

EYE WITNESS



Eye Witness:

- Afraid to tell others (rejection; how to)
- When all you have are book answers without experiential knowledge, talking about things of faith is going to be difficult, and scary. But, Jesus wanted us to talk to others from a place of personal relationship & experience – an eye witness account.

Eye Witness:

- Acts 1:5, “For John baptized you with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit. . . You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Eye Witness:

- Why should we talk to others about our faith?
- Jesus is a healer & we live in a dramatically broken world. Offering someone a healing path is the most loving thing to do. (anxiety; depression; sexual abuse; addiction; relational pain) (2/3 of people in the inner city fatherless homes) (physical healing – shop owner)

Eye Witness:

- Why should we talk to others about our faith?
- Jesus is a Savior & we are all sinners in need of forgiveness. Every story carries pain. And every story carries sin, guilt, regret & shame. (elderly man – 50 year old regret) (backpack filled with rocks)

Eye Witness:

- How do we speak to others about Jesus?
- The key phrase is ‘witness.’ Jesus said when the Spirit comes on us we will be his witnesses. Here is the key: We witness to the Spirit’s activity in our lives. We witness to what Jesus is doing.

Eye Witness:

- How do we speak to others about Jesus?
- Where is Jesus at work in your life?
Where does the work of Jesus in your life intersect others lives? This is when your witness could help someone else know Jesus as Healer or Savior. (e.g., parenting conversation on plane to Providence)

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Eye Witness:

- How do we speak to others about Jesus?
- **Pay attention to where Jesus is at work in your life.** Where is Jesus at work in your life? (forgiveness; overcoming bitter roots; anxiety; depression; addiction, etc) Wherever Jesus has helped your journey, you can give an eye witness account.

Eye Witness:

- How do we speak to others about Jesus?
- **Pay attention to where people are being impacted by the fall.** Where does your life intersect their life? We can share our ‘testimony.’ We can share a gospel presentation. But, the most effective thing is simply to share how the Spirit is at work in our lives in areas that overlap their life.

Eye Witness:

- How do we speak to others about Jesus?
- **Above all, love people.** Love them where they are. Love them for who they are. Love them in their need. Love them in their hurt. Love them though they are in sin. (empathy for parent with wanderer; shop owner) (100% on mission)