

STEPS TO MATURITY

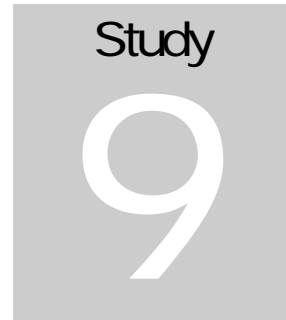
Celebration Centre Resources

Foundation Studies

CELEBRATION CENTRE RESOURCES

Steps to Maturity Study Guide

© ROAR! Publishing
81 Bickerton Street Wainoni
Christchurch New Zealand
Phone +64 3 389-7055 Fax +64 3 389-7431
e-mail office@celebrationcentre.com



Witnessing

In study eight we mentioned that God gives every individual gifts and ministries. One person may have a pastoral ministry gift, while another person may be given one of the gifts listed in 1 COR 12: 1-30.

There is one ministry that Jesus gave to all of us. That ministry is simply telling other people about Him and what He has done for our lives.

Read 2 COR 5:15-20.

What is your ministry? _____

What message has God given us? _____

“We are therefore God’s _____”. Verse 20.

1. When you hear the word ‘witness’ you probably think of a court room where legal proceedings take place. A witness is someone who testifies to an incident they may have seen or heard. In a similar way, God wants us to tell the people we know what He has done for us.

1 JN 1:1-3 “We proclaim to you what we have _____ and _____”.

2. Although you may not have physically seen Jesus you can still tell people about what He has done for you.

Write out ACTS 4:20

3. A witness only has to tell others what they saw/heard – not what they heard from another person. You only need to tell others what you personally have experienced.
4. Read ACTS 4:1-31. These Christians often paid a big price for telling people about Jesus. Some were put in prison, some were tortured and many lost their lives. The Greek word for witness means ‘martyr’. It is important to note that these people were killed because they were martyrs (witnesses); they were not called martyrs because they were killed.

5. When you become a Christian, telling people about Jesus will become very natural. When Andrew started to follow Jesus the first thing he did was tell his brother.

Read JN 1:40-42.

Who was Andrew's brother? _____.

Jesus Asks Us To Witness

1. MT 28:19-20 "Therefore go and make _____ of all nations".
2. MK 16:15 "Go into _____ and preach the _____ to all creation".
3. LK 10:2.

What did Jesus say about the harvest?

What did He advise us to pray?

Are you prepared to do what He asks?

Jesus Empowers Us

On your own, you do not have the ability to be an effective witness. You will remember from Study Seven that Jesus gives you the power to be a great witness.

1. ACTS 1:8.

Where do we get this power from?

The Holy Spirit gives you the ability to be –

A witness - to live a life that glorifies God

A verbal witness – to tell people about Jesus and what He did for you

2. **Remember** - Even without verbally being a witness you are still a witness wherever you are, and whatever you do. Once you tell people you are a Christian, they will notice the actions and reactions you have to every experience in your life. Aim to live a life that is pleasing to God. You will be most effective as a witness by the way you live your life around your friends, family and neighbours.

ROM 10:14 "How can they hear without someone _____ to them?"

3. JN 4:1-42. Read these passages about a time when Jesus witnessed with the Holy Spirit's power.
4. PROV 11:30 "...and he who wins souls is wise".
5. JN 3:1-21. The most important reason why we need to tell others about Jesus is that He is the only way for people to reconcile their lives back to God. Becoming a Christian (see Study One) means we are given eternal life with God. The truth is people who die without knowing Jesus will spend eternity in hell.

2 PT 3:9 "He is _____ with you not wanting anyone to _____ but everyone to come to repentance".