## Why Do People Need the EZ Witness Testimonial Tool?

Simply by looking at the deteriorating condition of the world we may reach the conclusion that we are losing the battle for Christianity. The Bible tells us that it will be this way in the end times. It seems as though there is an ever increasing lack of concern for the lost and many people who profess to be Christians have selfish, apathetic attitudes. Am I being harsh? Ask yourself these questions: "When was the last time I shared the gospel?", "How many people have come to accept Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior as a result of my sharing the gospel with them?", "Am I intimidated by the lost and therefore just don't approach the subject?", "Am I concerned for the souls of the lost but don't feel confident enough to proclaim the death and resurrection of Jesus?", "Do I fear talking about the gospel because I just don't know enough Scriptures? Why should I be obligated or want to share the gospel anyway?

The most important reason to share the gospel is to be obedient to Christ. Sharing the gospel (and making disciples) is the last commandment Jesus gave us as the Great Commission prior to His ascension in Mark 16:15.

## "And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.""

Secondly Christ's death and resurrection would have been for nothing if it had not been shared by His disciples and is not shared by us in this day and age. Romans 10:14-17 tells us this as well:

"How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written:

*"How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!"* 

But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our report?" So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

So we are the instruments God uses for people to hear about salvation and we should never be ashamed of the gospel. On the contrary, we should boldly proclaim the gospel as Paul tells us in Romans 1:16

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile."

And we should always be ready to give an account of the hope we have in Christ as Peter instructs us in 1 Peter 3:15

"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;"

We have to come to the realization that Jesus died for the person sitting in a jail cell, that He died for the person who just cut us off in traffic, that He died for the man holding the sign at the intersection that reads, "Will work for food.", that He died for our co-worker who swears every other word, that He died for the prostitute on the street corner, that He died for the person whose skin color is different than ours, that He died for the person who doesn't speak our language, that He died for our enemy, that He died for the lost. Turn that realization inward to the fact that Christ died for us and thankfully someone told us that and we believed and were saved. Realizing this will also help us to fulfill the second greatest commandment to love our neighbor as ourselves.

Finally, repentance of one sinner is cause for great joy in heaven as is demonstrated in the parables of the lost coin and the lost sheep in Luke 15:4-10

"What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!' I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls her friends and neighbors together, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the piece which I lost!' Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

There is no greater joy either that we can have here on earth that we can be used by God to be a part of leading a lost sinner to salvation through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Likewise there is no greater sorrow than knowing that those who have not confessed Jesus as Lord or believe that God raised Him from the dead will spend all eternity in great torment apart from a loving God.

So why would anyone need the EZ Witness Testimonial Tool? The EZ Witness tool is a versatile tool that can be used as a conversation starter or an object lesson to demonstrate several Biblical principles. Primarily, the tool can be used to start a conversation about the gospel or used as a companion to complement the sharing of your personal testimony. As an object lesson it can be used to compare the old covenant to the new covenant, show how we can overcome life's struggles not by our own efforts but with Christ's help, or demonstrate how our battles here on earth are of a spiritual nature. The tool is a gentle approach to sharing the gospel rather than an "in your face" aggressive tact that may close someone's mind to hearing and understanding the great love God had for us in sending His Son to take our punishment through death on the cross. A picture paints a thousand words and in like manner the EZ Witness Testimonial Tool provides a unique, reinforcing visual demonstration of the truths of the gospel.

One last thing to mention is be fearless and courageous and don't be discouraged if your attempts to witness to others are rejected or seem to fail. Keep in mind that you did your duty and planted a seed that over time can be watered by others and God will provide the growth. Sometimes that is all we can do for people who are not to the point in their life to realize that they need Jesus. In those cases we can only pray that God will give them enough time to find salvation before it is too late. Remember, it was love that held Jesus on the cross and it should be for love that we confess His death and resurrection and we will find our reward in heaven.

Praying for you,

Steve Smith