

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20

“I Love To Tell The Story” (2)

Dan Henderson

Store In My Heart

Colossians 3:1

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

Paul's letter to the brethren in the area around Colosse speaks of the superiority of Christ. These brethren were beset by those who encouraged tradition and philosophy and the observance of holy days and feasts. This focus on earthly things would pull them away from the freedom they had in Christ.

Paul urges them to focus instead on the things above. To keep their eyes and hearts on Christ by leaving these earthly things behind, along with the sinful attitudes that had ruled them in the past. They had died to the world and were now to live in Christ, following His teaching and example not the traditions of men. We need to follow this instruction today.

Continuing last week's thoughts, let's look at some specific areas of difficulty in telling the story with our daily actions.

Let's start at home. What does your family see when you get up each morning? Are you grumpy, upset, mad at the world, when you arise? We should get up each morning with thankfulness for a new day of teaching the Gospel. Each of us knows someone that needs to hear the truth about Christ.

Now, when you leave home to head for work, do you rejoice and thank God that you have a job? What effect does traffic have on your attitude? Christians cannot allow evil thoughts about others to enter their minds and dominate their attitude. We must be forgiving, not vengeful. We cannot expect God to forgive us if we do not forgive others. An attitude of righteousness will always display a forgiving heart.

What about our attitude toward our co-workers? Do you see them as potential study candidates? We must look at everyone as one needing to hear the story of Christ. Just because one is the workplace jokester does not exclude them from the need of salvation. Would they come to you to learn of Christ? What about your superiors? Do they know of your commitment to Christ? We must not allow our work to interfere with serving God. Working during worship time just to please the boss, or make a little overtime does not "tell the story"!

What do your co-workers think about you? Can they learn of Christ by your actions? When ungodly things are spoken of in the workplace the Christian should withdraw themselves. The Christian must avoid ungodly behavior. We must not listen to immoral stories, engage in illegal acts, waste our employer's time, etc. When others sit around doing nothing we must continue to do our job. Just because



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We want opportunities to speak with others about the Lord's Kingdom.

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For Our Information

Annette Gray is doing better and regaining strength after a bout with viral pneumonia.

Joyce Venable is back home but not feeling well at all. She has pneumonia.

Vickie McNeas is still dealing with some dizziness.

Paula Laubach will need knee surgery in the near future.

Betty Ragsdale has not been feeling well lately.

Pray for safety, courage & healing.

our employer supplies the things needed to perform our job at work, does not mean he supplies the same thing for us to use at home. They must be able to recognize a difference between your attitude and their own.

Are you Godly in your personal business dealings? Do you give good measure, pressed down and running over? *"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."* **Luke 6:38** We must be generous in our dealings with others. Certainly we must look out for our interests, but not at the expense of those dealing with us. God has always given more than we asked. He even gave when we were still working against Him. *"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."* **Romans 5:8** Are we to do less to others?

What about our free time? Does our recreation reflect a God-like attitude? When people of the world see us engage in ungodly, immoral activities with them we do not "tell the story" with our actions. God's Word teaches against lust for the opposite sex. God's Word is not seen in our lives when we undress at the public swimming pool, beach, ballpark, etc. The Scriptures teach us not to forsake the assembling together of the Saints. God's story is not shown when we participate in sports leagues, recreation, club meetings, etc., when our fellow Christians are assembled for worship.

These are some of the more common ways we sometimes fail to "tell the story" in our everyday actions. I am certain that each of us, if we really tried, could find many other areas where changes to our actions are necessary for the story of Jesus to be seen. Another song we use in worship proclaims "Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me." Is it?

The Word of God is plain and simple. We need to let it work in us. We need to be sure we are letting the world see Jesus in us when we tell them of Jesus. Otherwise our teaching is vain. No one wants to follow a person that does not live what they teach. The early disciples brought others to Christ by their way of life as well as the spoken word. Peter said an unbelieving mate can be converted by one's way of life without a word being spoken.

"Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation (behavior ASV) of the wives; While they behold your chaste conversation (behavior ASV) coupled with fear." **1Peter 3:1-2**

Will your behavior win anyone to Christ? Think seriously about your way of life. You do tell a story. Make sure you "tell the story," the story of the Gospel that leads to salvation of the soul.

We seek only to serve God according to His Will!

