

# THE WORK OF A WITNESS

**TEXT: Acts 1:1-8**

**INTRO:**

**A. The last words of Jesus before he ascended into heaven was *ye shall be witnesses unto me* .”**

1. This was a PROMISE to his church!
2. Doing this work is a MARK of our obedience.

**B. I want to look at the work of a witness.**

## **I. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A WITNESS?**

**A. What is a witness?**

1. In a legal sense: one who testifies to the facts of a case as he knows them to be true. ”
2. In a historical sense: one who is a spectator of anything (Acts 2:32; 3:15; Acts 10:39-41)
3. A martyr: (*mar'-toos*) One who has proved the strength and genuineness of their faith in Christ by undergoing a violent death (Revelation 2:13).

**B. How are we to witnesses ?”**

1. We are witnesses by virtue of the life changing experience that we have had with Jesus Christ.
  - a. We are witnesses because the testimony concerning Christ has been confirmed in us (I Cor. 1:4-9).
  - b. We can and do testify or witness of the life changing impact of the gospel of Grace.
2. If you have not had a life changing experience with Jesus you don't have a testimony and cannot be a witness.
3. If Jesus has worked in your heart you cannot help but be a witness (Rom. 10:8-11).
  - a. The natural response of a new heart is being a witness!

## **II. TO WHOM SHOULD WE WITNESS?**

**A. We should witness to our FAMILY!**

1. Andrew and Philip witnessed their brothers (John 1:40-46).
2. Lois and Eunice witnessed to their Children (II Timothy 1:5; 3:15).

**B. We should witness to our former acquaintances.**

1. The woman at the well witnessed to the men of the city (John 4:28-30, 39).

**C. We should witness in the market place.**

1. Paul witnessed to those that met with him in the market (Acts 17:16-17).

## **III. HOW SHOULD WE WITNESS?**

**A. We should tell others what Christ has done for us.**

1. This is the way the women at the well approached the men of her city (Jn. 4:28-30).
2. This was Paul's way of approach before Agrippa (Acts 26:1-29).

**B. We should witness by our lives.**

1. This was Paul's way of approach before all (I Cor. 9:27).
2. This is the way wives are admonished to be before their lost husbands (I Peter 3:1-4).

**C. We should plainly present the Law and the Gospel to sinners (Psalms 19:7; Rom. 1:16).**

1. It is the law and the gospel that is God's means of converting sinners!

**Con:**

**A. There is a wonderful reward in witnessing.**

1. The reward of knowing you are being FAITHFUL.
2. The reward of rejoicing (Psalms 126:5-6).

**B. *Ye shall be witnesses unto me* ”**

1. This is true of all believers, but especially those of the Lord's church.
2. Anything less is abnormal, faulty, and grieves the Holy Spirit.