

10-7-18 Message
COME AND SEE MISSIONS

John 1:37 And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus.

John 1:38 Then Jesus turned, and saw them following, and saith unto them, What seek ye? They said unto him, Rabbi, (which is to say, being interpreted, Master,) where dwellest thou?

John 1:39 **He saith unto them, Come and see. They came and saw where he dwelt, and abode with him that day: for it was about the tenth hour.**

John 1:40 One of the two which heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

John 1:41 He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ.

John 1:42 And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone.

John 1:43 The day following Jesus would go forth into Galilee, and findeth Philip, and saith unto him, Follow me.

John 1:44 Now Philip was of Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.

John 1:45 Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.

John 1:46 And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? **Philip saith unto him, Come and see.**

John 1:47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him, Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!

John 1:48 Nathanael saith unto him, Whence knowest thou me? Jesus answered and said unto him, Before that Philip called thee, when thou wast under the fig tree, I saw thee.

John 1:49 Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel.

John 4:29 **Come, see a man,** which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?

GREATEST METHOD TO REACH OTHERS
ALLOWING PEOPLE TO COME AND SEE

I. COME AND SEE HIS MANNER OF LIFE:

II. COME AND SEE HIS UNEQUALED GOODNESS:

III. COME AND SEE HIS INFINITE WISDOM:

Introduction:

It was just the earliest stages of our Lord's ministry and He was gathering together His disciples. The earliest foundations of the Church were being laid.

What was the key statement used to attract disciples into this CHURCH?

John 1:37 And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus.

John 1:38 Then Jesus turned, and saw them following, and saith unto them, What seek ye? They said unto him, Rabbi, (which is to say, being interpreted, Master,) where dwellest thou?
John 1:39 He saith unto them, Come and see. They came and saw where he dwelt, and abode with him that day: for it was about the tenth hour.

Here we have 2 disciples of John who had just heard John say:

John 1:36 Behold the Lamb of God!

Now Andrew and some think the other Disciple was John, followed the Lord.
The Lord asks, what seek ye? where dwellest thou?

Then we have our Lord's key statement, COME AND SEE.

These were the words of our Lord that were used to set in motion the New Testament Church.

Simply put, come and see.

The earliest disciples had the advantage of seeing and being first hand witnesses of Jesus.

John wrote in his first Epistle:

1John 1:1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;

1John 1:2 (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)

1John 1:3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you,

Now, I believe that yet today there is not any better way of winning people to Christ. We still should be able to say:

COME AND SEE:

THE QUESTION IS WHAT DID THEY SEE?

It was Andrew and John that accepted Christ's invitation to come and see where He lived:

John 1:39 He saith unto them, Come and see. They came and saw where he dwelt, and abode with him that day: for it was about the tenth hour.

I. THEY CAME AND SAW HIS MANNER OF LIFE:

What changed these men was coming and seeing not only what Jesus said but also the way He lived: They went and abode with Him:

Now Jesus is no longer here, but still people need to have someone say COME AND SEE: how Jesus changed the way I live. We need to become living Epistles, so to speak..

II Cor. 3:2 Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men:

If someone followed you home this afternoon, what would they see, is there a consistent Christian testimony, at your house?

Some people would be afraid to invite others into their house. There may be things there that you don't want people to see. If this is the case you are not a very good witness for the Lord.

Acts 2:46 And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,

Acts 5:42 And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.

The early Christians were ones to have Christianity not only in the temple but also in their houses:

Jesus lived with His disciples, they traveled together, worked together, ate together, ministered together, and it was this that changed their lives:

Matthew 8:24 And, behold, there arose a great tempest in the sea, insomuch that the ship was covered with the waves: but he was asleep.

We need a Christianity that is not just lip talk, but also life talk:

Then we can say to someone else, COME AND SEE HOW THE LORD HAS CHANGED MY LIFE! COME AND SEE MY NEW MANNER OF LIFE!

We live as we do because Jesus comes and makes His abode with us.

Where does the master dwell today? In the hearts of those, who have received him:

John 14:23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

Paul the Apostle's greatest witness was that people could see in him his manner of life.

II Timothy 3:10 But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience.

Paul said..

I Corinthians 11:1 Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.

Jesus did not stay aloof from His disciples. He welcomed them to come and see how He lived, where He lived. They were able to walk and talk with Him. There have been many scandals of late in Christianity with the immoral activities of clergy. This has especially been in the case of the Catholic Church. What is the reason for this? One of the reasons is that there is this idea that the Pastor, or Priest is to be aloof from the people. Obviously, people are not welcome to see the manner of life of these men or they would be shocked.

People need to see in us a person whose manner of life is consistent with Biblical truth. Do we live for God? Do we have a consistent testimony? Or are we just like everyone else in the world? Do we have the same ungodly habits? Do we talk like the world, act like the world?

Darell Champlin once came to our church and told the story of his Father in law Herbert Grings and family who lost his wife on the mission field.

Let me read the account for you as he wrote it and told it at our church when he preached here.

"In 1936, Ruth Grings passed away of black fever. I consider missionaries who die on the field, martyrs. She gave her life for Christ. This left Herbert on the field with five children. They were in the Congo, Africa in a remote village. They had been there for many years without good results and no converts to speak of. The family had to dig the grave for their Mom themselves and place her body into the grave themselves. The villagers watched.

It does not take much imagination to picture the straits Herbert found himself in. But after the funeral a few of the village people made their way to the missions outpost and timidly knocked on the door. With the body of his wife fresh in the grave it could have been easy to imagine this war torn missionary to get embittered about his loss. Just then the villagers asked Herbert Grings what they need to do to be saved.

He asked why now? I have preached to you for years. What makes you come now? Their reply was.. We believe you believe, and you live your belief. We have seen your religion is good for living. But now we see that your religion is not only good for living but it is good and better for dying and we want your religion! "

You see what made the difference in their results is that people saw in their manner of life something special.

That great Church Father Tertullian once said, "THE BLOOD OF THE MARTYRS IS THE SEED OF THE CHURCH.."

II. COME AND SEE HIS UNEQUALED GOODNESS:

John 1:45 Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.

John 1:46 And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth?

Philip saith unto him, Come and see.

John 1:47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him, Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!

John 1:48 Nathanael saith unto him, Whence knowest thou me? Jesus answered and said unto him, Before that Philip called thee, when thou wast under the fig tree, I saw thee.

John 1:49 Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel.

When the Lord comes into a person's life, after a while people are going to have to concede that what has happened is not bad, but good!

Why did Nathaniel say this?

The Name Nazarene was but another word for "DESPISED ONE"

The reason for this was that when Solomon gave that area to Hiram as a gift, Nazareth was one of the 20 cities that Solomon gave Hiram I Kings 9:11-13. When Hiram went to see the cities that were given to him they displeased him.

We read in I Kings 9:13 And he said, "What cities are these which thou hast given me, my brother? And he called them the land of Cabul unto this day.

One commentator writes:

King Solomon handed over a district in the north-west of Galilee near Tyre, containing twenty cities, to Hiram I, the king of Phoenicia, in repayment for his help in building Solomon's temple in Jerusalem. Hiram was not pleased with the gift, however, and called them "the land of Cabul", the name signifying "good for nothing". The writer of 1 Kings says they were called by this name "to this day".

Nazareth was called the land of Cabul **"GOOD FOR NOTHING"** So Nathaniel says can anything good thing come out of Nazareth?

Isaiah 53:3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

So the prophecies that say he will be despised are fulfilled because he was called a Nazarene. Nazareth was one of the most despised cities of Israel.

A derivative of the Hebrew word Nazareth is also the word NAZIYR which also means BRANCH or GERM: where we get word Nazareth.

Isaiah 11:1 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

Jeremiah 23:5 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.

Zechariah 3:8 Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they are men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH.

Zechariah 6:12 And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD:

NETSER = BRANCH

NAZIYR = VINE Which is a derivative from the word Nazareth.

Matthew 2:23 And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene.

Impure population , of mixed breed:

The people were seditious:
Their speech contemptible:
Nazarenes had a reputation of being irreligious and lax in morals:

Jesus would have known how sinners lived and what sin was, He would have been tempted in all points like us, yet He was without sin!

Isn't it true that the Lord delights in taking people of questionable backgrounds, and using them:

Many of us were the irreligious crowd, the ex, drinkers, druggies, ex- hippies, etc.. To whom much is forgiven the same loveth much:

When Jesus comes into our lives, even though we are from Nazareth, people may say can any good thing come from _____ and then mention our name.

But it becomes undisputed when they come and see and find we are not evil after all.

I wonder sometime at what people think of us.
The world is quick to give us a bad name, and undeservingly so.

COME AND SEE HIS MANNER OF LIFE Come see where he lived.
COME AND SEE HIS GOODNESS: Even though he was from sin city, he was good.

If Jesus dwells in our hearts, people should see something good in us. Though we are sinners in the flesh, when Jesus comes into our hearts and Spirits people should be able to see some good thing!

SO JESUS SAID COME SEE MY MANNER OF LIFE.
JESUS SAID COME AND SEE MY GOODNESS.

III. COME AND SEE HIS INFINITE WISDOM:

John 4:25 The woman saith unto him, I know that Messiah cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things.

John 4:26 Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am he.

John 4:28 The woman then left her waterpot, and went her way into the city, and saith to the men,

John 4:29 Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?

In Christ we have infinite wisdom.

I Corinthians 1:30 But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

Jesus is the Word of God.

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God.

People need to see that the Bible works.

The Bible gives wisdom.

The Bible gives understanding.

The Bible teaches us how to behave ourselves.

The Bible teaches us how to live.

I Timothy 4:15 Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all.

Psalms 1:1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

Psalms 1:2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

Psalms 1:3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and **whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.**

The book of Proverbs was written so that we might have wisdom and knowledge and be blessed of God.

The world needs to see something in our Christianity that works.

We Christians say come to our Christ, and the world says why, what do you have that we need.

We should have answers, medical, financial, legal, physical.

America is a mission field.

What do missionaries do when they go to a place where the gospel never was?

They provide some basic services for people so they can see that in Christ we have wisdom.

Jesus had no money, yet there was nothing that any man had that He had need of. But every man had need of what He had. Imagine that!

RICH MEN POOR MEN, POWERFUL MEN, ALL NEEDED WHAT THIS POOR PROPHET HAD.

HE NEVER OWNED A SHIP BUT NEVER LACKED FOR A SHIP TO TAKE HIM SOMEWHERE.

HE NEVER OWNED A HOUSE BUT NEVER LACKED FOR A HOUSE TO MEET IN.

HE NEVER HAD SILVER OR GOLD, BUT NEVER LACKED SILVER OR GOLD.

In Matt. 17:27 He told Peter to take up a fish and he would find a coin in the mouth of the first fish he caught, which would pay his taxes.

Remember what happened here, this woman was impressed that Jesus was able to tell her all things she had ever done. She was a sinner, and Jesus convicted her of her sin.

JOH 4:15 The woman saith unto him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw.

JOH 4:16 Jesus saith unto her, Go, call thy husband, and come hither.

JOH 4:17 The woman answered and said, I have no husband. Jesus said unto her, Thou hast well said, I have no husband:

JOH 4:18 For thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly.

JOH 4:19 The woman saith unto him, Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet.
JOH 4:20 Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.
JOH 4:21 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father.
JOH 4:22 Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews.
JOH 4:23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.
JOH 4:24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.
JOH 4:25 The woman saith unto him, I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things.
JOH 4:26 Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am he.
JOH 4:27 ¶ And upon this came his disciples, and marvelled that he talked with the woman: yet no man said, What seekest thou? or, Why talkest thou with her?
JOH 4:28 The woman then left her waterpot, and went her way into the city, and saith to the men,
JOH 4:29 Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?

We need wisdom, Biblical wisdom, on how to lead a person to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

1. FIRST OF ALL JESUS WAS ABLE TO SHOW HER SHE WAS SINNER WITHOUT HAVING AN ACCUSATIVE SPIRIT.

He wisely said go call your husband. Truth is, over half of the people we are going to present the gospel to today are probably living in serious sin. The world thinks nothing of fornication, adultery, all so many other sins.

Jesus said this:

LUK 5:30 But their scribes and Pharisees murmured against his disciples, saying, Why do ye eat and drink with publicans and sinners?
LUK 5:31 And Jesus answering said unto them, They that are whole need not a physician; but they that are sick.
LUK 5:32 I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

Jesus, in order to reach people, went where they were and was accused of evil for it.
MAT 11:18 For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, He hath a devil.
MAT 11:19 The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners. But wisdom is justified of her children.

In fact, when he talked to this woman at the well his disciples marveled that he talked with her and even the woman herself marveled.

JOH 4:27 ¶ And upon this came his disciples, and marvelled that he talked with the woman: yet no man said, What seekest thou? or, Why talkest thou with her?

No sinner can be saved unless they become convicted of their sin How can they be convicted unless they hear what the Bible says about their sin?

So they need to hear what the Bible says about sin, and be in a loving way shown they are sinners. Thus, Jesus showed her all things she ever did.

2. Jesus had the wisdom to show her Biblically how her ideas were wrong.

JOH 4:19 The woman saith unto him, Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet.

JOH 4:20 Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.

JOH 4:21 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father.

JOH 4:22 Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews.

JOH 4:23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

JOH 4:24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

There are all kind objections that people will bring up against the Word of God and salvation. We as God's messengers and we being His witnesses need to know how to rightly discern the Word of God and show people what it says. The Bible is a book of infinite wisdom. We need the wisdom to be able to say to somebody, COME AND SEE FOR YOURSELF THE WISDOM.

People have all kind of ideas about salvation and eternity. Jesus said, Ye worship ye know not what. Salvation is of the Jews. The Bible is a Jewish book, and we gentiles get in because they dropped the ball. However, never forget what the message of this book is.

JOH 4:22 Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews.

JOH 4:23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

JOH 4:24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

We need to say COME AND SEE WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT SALVATION.

Salvation is to receive the truth and the spirit of truth.

We need to forget the vain traditions and ideas of men. We need to worship God!

3. JESUS SHOWED THIS WOMAN HOW SHE NEEDED TO RECEIVE HIM AS THE MESSIAH.

JOH 4:25 The woman saith unto him, I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things.

JOH 4:26 Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am he.

JOH 4:27 And upon this came his disciples, and marvelled that he talked with the woman: yet no man said, What seekest thou? or, Why talkest thou with her?

JOH 4:28 The woman then left her waterpot, and went her way into the city, and saith to the men,

JOH 4:29 Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?

Jesus clearly said to her he was the Messiah.

Our ultimate goal of being a missionary, or witness, for Jesus Christ is to introduce people to Him. This whole conversation turned to her enquiry about who the Messiah was. Ultimately we are to be witnesses of Him. COME AND SEE HIM.

ACS 1:6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

ACS 1:7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

ACS 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.

Let us remember what Missions or witnessing is all about is all about. We are to be witnesses of Him. Remember to bring Him up. This is our job to introduce people to Him.

APPLICATION:

THERE STILL IS NO BETTER WAY FOR A PERSON TO BE USED AS A MISSIONARY TO HIS FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND PEOPLE IN A COMMUNITY, THAN THE COME AND SEE METHOD OF WITNESSING!

People need to be invited to Come and See.

We should have a come and see witness in our community.

- I. COME AND SEE HOW WE LIVE BECAUSE CHRIST LIVES IN US.
- II. COME AND SEE OUR GOODNESS, BECAUSE ONCE YOU WERE LOST AND NOW YOU'RE FOUND AND PEOPLE NEED TO SEE WHAT HAPPENED TO US IS GOOD!
- III. COME AND SEE THAT THE CHRIST YOU SERVE AND THE BIBLE YOU BELIEVE IN IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR EVERY DAY LIVING! Infinite wisdom.

Invitation:

Can you effectively say to people COME AND SEE?

Could you invite people to see your manner of life? Where dwellest thou? Come and see.

Could you invite people to see a changed life now there is something good about you?

Can anything good come out of _____ ? Come and see.

Could you invite people to see that the truth works? Your profiting appears to all. Come see a man who told me all.

Missions needs to start at home with us, reaching our community for Christ.