

Jesus to have such a lack of interest in people?

Not difficult to explain but impossible to justify.

PERSISTENT ATTITUDES

Attitudes toward Samaritians - animosity for over 500 years.

Feelings were deep - race - nationalism and religion

Disciples not think of Samaritians when they considered

spreading the Gospel.

Wrong * they did not see them as God see

A PREOCCUPATION WITH THE LESSER

v.31 Disciples gone to buy food - Jesus interested in spiritual welfare.

Disciples interested in eating - Jesus no longer hungry.

v.34 Jesus actually physically refreshed - given himself to spiritual ministry.

This his disciples could not understand.

Church members preoccupy self with lesser tasks and fail in main tasks.

A GROWING SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS

Disciples disturbed about the woman's character. Met her on the road going to village - her appearance - fairly accurate picture of her past.

Not see how the Lord would have anything to do with her.

Followers of Jesus composed of Forgiven instead of Good to

What are some of the reasons that you have heard Christians

give for not witnessing? (write on board)

- I don't know how
- It's not my job
- I'm afraid I would offend
- I'll live my religion
- I don't know enough about the Bible
- What will people say
- There are others who could do so much better

Evaluate Briefly each Excuse!

- Eliminate some
- Qualify others

Are these the real reasons, or is there another back of these!

The Main Problem

Most church members do not consider themselves to be soul winners.

Feel guilty every time it is mentioned. Still they do not witness.

Do we lack the know-how?

John 4 - Excellent Account - Simple Skill - Jesus brought hereto faith.

Response of the disciples to their Lord's interest.

Unembarrassed witness of the Samaritan woman to her townfolk - source of inspiration

OUR WITNESSING LORD - John 4:5-26

Earthly ministry of Jesus filled with people.

Often a few - other times one - Just One.

On Way to Galilee

Route shorter by half - take only 3 days through Samaria.

v.6 Midday - Fork in Road - Town of Sychar - Jesus tired - sat down to rest -

v.8 Disciples to buy food.

v.7 A Woman from the village come to draw water.

(Two Readers and A Time Keeper) (3 min.)?

1. Read only the words of Jesus

1. Read only the words of woman

1. Keep the time of the reading

A WAYSIDE WITNESS

Illustrates the importance of a Christian being a witness wherever he is.

Witnessing - not separated from life.

Substitute - visitation program - for talking to a neighbor or someone at work. A part of our living.

Disciples felt their only business in Sychar was to buy food. Get through Samaria as quickly as possible.

Jesus was alert to every person.

CHURCH TALK OR PEOPLE TALK

Simplicity of the words - most effective.

Spiritual truth can be shared with the humblest people.

Jesus used words familiar to the people - speaks of water - meat - harvest - not theological terms - used these words to illustrate spiritual truth.

Brought the woman face to face with herself - without using the word "Sin"

Lead to accept Him as Messiah and let to accept Faith.

Let to faith by use of ordinary words which were familiar.

What words do church members use which might not be understood by a non-Christian?

How could we explain in simpler terminology?

FROM WONDER TO WORSHIP

Appeals made: to her kindness, curiosity, sin, sense of God, finally her hope in the Messiah.

1. She acknowledge her thirst
2. She confessed her sin
3. She evidenced a dawning intelligence
4. She avowed her faith
5. She testified of Christ

Wonderful record - Jesus getting a person to see herself first then to see God.

THE DISAPPOINTING DISCIPLES

v.27 Not approve of Jesus' conversation with her -

No man said anything - but John put into words what they thought - Why do you talk to her?

How is it possible for anyone who has become a follower of

begin with. Pharisees solution for the problem of bad people - have

nothing to do with them. Jesus shows kindness. "they know me too well"

v.35 Get them to see Great Spiritual Harvest

SHARING THE WONDER - 27-30; 39-42

Amazing Story - she came in heat of day rather than cool of evening - remarks of other women.

Met Jesus - Left waterpot - invited everyone

Results amazing - many Samaritians became believers.

Town did not notice Disciples shopping -

First - the converted woman went to the people she knew - not easy task - seems would have been easier to have gone to town unknown - Jesus did not intend it like that - Persons best witness is to people he knows.

Second - she shared what she had experienced. Focused her witness on how Christ brought her face to face with her sin. God does wonderful things in the lives of his people.

Third - she invited the people to find out for themselves. She could tell them about Jesus - share her experience but each one had to respond to Christ for himself.

People are not tricked or pressured into the kingdom - but helped by people who invite them to see Jesus.

Oliver
30. Nov -> Jan 17, 63 Prayer meeting
Jan 14, 63

Fourth - Every excuse used by a Christian for not witnessing could have been employed by this woman.

Think how appropriate some of them would have been -

"They know me too well". They discovered her sin before she had.

"There are others who can do it so much better." There were disciples traveling with Jesus and they could tell much better.

Neither ignorance nor her past, nor fear, could stop her.

The experience - the message becomes hers -

She had found sufficient motivation to begin witnessing -

Only a lack of it will keep us from the task.

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Handwritten notes:
Jan 17 63
Jan 18 63
Jan 19 63
Jan 20 63
Jan 21 63
Jan 22 63
Jan 23 63
Jan 24 63
Jan 25 63
Jan 26 63
Jan 27 63
Jan 28 63
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