

January 15, 2017 – 6:00 pm

Principles of Christian Growth

Section Three: The Results of Christian Growth – How does it bless us?

Lesson Two: Witnessing and disciple-making are blessings of growth.

Bible Reading: Acts 1:1-14, Matt. 28:16-20, 1 Cor. 15:33-34, Eph. 4:30, 1 Thess. 3:5-13, 5:12-24.

God can use anyone and anything to save a sinner with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Remember the poor witness Jonah was both before and after thousands were converted in the city of Nineveh. Conversely, godly and obedient Noah saw only his own family join him on the ark after years of faithful witnessing. Still, the Scripture is clear that the more we are like Christ, the better witnesses and disciple-makers we will be. *To witness* is to share the scriptural gospel with a lost sinner so that it can save him (1 Cor. 15:1-4). *To make a disciple* is to teach a believer to observe all the commands of Christ (Matt. 28:19-20). Clearly, becoming more like Christ will help us do these things better.

Discussion questions:

1. Jesus told His disciples in Acts 1:8, “Ye shall be witnesses unto me.” What is the difference between *being* a witness and *doing* witnessing? According to this verse, what makes us the witnesses Christ wants us to be? How can this go terrible wrong in the life of a would-be witness for Christ according to 1 Cor. 15:33-34, Eph. 4:30, and 1 Thess. 5:12-24?
2. What did the risen Lord do for His disciples before expecting them to be witnesses? (Acts 1:3, Matt. 28:16-18).
3. Paul was a Christ-like disciple-maker. Describe how he did it (1 Thess. 3:5-13).