

Title: "Why a Christian Must Share Christ"

Scripture: Acts 3:1-10

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Acts 3:1-10: *"Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour. 2 And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple; 3 Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms. 4 And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us. 5 And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them. 6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. 7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. 8 And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God. 9 And all the people saw him walking and praising God: 10 And they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him."*

Matthew 28:18 – *"And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 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: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen."*

If we believe the following scriptures, we know that the general has given us a direct order. If we do not do it, we are guilty of subordination. Acts 1:8 says "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." There was a person who once said "the great commission has turned into our greatest omission." These two words are very powerful. Commission means an instruction, command, or duty given to a person or group of people. Omission means the action of excluding or leaving out someone or something. Jesus was very clever when it came to using opportunities to share the works of his father. He used a well to tell a Samaritan woman about living water. He used a tree to share the meaning of life with a short man named Zaccheus. If we could just keep in mind that we don't have to be a seminary graduate in order to share the gospel, we would get further in completing the great commission.

Three Reasons to Share Christ with Others:

1. **A Christian must share Christ because he knows the spiritual needs of others:** In the first five verses we are given a picture of a man and his needs. Peter and John saw something deeper than the physical needs of that man. They saw his need for a spiritual relationship with Christ. As Christians we know the spiritual need of others. We know this for two reasons:
 - a. We know it from personal experience. If you've been saved, you know from personal experience what it feels like to be separated from God. We know the guilt of being a sinner. We know the feeling of being uncomfortable around other Christians. They are uncomfortable because of the lightness that shines in our dark lives. Our light reminds them of the darkness in their own lives.
 - b. We know it from the teachings of the Bible. Romans 3:23 says that ALL have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Ephesians 2:1-3 says *"And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; 2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: 3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others."*

2. A Christian must share Christ because of what he has done in their own lives (verse 6): Peter and John said “such as I have give I thee.” Peter wanted to give the man what he had. Our greatest gift in this life is salvation, so we need to share it. Jesus gave us several gifts in our lives that we should want to share with others:
 - a. Forgiveness of sins: Ephesians 1:7 “In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;”
 - b. Peace with God: Romans 5:1 “Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:”
 - c. Joy: I Peter 1:8 “Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:”
 - d. Everlasting life: John 3:16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”
 - e. Purpose for living: Matthew 6:33 “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”
3. A Christian must share Christ because he knows Christ is the only hope for others (verse 6): Peter said “In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.” Jesus Christ was the only hope for this man. What happened to us going to the only hope we have?
 - a. Christ is only way of salvation – Acts 4:12 “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.” John 3:14
 - b. Christ is the only mediator between God and man – The word mediator means “go between” or “intercessor”. In the Greek it means “peacemaker”. I Timothy 2:5 “For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;”
 - c. Christ is the only sacrifice for salvation - Galatians 1:4-5 “Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:
 - d. 5 To whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.”

Do you think you have a testimony to share with others about the work of Christ in our lives? If you do, you need to share it. There is no other way that others will know the way that the Lord works unless you tell them. Don't ever let Satan confuse you or quiet you about sharing your testimony.