O the years in sinning wasted,

Could I but recall then now,

I would give them to my Saviour,

To His will I’d gladly bow

4. O ye saints, arouse, be earnest,

Up and work while yet ‘tis day;

Ere the night of death o’er take thee,

Strive for souls while still you may.