

We are nearing Easter, which is the most effective season of the year to share your faith in Christ! All of us want to make the most of the Easter season, but we can become easily distracted or discouraged. Today we'll learn the third key to successfully making Christ known!

1. Know Christ.

- a. Christ came to reveal God to you (John 1:1-18)!
- b. Christ came to redeem you (Hebrews 10:1-10)!
- c. Christ came to relate to you (Hebrews 4:15-16; 1 Peter 2:21)!
- d. Application:
 - i. Have you trusted Christ personally?
 - ii. Are you seeking to know Christ continually?

2. Be Known as Christ's.

- a. Becoming a disciple of Christ begins with public identification with Christ (Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 2:41).
- b. Growing as a disciple of Christ depends upon repeated decisions to publicly identify with Christ (Mat 5:14-16).
- c. Application:
 - i. Have you taken the first step toward public identification with Christ by being baptized?
 - ii. Are you known as a Christian in your spheres of influence?
 - iii. Is your Christianity your primary identity? If so, how do you express that?

3. Make Christ Known.

- a. Initiate relationships with those around you.
 - i. Luke 19:10 "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."
 - ii. Jesus showed great concern for the individual.
 - iii. Luke 15:4 "What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it?"
 - iv. Luke 15:7 "I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance."
- b. Start with learning names (Luke 19:1-10).
 - i. Imagine how thrilled Zacchaeus was to hear Jesus call him by name!
 - ii. God has a record in heaven with your name on it.
 1. Luke 10:20 Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are submeat unto you; but rather **rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.**"
 2. Revelation 21:27 "And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are **written in the Lamb's book of life.**"
 - iii. Do you have a record of the names of those that you are seeking to reach?
- c. Extend hospitality.
 - i. Use hospitality as an opportunity to show genuine concern and discovery of needs.
 - ii. The Greek word for hospitality in the New Testament is *philoxenia*, which is a combination of two words: Love (*phileo*) and the word for stranger (*xenos*). The word literally means "love of stranger."
 - iii. Hospitality is to be part of the ministry of believers.
 1. Romans 12:12-13 "Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer; Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality (love of stranger)."
 2. Hebrews 13:2 "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."
 3. 1Peter 4:9 "Use hospitality one to another without grudging."

- d. Share your personal testimony of faith in Christ.
 - i. John 4:28-29 “The woman then left her water pot, and went her way into the city, and saith to the men, Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?”
 - ii. Your personal testimony is one of your most powerful tools to share Christ with another person.
 - iii. It’s difficult to argue with someone when you’re sharing your personal testimony of faith in Christ.

- e. Share the gospel boldly.
 - i. Romans 1:16 “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth...”
 - ii. The gospel is the power of God unto salvation, not your ability to persuade!

- f. Share the gospel simply – three truths and one decision:
 - i. The Problem of Sin
 - 1. Romans 3:10 “There is none righteous, no not one.”
 - 2. Romans 3:23 “For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.”
 - ii. The Penalty of Sin – Romans 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death.”
 - 1. Genesis 2:17 “But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for **in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.**”
 - 2. Revelation 21:8 “But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in **the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.**”
 - iii. The Payment for Sin
 - 1. Romans 5:8 “But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”
 - 2. John 3:16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”
 - iv. The Decision of Faith
 - 1. Romans 10:13 “For whoseever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”
 - 2. Ephesians 2:8-9 “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.”

Conclusion:

1. Are your fears more real to you than your relationship with Christ?
2. Have you been too afraid to identify publicly with Christ?
3. What is one thing you can begin to implement right now to begin making Christ known to those around you?