

Sharing God's Treasure from Our Jars of Clay

Friendship Evangelism is a term often associated with the Zacchaeus story. In the passage below, Paul encourages us in our efforts to carry the gospel to the world.

To be a "witness" to something you must have first-hand experience.

2 Corinthians 4:1-7

1Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart.

2Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

3And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. 4The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

5For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.

6For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

7But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.

We live in a darkening, changed world. The "post-Christian era" is a reality now. More than ever, we need to share the treasure in our clay pot bodies, the Light of the world. Will you befriend "sinners" in your life? Are you in God's word daily? Do you know it well enough to share the gospel and answer questions? How will you pray for the unbelievers in your life? Have you ever

1. Ministry: *New Covenant gospel*
Do not lose heart: "abandon oneself to cowardly surrender." Gal. 6:9
2. If we are honest before God, and surrender to His truth set forth in the Bible, we will be able to share the Good News with clear consciences.
(1Tim. 4: 5,6)
3. & 4. We should pray that God will remove the blinders from our unbelieving friends.
4. They cannot see the light of the gospel. Who put the blinders on? _____
YOU cannot persuade people to believe, only God can do that. But you do play a part!
5. It is not about us, not even about the church; it is about Jesus Christ as Lord. It is about Him living in us as we serve one another and the world that is perishing. You need to be a witness to Him with your testimony.
6. We are illuminating from our hearts!! The Creator of Light, also gives us His glory to shine. What does this verse say that light is?
Face of Christ: Luke 9:29, What have we been rescued from? Col. 1:13,14
7. Treasure: the "Ministry" of v. 1
Jars of Clay: Functional, breakable, replaceable household pots. (Like us.)

written out your personal testimony of when you were saved, in order to be prepared to share it with someone? Do you have testimonies of what God is doing in your life currently?

This week, ask God who you should be praying for who needs the hope that the gospel brings, write out your testimony, stay daily in His word, have the friend over or take her out for coffee.