

Personal Evangelism

John 16:7-11

Pastor Eddie Ildefonso

(14)
(Continuation from 07/07/12)

The Message: God's Plan of Salvation, John 16:7-11 Instructions for a New Christian

Study Your Bible

1 Peter 2:2 (NASB)

²like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation,

A person has faith that Christ will save him when he hears the plan of salvation from the Word of God and believes it (John 5:24)... and a person strengthens his faith that the Lord will lead him in his Christian life as he *studies God's Word, believes God's Word, and obeys God's Word*. "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ" (Romans 10:17).

The only way really to understand the Bible is to study it, and every Christian who studies his Bible will tell of the great enjoyment he has in doing so, as well as gaining much knowledge. God's Word is power! KNOWLEDGE of God's Word and HOW TO PRESENT His Word will give you the power necessary to be an effective soul-winner.

The Bible tells us to "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15).

Another reason why we should study the Bible is also found in 2 Timothy 3:16-17, "All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work."

Encourage the new believer to read his Bible, perhaps beginning with the Gospel of St. John.

Pray

Prayer is not some stilted, memorized speech that you make to God but conversation with your heavenly Father, who loves you very much. It should be just as natural for a Christian to talk to the Lord as it is for a little boy to talk to his Daddy. In fact, in Romans 8:15 the word "Abba," referring to our heavenly Father, is actually a very close, personal term, just like our word "Daddy" is today.

Romans 8:15 (NASB)

¹⁵For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again,

but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, “Abba! Father!”

Children of God can know Him intimately. There is no reason why a Christian should approach God in prayer with formal speeches. It does not show disrespect for God to address Him personally, but rather, it shows Him that we love Him deeply. [Galatians 4:6](#) says, **“Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!”** God really *wants* us to “feel at home” when we talk things over with Him.

God invites us to talk to Him, **“Call to Me and I will answer you, and I will tell you great and mighty things, which you do not know”** ([Jeremiah 33:3](#)).

One of the wonderful things about prayer is that the Lord will never turn a deaf ear to you: He is always interested in what affects you. [1 Peter 5:7](#), **“Casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.”**

Encourage the new believer to pray often every day.

Meet Together With Other Christians

Your love for the Lord, for Christians, and for the unsaved will be greatly increased as you meet with believers and have fellowship with them. The New Testament believers gathered together often for prayer, Bible study, and to encourage one another in their witnessing and comfort one another in their testing's.

[Acts 14:27 \(NASB\)](#)

²⁷ **When they had arrived and gathered the church together, they began to report all things that God had done with them and how He had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles.**

[Hebrews 10:25 \(NASB\)](#)

²⁵ **not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.**

Also see [Acts 15:4](#); [Acts 20:7](#); [Acts 21:18-20](#); and [Galatians 6:1-2](#).

It is the rare person who can withstand the pressures of his friends. If your friends are not those who know the Lord and take a stand in serving Him, they will constantly pull you down. It is of utmost importance to make your friends the kind of Christian you aspire to be.

Some of the most precious times in the lives of Christians have been spent in the prayer meetings of churches where believers gathered together to share their needs and help one another through the encouragement of testimonies and the power of earnest,

intercessory prayer. Encourage the new believer to attend a good, Bible—believing and teaching church.

Tell Others How to Be Saved

A person who has just trusted Christ is often radiantly happy about experiencing the love of God. This glowing “**first love**” is best nurtured by telling others that God also loves **them**, and explaining how **they, too**, can be saved. A newly-saved person usually will readily see the need for his friends to trust Christ as their Savior and will be **eager** to witness.

While endless preparation can go into learning how to witness most effectively, never leave a new Christian thinking witnessing should be done only by pastors and Bible College graduates. It is the responsibility of every Christian.

1 Thessalonians 2:4 (NASB)

⁴but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who examines our hearts.

It is such a privilege for us... that God would actually put US in trust with His wonderful gospel message! It is not only a privilege in the sense that we can exercise it or not at our own choosing, but once we have the Holy Spirit living in us (as all Christians do), He works in us and gives us a desire to witness for Him that is all but impossible to ignore.

Jeremiah 20:9 (NASB)

⁹But if I say, “I will not remember Him Or speak anymore in His name,” Then in my heart it becomes like a burning fire Shut up in my bones; And I am weary of holding *it* in, And I CANNOT ENDURE IT.”

God says that all those who have been reconciled to Him—those who have been given righteousness through trusting Christ as their Savior—are **His AMBASSADORS**.

2 Corinthians 5:18-20 (NASB)

**¹⁸Now all *these* things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave US the ministry of reconciliation,
¹⁹namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.
²⁰Therefore, WE ARE AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.**

Any person who understands enough of the plan of salvation to receive Christ as his Savior knows enough to tell others what happened to him and how they also may be saved. Often, even after you know the Bible very well, the most effective witness you could give would be your own testimony with a few, simple, salvation verses. Encourage the new believer to be a witness for the Lord.

The Holy Spirit indwells every believer and will guide the Christian in all facets of his life in Christ. Your example and testimony before the new Christian, as the one who led him to the Lord, will no doubt influence him very greatly, especially at first. As you pray for him, pray also for yourself, that you will always be the proper influence.

As you see your child in the faith endeavoring to serve the Lord, you should encourage him to be water baptized as a testimony to others that not only is he saved, but also he now wants the Lord to use his life for His glory ([Romans 6:4](#)).

Memory Verses For Section Three

Proverbs 3:11, 12	* 1 John 1:9
* 1 Corinthians 5:5	* 1 Corinthians 3:15
* 1 Corinthians 11:30	* Ephesians 2:10
* Romans 12:1, 2	* John 5:24
* Galatians 5:22, 23	Job 36:11
* 1 Corinthians 4:2	* 2 Corinthians 5:10
* 1 Corinthians 3:11	1 Corinthians 15:58
1 Corinthians 3:8	1 Peter 2:2
* Romans 10:17	1 Peter 5:7
Hebrews 10:25	* Hebrews 12:6, 11
* 1 Thessalonians 2:4	

Note: If you are unaccustomed to memorizing Scripture, we recommend you start with the verses marked *.