

Gateway International Baptist Church

“SOULWINNING AND VISITATION CLASS”

Scripture: Acts 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 Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

I. NOTICE SOME PREPARATIONS FOR GOING.

A. There must be physical preparation.

1. We must be clean and presentable.
2. We must be dressed discreetly and neat.
3. We must avoid body odor and bad breath.
4. We probably should not chew gum.
5. We should never smoke just before or while the visit is being made.

B. There must be mental and emotional preparation.

1. There are some things we must not do.
 - a. We must not go with a bad attitude.
 - b. We must not go with a negative attitude.
 - c. We must not go with a suspicious attitude.
 - d. We must not go with a pious attitude.
 - e. We must not go with a racial or class prejudiced attitude.
2. There are some things we must do.
 - a. We must go with a positive attitude.
 - b. We must go with an expectant attitude.
 - c. We must go with a dependent attitude.

C. There must be spiritual preparation.

1. We must be assured of our own salvation.
2. We must be right with Jesus as a believer.
 - a. Our sins must be confessed up to date.
 - b. Our relationships with family and others must be right as much possible.
 - c. We must ask Jesus to fill us with His Holy Spirit.

3. We need to only go after we have had a quiet time with Jesus earlier in the day.

II. NOTICE THE PLAN FOR GOING.

- A. As we go, we must practice the presence of God continually.
- B. Before we leave, we need to pray with our partner.
- C. Before we leave, we need to decide who will be the talking partner, and who will be the silent or prayer partner.
- D. We need to plan the geographical logistics of our visits so that we will not spend much time in back-tracking.
- E. When we arrive, we need to be very observant about things in the yard; for example, toys, boats, antique cars, sporting equipment, and of course dogs.
- F. We should always walk on the proper walks and driveways, and not on the grass, unless of course there are no walks or walk stones.
- G. You should always go to the front door, unless you notice that the front door is not used, or unless the house configuration is designed so that you don't have easy access to the front entrance.
- H. Ring the door bell or knock firmly on the door, and then step back from the door to give them room to open the door.
- I. If they come to the door, be very gracious and let them know who you are and where you are from immediately.
- J. If you are invited in, please be sensitive to the situation in the house, and make a proper decision about going in.
- K. If the residents are not home, be sure to leave adequate information about our church and something with a witness for Jesus.

III. CONSIDER THE PRESENTATION ONCE YOU ARE IN THE HOUSE.

- A. Start with a warm-up conversation, especially giving attention to their family members. Noticing pictures on the walls is extremely helpful.
- B. Strive to show a genuine interest in the people you are talking to.
- C. Be a good listener, as well as talker.
- D. If there are children present, maybe the silent partner can occupy them while the talking partner shares the Gospel.

- E. Following the warm up conversation, find out about their religious background, and as the Holy Spirit leads, move to a transition to where you ask them about their personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
- F. Ask them the question, “If you died today, are you absolutely sure you would go to heaven?” If they say yes, ask them upon what do they base their assurance? You should be able to tell from their answer if they have ever been saved or had a genuine experience with Christ. If their answer is evasive, or not very emphatic, you should press the issue, but be very careful about angering them, or closing the door for continuing, or even coming back at a later date.
- G. If they are open to presenting the plan of salvation, this is the time to do so. You might use the following scriptures in the order given, and then draw the net by asking them to pray the sinner’s prayer after you.
1. First, share with them that all men are sinners. Romans 3:10; Romans 3:23
 2. Secondly, share with them that if a person dies lost in his/her sins, they are lost or separated from God forever. Romans 6:23
 3. Thirdly, share with them that they don’t have to die in their sins, but that Jesus loves them and wants to save them. Romans 5:8
 4. Fourthly, share with them that they must repent of their sins in order to be forgiven. Luke 13:3 and Luke 13:5
 5. Fifthly, share with them that they must believe that Jesus died on the cross for them, and that they must confess Him as Lord and Master of their lives. Romans 10:9-10
 6. Next, share with them that if they call upon Jesus, he will positively save them today. Romans 10:13

7. Now ask them to pray the sinner's prayer with you, and receive Jesus as their Savior.
- H. If they receive Christ, rejoice with them, and share with them the next steps to follow.
1. They need to tell somebody today that they have been saved.
 2. They need to start praying every day.
 3. They need to start reading the Bible every day. First John is the place to start.
 4. They need to go to church immediately and make a public profession of faith in Christ.
 - 5.. They need to follow the Lord in believer's baptism and join a Bible-preaching and Bible-teaching church.
 6. They need to be encouraged to become a witness for Jesus.
- I. If the person does not get saved, offer to have a prayer with them, invite them to attend our church the next Sunday, leave some literature about salvation and our church, and then graciously leave. Always try to leave in such a way that you or others may come back at another time.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

We as children of God have the most wonderful privilege of telling people everywhere about our precious Lord Jesus Christ. To introduce someone to Jesus, and then to see Jesus through His Holy Spirit convict that person and ultimately draw that individual to a saving relationship with Christ is the greatest privilege that any human could ever have. In order to be a regular witness for Christ, we must develop a mind-set to constantly be planting the seed, cultivating and watering the soil, and then sharing in the harvest. No pastor or church staff member could possibly do all of this, but we together can, and we must. Why? Because souls are lost and lives are in ruins. Therefore, on this special day let us make a brand new commitment to becoming a witness for Jesus everyday, and then, let us make a new commitment to participating in our church visitation program. Then, we can all rejoice in a constant harvest through the ministry of our church. If we don't go and tell the Gospel message, who will??