

WELCOME

FURTHERING THE GOSPEL



WHAT DOES IT MEAN  
TO BE A WITNESS?

A photograph of a group of people in a meeting, with a man in a blue shirt speaking and others listening. The image is overlaid with a dark teal color and the text 'Section 1: Being A Witness'.

# Section 1: Being A Witness



## KEY POINT 1

Being a witness is more about your identity in Christ, than your activity for him.

## **2 Cor 5:20-21**

Now then we are **ambassadors** for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. 21 **For** he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made **the righteousness** of God in him.

## **Proverbs 11:30**

The fruit of **the righteous** is a tree of life;  
and he that winneth souls is wise.

## KEY POINT 2

If we fail to reckon our new identity to be true, then at best, we will be futile.



## **Rom 6:5-7, 22**

For **if we have been planted together** in the likeness of his death, **we shall be also in** the likeness of his resurrection:

**6 Knowing this, that our old man** is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. **7 For he that is dead is freed from**

**sin...**11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead

indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. ... 22 But now being made free from sin, and

become servants to God, **ye have your fruit unto holiness,**

and the end everlasting life.

## **Psalm 34:8**

O taste and see that the LORD is good:  
blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

**Psalm 103:2**

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and  
**forget not all his benefits:**

## KEY POINT 3

Most Christian don't share the gospel, because they've forgotten how exceeding good God has been and will always be to them.



## Isaiah 12:3

Therefore **with joy** shall ye **draw water**  
out of the **wells of salvation.**

## **John 5:39**

Search the scriptures; for in them **ye think ye have eternal life:** and they are they which testify of me.

## **Psalm 51:12-13**

**Restore unto me** the joy of thy salvation;  
and uphold me with thy free spirit. 13 **Then**  
will I teach transgressors thy ways; **and**  
**sinners shall be** converted unto thee.

The Gospel's benefits,  
See **Appendix A**



# See Appendix A

#21 We were naked and ashamed, now

Without condemnation... (Roman 8:1)

Have put on the new man (Col 3:10)

#70 (James 1:2-4 )

## **Psalm 103:2-6, 8-13**

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and **forget not all his benefits**: 3 Who **forgiveth all** thine iniquities; **who healeth all** thy diseases; 4 Who **redeemeth thy life** from destruction; **who crowneth thee** with lovingkindness and tender mercies; 5 **Who satisfieth thy mouth** with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's. 6 The LORD **executeth righteousness and judgment** for all that are oppressed. ... 8 **The LORD is** merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy. 9 He will not always chide: neither will he keep his anger for ever. 10 He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. 11 For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him. 12 As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us. 13 Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him.





WHAT DOES IT  
MEAN TO ME?



Is there any evidence  
from my life that could  
testify or demonstrate  
the gospel's power?



## **Gal 1:6-7**

I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto **another gospel:**  
**7 Which is not another;** but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.

## **John 1:12-13**

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: 13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

## KEY POINT 4

If we want to see the Gospel changing lives,  
then we must be willing to let it change ours.



13 For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it:

15 But when it pleased God,  
who separated me from my mother's womb,  
and called *me* by his grace,  
16 To reveal his Son in me,  
that I might preach him  
among the heathen;  
immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood:

22 And was unknown by face unto the churches of Judaea which were in Christ:

23 But they had heard only,  
That he which persecuted us in times past  
now preacheth the faith which once he destroyed.

24 And they glorified God in me.



## MY PAST - WHO I WAS!

**13** For ye have **heard of my conversation** in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it:

## MY PURPOSE - WHO I'VE BECOME!

**15** But when it pleased God,  
who separated me from my mother's womb,  
and called *me* by his grace,

**16** To reveal his Son in me,  
that **I might preach** him  
among the heathen;  
immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood:

## MY PREACHING - WHO I AM!

**22** And was unknown by face unto the churches of Judaea which were in Christ:

**23** But **they had heard only**,  
That he which persecuted us in times past  
**now preacheth** the faith which once he destroyed.

**24** And they glorified God in me.



BATHROOM / COFFEE BREAK  
(15 MINUTES)



# Section 2: The Witness' Work

**Section 1: What it means to be a witness**

**The Preacher- *The Messenger - WORSHIP***

**Section 2: What is means to do the work of a witness**

**Personal Evangelism - *The Message - WORK***

## **Jonah 1:15-17**

So they took up Jonah, and cast him forth into the sea: and the sea ceased from her raging.<sup>16</sup> Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice unto the LORD, and made vows.<sup>17</sup> Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.



## **Jonah 2: 6, 10**

6 I went down to the bottoms of the mountains; the earth with her bars was about me for ever: **yet hast thou brought up my life** from corruption, O LORD my God. ...10 And **the LORD spake unto the fish,** and **it vomited out Jonah** upon the dry land.

## **John 3:1-2**

And the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the second time, saying, 2 **Arise, go** unto Nineveh, that great city, **and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee.**

## **2 Corinthians 5:17-19**

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is **a new creature**: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 18 And all things are of God, **who hath reconciled us** to himself by Jesus Christ, and **hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation**; 19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

How is it that has Christianity has  
become all about an individual's  
ability to **just avoid sin**?



How is it that has Christianity  
has become all about an  
individual's ability to **just be  
okay, good, or happy?**

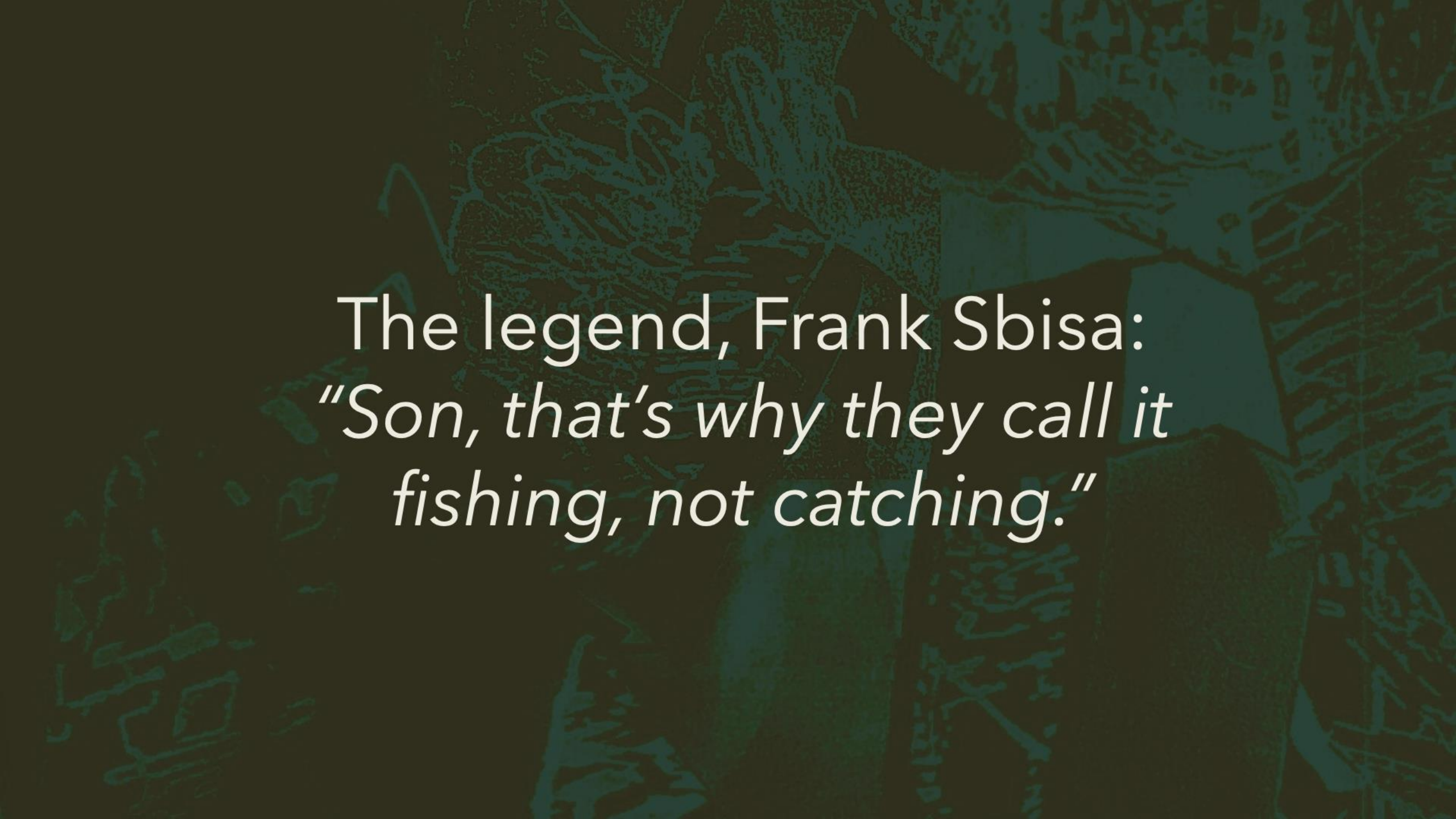
## KEY POINT 5

If winning souls is not an uncompromisable priority in your discipleship, then you're not actually doing ministry.



## **Matthew 4:19**

And he saith unto them, **Follow me,** and **I will make you** fishers of men.



The legend, Frank Sbisa:  
*"Son, that's why they call it  
fishing, not catching."*



## **2 Timothy 4:5**

But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, **do the work of an evangelist**, make full proof of thy ministry.

## **Key Point 6**

The quickest way to fail in our assignment is to **remain silent.**

A group of people in a church, with a man in a dark suit standing in the center, possibly a pastor or speaker, addressing the congregation.

*"Few men ever repent of  
**being silent.**"*

- C. Spurgeon

## **John 4:35**

Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.



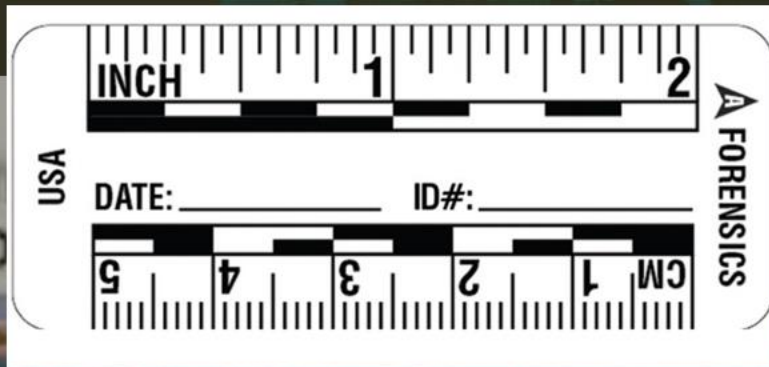
## **Key Point 7**

The greatest temptation of the evangelist is **procrastination**.





Length: 67inch long  
Weight: 160 pounds  
Type: Human soul





## TRUTHS OF THE WITNESS

## TRUTHS OF THE LORD

You will **fail**

But... **"Charity never faileth"**

1 Cor 13:8

You will say the **wrong thing**

But... **God's word won't** "return void"

Isa 55:11

You will be **afraid**

But... **God has not given** you a "spirit of fear" 1 Tim 1:7

You won't **know enough**

But... **"God hath chosen** the weak things" 1 Cor 1:27

You will look like **a fool**

But... "he that winneth souls **is wise**"

Pro 11:33



# Section 3: Witnessing Together



## **Key Thought**

The mission is not primarily the work of the local church, it is **exclusively** the work of the local church.



## **Matthew 28:19**

**Go ye** therefore, and teach all nations,  
baptizing them in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

## **Act 1:8**

**But ye** shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: **and ye** shall be **witnesses** unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

## **2 Cor 5:20**

Now then **we are ambassadors** for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.



## **Phil 4:3**

And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow,  
help those women which laboured **with  
me in the gospel**, with Clement also, and  
with other my **fellowlabourers**, whose  
names are in the book of life.

*(Sorry not in the notes)*

## **Key Point 8**

The work is always easier with **fellowlabourers.**



Section 1: Messenger

OUR WORSHIP

Section 2: Message

OUR WORK

Section 3: Method

GOD'S WAY





## Question

What is **the primary ministry/method** your local church uses to reach the lost?



## Key Point 9

**Bible Studies** are the primary method that we are trusting God to use to reach the lost and further the gospel.



# Section 4: Bible Study Breakouts



- 1) Has the Gospel changed your life? Do you need to make a decision to let go of something to move forward? **(5min)**
- 2) Do you need help knowing out to communicate the gospel or your testimony of salvation? **(5min)**
- 3) How are you going to trust God to take new territory as a small group? (Not as individuals) **(40min)**

How are you going to be strategic (outreach)?

- 4) What are you all going to do to improve or curate a better environment or culture? **(10min)**

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