



Being An Effective Witness

Acts 1: ⁸ But 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.”

The Right Reverend John Franklin White, Fourth District Presiding Bishop
The Rev. Dr. Alphonse Reff, St. Paul Minneapolis Presiding Elder
The Rev. Vera Wallican, District Christian Education Director
The Rev. Richard H. Coleman, Presenter

- **Acts 1:** ³ After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. ⁴ On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: **“Do not leave Jerusalem,** but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”
- ⁶ Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”
- ⁷ He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ **But 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.”**

Do not leave Jerusalem

Matthew 2:2 - “Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.”

- Jeremiah 3:17 - At that time they will call Jerusalem The Throne of the LORD, and all nations will gather in Jerusalem to honor the name of the LORD. No longer will they follow the stubbornness of their evil hearts.
- John 19:19 - Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: **JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS.**

Do not leave Jerusalem

Jesus fulfilled prophecy, honoring the Father's promise to establish His earthly throne in Jerusalem.

The Church is founded in Jerusalem, or Zion, where Jesus is in charge and enables people to serve.

- Serving is a gift that Christ imparts to each follower
- Christ is in charge
- Avoid presumption - Obey Christ...follow Him as He follows the Father
- Live by Faith - Face your life right where you are

Evangelical Effectiveness is a Gift

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you and you will be my witnesses...

- **God gives effectiveness. We develop it**
 - Strong's Greek #1411 – Dunamis
 - Definition of Dunamis - physical power, force, might, ability, efficacy, energy, meaning
 - Efficacy – Webster - the power to produce an **effect**.
- **Holy Spirit enables witness**
 - Witnessing is communicating effectively
 - Have you received the gift you need? Check in with the Lord. Holy Spirit will let you know when you have been enabled.
 - Holy Spirit reveals the mind of Christ and enables us with words that speak to the spirit of the one to whom we are witnessing...SPIRIT to spirit to spirit.

Start at home and Extend

**Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria,
and to the ends of the earth.”**

- **Commit to a season of spiritual preparation in the congregation.**

1 Timothy 2: I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people— ² for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. ³ This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

Pray Before You Go

- Soul winning is spiritual warfare. The enemy is determined to prevent people from witnessing effectively. When we consider 2 Corinthians 4: 3, 4, we realize why prayer is vital for the work of evangelism.

³ And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴ The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

- There is a correlation between this passage and 1 Timothy 2: 1-4...prayer changes things.
- Without prayer there can be no spiritual change in people's lives or their communities.

Rally Around June as FRAN'S Month

- Reach your Jerusalem through Friends, relatives, acquaintances and neighbors.
- Order fliers, and tee shirts at www.gofourth.info
- Launch FRAN on May 1st with prayer, study, researching and mapping your Jerusalem
 - Establish your Jerusalem and map prayer walk routes
 - Organize prayer walk teams
- Prayer and Fasting – May 26 – June 2nd *and beyond*
- Prayer Walking June 2nd through June 30th *and beyond*
 - *Wear your church gear and focus on prayer June 2nd through 9th*
 - *Wear your church gear and use fliers as you focus on prayer and witnessing June 16th through 30th*
- Day of Pentecost – June 4th
- Set a date and organize a Family and Friend's Rally



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