

## Living the Christian Life Successfully series!

*A Bible, History, Faith, and Mission Course for New Adventist Believers*

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### Lesson 5—Being a Regular light to others! (*Living and Sharing our Faith Joyfully*)

*What is the joy and privilege of every sincere believer? It is sharing the love of God with others! The joy that we experience in Christ simply cannot be contained or bottled up! It must overflow to the others in our lives. How can we possibly keep silent about experiencing the Best News ever given to mankind—the Gospel of Jesus Christ!! The gift of Eternal Life—it is simply too good, and too essential to all mankind for us to not share it. Surely, this is the true joy of every sincere believer. Let's discover together what the Bible has to say about this great privilege...*

1. **As followers of Jesus, what do we have that we can give to others? (Acts 3:6; 1 John 5:12; John 14:6)** *If we have such a gift as this one from God, then shall we not share it with others? Surely, we must share it, and it should be our greatest joy to do so! From a close experience with God through Jesus Christ we can give something of eternal value to others! And **we should start with whatever we have**. Those who faithfully give what little they have of Jesus, will experience abundant growth in the measure of what they have, as they are giving to others.*
  
2. **What does God promise will be the result of sharing the water of life with others? (Proverbs 11:25, 30)** *As you give the water of life to others, will you also be watered by the blessing of God's Spirit and grow in Him?*
  
3. **What does Jesus call us to be in this world for Him? (Matthew 5:13-16) And who shall be glorified by this?** \_\_\_\_\_ *Note: Even a little bit of light can pierce through the darkness that is all around, and keep many from stumbling over dangerous objects. And when you sprinkle salt you will notice that it only takes a little bit to go a long ways. A little bit of salt put into the food will affect and change the flavor of the entire bland tasting dish around! Jesus calls us to be this true influence in the world for the good and glory of HIS name!!! (Not anything for our own selves of course—Ref. Matthew 6:1-6).*
  
4. **As we come to Jesus, what should we also say to others? (Revelation 22:17)** \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Did Christ and His disciples follow this very method of invitation to others? What were the words they used? (John 1:39, 40-45, 46, 47-49) "Come and \_\_\_\_\_" **Do you think we can follow this same method of inviting others to come and discover for themselves who Jesus really is?** \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. **When the Samaritan woman at the well discovered who Jesus truly was, what did she do from excitement? Were her efforts effective? (John 4:28,29, 39-42)**

- c. *Jesus calls us all to give the same gospel invitation to others. And, we should pray that the Lord will send more laborers into the field for “the harvest is great, but the laborers are few” (John 4:34-38; Luke 10:2).*
5. **What does God say will surely be the result of our labors for Him? (Daniel 12:3; Psalm 126:5,6)**  
*The “seed” is the word of God. The harvest will be the fruit of righteousness and the souls saved that come from the seed being sown into many hearts—Matthew 13:23; Luke 8:11. If we “turn many to righteousness,” what will we shine like? \_\_\_\_\_*
6. **Jesus is the “bread of life” and waters represent peoples (John 6:35; Revelation 17:15). What does God instruct us to do with “this bread of life?” And, how should we go about doing it? (Ecclesiastes 11:1-6)**
- a. *Give a portion to the complete number of “seven,” but even to “eight” (even more) (v.2). If you are **filled** with God’s grace and truth, then more will flow out to others (v.3). Try not to make any excuses for not doing God’s work—otherwise, you’ll accomplish nothing valuable (v.4). Conversion to Christ is a miracle. You don’t know what will prosper, “either this or that”, so **do not withhold your hand** from this activity of sharing with others; sow in the morning and the evening—all day long there are opportunities awaiting you to do good for the name of Christ! (v.5,6).*
7. **Some points to remember when sharing:**
- a. **Be always ready to share the reasons for your faith. Give an answer to those who ask you with “meekness and fear” (1 Peter 3:15).** *Educate your lips for how to answer; study your Bible well (Proverb 15:23, 28; 16:23). Share what you know, and then go study more if you’re unsure about any point.*
- b. **Share more with people who are willing and open to listen.** *Do not “cast your pearls before swine...” (Matthew 7:6). Not everyone will appreciate Bible truth. They will just attack you if you try to share it with them.*
- c. **Pray that people’s hearts will be open to receive the truth of God’s word** (and not to be those who fight against it). *Pray for those who do seem to struggle against it. **Never argue with people, but be meek in the Spirit of Christ** as you would share (2 Timothy 2:24-26). You may win the argument (since we do have the truth), but you’ll lose a friend; and “a brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city” (Proverbs 18:19).*
- d. **Don’t give too much, too fast. Some people are not ready to receive certain truths yet.** *Follow the principle of Jesus (John 16:12,13). Paul tried to follow this principle too (1 Corinthians 3:2). **There is an order to Bible truth.** You must build upon the foundation of Jesus Christ and His other truths. The message of “Babylon” and the “Mark of the Beast” “**followed after**” the gospel message of the first angel (Revelation 14:8,9). Give people the gospel foundation they need in Christ before presenting the heavier testing truths of God’s word—this will prepare people to better receive God’s truth.*
- e. **Sometimes, with certain family members, etc., we must show the love of Christ to break down barriers before sharing words.** *Also, it can be more effective at times to share literature with them, that will help them to receive various Bible truths, rather than just expressing it in your own words (1 Peter 3:1,2).*
- f. **Have “bridging events,” in a safe context, to connect your unbelieving friends with those who do believe. You can be social to save, and exert an influence for righteousness. Do not allow evil influence to be exerted upon you. God will keep you safe as you seek to labor for Him (Mark 2:14-17; Luke 5:29-32).**

**Will you choose to be a witness for God’s kingdom always? \_\_\_\_\_ And to “seek and save” the lost and perishing who Jesus came save? \_\_\_\_\_**