

Witness to Loved Ones, Even in Prison

How can Christians reach loved ones and others with the gospel? Obviously one must be a witness for good before them. But when speaking of “witnessing” this requires definition, for witnessing includes not only what we say, but the way we act. In Acts 4:13 we read: “When they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marveled; and they took knowledge of them that they had been with Jesus.” There was something about these men which made an impact on others—an impact far greater than might have been expected of them. Their opponents recognized that this grew out of their having “been with Jesus.”

This kind of witness is hard to refute or to fight. The Apostle Peter said, “For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men” (1 Pt 2:15). Peter was telling those believers that even though men were not at that time impressed (they spoke against them as evil doers), “They may, by your good works which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation “ (v. 12). In this respect a believer is a witness wherever he goes. An example is seen in the life of Jacob’s son, Joseph, who in spite of a succession of events adverse to him, won the confidence of successive masters by his reliability. Whether in humiliation or exaltation, he “adhered” to the doctrine which he professed, by his winsome manner of life. Scripture says, “He that winneth souls is wise” (Prv 11:30). A patient, godly life has tremendous winning power.

A testimony in prison? Many believers are such. Read of jail testimony and faithfulness in Acts 16:22-34.