

Series: Living to Be a Witness

Lesson 9: “Living a Holy Life – Part 2”

***Announcements, encouragement to invite people and opening prayer.**



Connect: an opportunity for people to immediately interact and connect with each other; icebreaker/attention getters. **Icebreaker:** Can you tell me some of reasons salt is one of the greatest discoveries in the world?

Bottom Line: God has Paul continue presenting ways to live a holy life that is a witness to His Truth and His love for us. He moves into an overview of relationships that create a holy witness.

LESSON PLAN

Read Colossians 4:2-6

1. What type of devotion does God have Paul tell us to practice?

Question: How are you watchful and thankful in prayer?

Jesus told His disciples to watch and pray so they would not fall into temptation. Prayer keeps me focused on doing the right things before God, making right choices. It also allows me then to see God's wisdom and have a thankfulness that I live in His presence. Part of my prayer life is being devoted to seeking God in what I should do and what I shouldn't. Along with that I become devoted to watching for His hand moving in my life and blessing me so I don't take His presence for granted.

2. What else is to be part of their prayer life?

(They were to pray that God would open a door to preach the Gospel even though at this time Paul is in chains. We should be praying for missionaries and preachers around the world. Stop here and pray for your missionaries and God's preachers including your own.)

3. Let's make a list of Paul's further instructions that require our devotion.

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Question: How can season, well thought out words that are full of grace give us the ability to know how to answer those outside of Christ in our conversations?

Read Colossians 3:18-4:1

4. What are wives called upon to do in order to be a living witness?

The word submit does NOT mean to obey, but rather it was a military term for being in order to assure victory. It is understanding and serving in a special role or position. The living witness is the idea that God created a role in the beginning for a wife to be a helpmate, a completer of her husband whom God holds accountable to lead His family in a godly and holy manner. It may not be the order of the day, but Paul says this order is fitting in the Lord. It is a godly witness to the Lord's plan for creation.

Question: What if her husband is not a Christian and is not leading the family in the Spirit and wisdom of God? (See 1 Corinthians 7:13-16. Their children's faith and her husband's possible faith may very well depend on the grace and gentleness of her spirit among them. She is to live out her faith as long as it is possible. If her husband would want her to disobey Christ, then the order God established is violated by the unbelieving husband and Christ's Word is above all.)

5. What are husbands called upon to do in order to be a living witness?

Question: Who is the man in submission to?

6. What are children called upon to do in order to be a living witness?

7. What are men called upon to do in their role as father in order to be a living witness?

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Question: What are some ways fathers can provoke their children and hurt God’s plan for the father’s godly role?

8. What are slaves or employees called upon to do in order to be a living witness?

It is important to note that much like the slave who was the indentured servant, we sell our time to a master for pay. He has purchased “X” amount of time each week and a good steward for Christ will give nothing less than his best. We are Jesus’ ambassador in that work environment.

Question: What are some ways we disobey this teaching in the workplace? How will it affect the Kingdom of God if we disobey with a poor witness?

9. What are masters or employers called upon to do in order to be a living witness?

Question: What are some ways Christian employers disobey God in this area? What affects can they have on the Kingdom of God?



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Interactive Breakout: Notice how all these rolls are then connected to the all important task we started out with. They are connected to prayer, watchfulness, thankfulness, grace and opportunities to be a living witness. Use groups to discuss how each role, wife, husband, children, father, employee, employer can use prayer to become a living witness in this aspect of their faith walk.

WIFE:

HUSBAND:

CHILDREN:

FATHER:

EMPLOYEE:

EMPLOYER:

Final Questions: What is the one idea that stands out to you most from this lesson?