

The Truth About Witnessing

Loving Our Jerusalem #2 - Pastor Gary Combs – February 24, 2013 – Acts 1:6-11

Acts 1:6-11 (ESV) ⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” ⁹And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

OVERCOMING THE LIES THAT KEEP US FROM WITNESSING

LIE #1: Not enough _____ . Truth: _____ is enough.

1 Corinthians 2:1-2 (ESV) And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

LIE #2: Not a _____ . Truth: _____ from the Spirit.

1 Corinthians 2:3-5 (NLT) I came to you in weakness—timid and trembling. And my message and my preaching were very plain. Rather than using clever and persuasive speeches, I relied only on the power of the Holy Spirit. I did this so you would trust not in human wisdom but in the power of God.

LIE #3: Witnessing is _____ . Truth: A witness is _____ .

Acts 5:42 (ESV) And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.

LIE #4: Friends and family _____ . Truth: People are _____ .

John 4:35-38 (ESV) Do you not say, ‘There are yet four months, then comes the harvest’? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest. Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

LIE #5: Witnessing is _____ . Truth: Witnessing is _____ .

1 Corinthians 3:6-7 (ESV) I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.

LIE #6: Witnessing _____ . Truth: Witnessing is _____ .

2 Corinthians 5:14-15 (NIV84) For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

Matthew 24:42 (NIV84) Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.