

Teaching The Lost Acts 8:4

Growth is a necessary and expected part of life

Same true if spiritual life

Organism growth requires growth in each part - **Ephesians 4:14-16**

Growth requires feeding and exercise - **Hebrews 5:14**

We are not growing!

Question arises, Are we eating right? Are we exercising properly?

We need to reach the lost if we are to grow in areas beyond knowledge.

Consider some areas that hinder teaching the lost, so we can avoid them

My example

Practice what you preach! - **Matthew 5:13-16; Proverbs 4:14-19**

People see how we really walk-they will recognize hypocrisy

Jesus condemned hypocrisy of Jewish leaders **Matthew 23; Romans 12:9; 1Peter 2:1**

Do we fail to urge change in others because we have yet to change self?

Want to serve God and Christ, but not willing to walk away from whatever gets in their way of giving Him their all - **Matthew 6:24**

Am I committed to God?

Is He really a priority in my life?

Is He enough of a priority I am willing to change WHATEVER for Him?

ARE WE willing to change ourselves that we can better change others?

My Example Is Sufficient

Will others will come to the truth simply by observing us? - **1Peter 3:1,16**

Godly example is necessary, but is it enough? - **Ephesians 1:13; Hebrews 4:12**

Early Church examples caught the attention of people, but it was the preaching of the Gospel that converted souls. They were added after hearing not just seeing.

It is teaching and preaching that lets others know what they need to do. - **Romans 10:14,17**

We must teach the Word! - **2Corinthians 5:11**

My Attitude

Holier than thou attitude - **Luke 18:9-14**

How many have been turned away because they were approached with an attitude of superiority? - **Colossians 4:6**

Do we expect failure?

Are we Godly in ALL our interaction with others?

Do we approach with God in mind? - **James 1:5; Colossians 4:3**

My Speech

Speaking the wrong things

Give our "counsel" before we have heard "the rest of the story."

We must first learn to LISTEN! - **James 1:19; Ecclesiastes 5:1-3; Proverbs 18:13**

Misuse God's word - **2Timothy 2:15; Hebrews 5:13-14**

Different people must be approached at different places.

Start with establishing there is a God, the Bible is inspired, the New Testament, errors within the church, etc.?

Some want you to answer questions they are not ready for.

Sometimes we jump on some problem that we notice and treat them the way we would treat an erring brother in Christ.

Murmuring and complaining - **Philippians 2:14-16**

We criticize and complain about how bad everything is to people who know nothing about us.

We are turning others away from God when we do this.

How do we avoid these things? - **Psalms 141:3; James 1:26**

STUDY the word of God – the more you know, the better prepared you will be. Knowing not only what to say, but also what NOT to say!

Just Don't Do It!

Condemnation awaits those who bury talents - **Matthew 25:24-28**

God knows what you CAN do.

Only YOU can use your ability, I have to use my own!

Time is not on our side.

Our friend may die. We may die! The Lord may return.

May think we lack sufficient knowledge - **Hebrews 5:12**

We have the knowledge, we must use it

How many souls will we gamble with while we are supposed to be learning?

Future of the church is what is at stake.

Will there be a sound congregation of the Lord's people in Malvern when the next generation comes along?

Will this church grow in ways God is pleased with in the next few years?

Are you willing to do your part?

Will you? Think about it!

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