

# SHARE JESUS

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April 21, 2013

**Sermon in a sentence:** Share your knowledge and relationship with Jesus whenever, wherever, however possible.

**Scriptures:** John 1:19-49; John 4:5-42; Luke 8:26-56;  
Acts 3:6

We teach our children from their earliest interactions with others that they should share, because they seem to learn the word “mine” very quickly, independent of their parents, trying to hold everything for themselves.

If selfishness is such a natural human trait, why do we even bother trying to teach children to share? (Even as adults we have to admit that at times we still have strong tendencies toward selfishness.)

Actually, the lessons we learn in sharing do not come from any innate goodness of our own, but rather from our knowledge of God and His character. He is a giver. He even shares His own image and likeness with us!

As Christians, God shares His very essence with us when He fills us with His Spirit, giving us the ability to act as He would have acted if He were here on earth in the flesh.

Therefore, we need to discover and utilize the gifts of the Spirit God has given to us, using them for the benefit of our brothers and sisters.

At the same time, we realize there are many things that happen in the lives of those around us that we simply have

**no power to fix. These challenges come in three main areas: health, finances and relationships.**

**If we do not personally have the particular gifts of the Spirit or human resources required to meet these needs, we still have the most awesome option available: SHARE JESUS!**

**Usually we are called upon to share with those in need. Those who already 'have it all' do not need our help. So, when crises arise and we find ourselves overwhelmed by the situations facing us, let us be quick to say like Peter: "I do not possess silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you: In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene – walk!" (Acts 3:6 NASB).**

**If we already have the resources or the spiritual gifts to meet the needs before us, we simply have to use them. If however we can clearly see that we are facing challenges that are beyond our ability, we need to employ another strategy. We must seek to build faith in Jesus – in our own hearts and in the hearts of those we are seeking to help. We need to understand and believe that He is the only one who can meet every need and solve every problem. SHARE JESUS!**

**We usually speak of sharing Jesus in the context of evangelism, knowing that every one needs salvation, first and foremost. But we also understand that when He meets a pressing need that is uppermost in a person's mind, and they experience His love and compassion first hand, they are then quite open to listen to our presentation of the gospel.**

**So let us share Jesus whenever we have the opportunity.**

**In John 1, we read of John the Baptist receiving the revelation of Jesus as Messiah. He shared Jesus with Andrew and Andrew shared Him with Peter. The next day, Jesus called Philip, and Philip shared Him with Nathanael.**

**In John 4:25-26, the woman at the well came to know Jesus as Messiah and despite being the least likely person to be received and respected in her city of Sychar, she brought them all to Jesus and shared Him with them. Many in her city believed through her testimony (v. 39-42).**

**Luke 8:26-40 tells us of a demon possessed man who came to know Jesus as his deliverer. Those who initially told of his deliverance to his neighbours scared them so badly, they asked Jesus to leave town immediately. Jesus told the man to go home and tell everyone of the great things that had happened in his life. He did such a fantastic job of sharing that the people were lined up waiting for Jesus when He came back to town. (This also provided an opportunity for two other incredible miracles to be performed: the woman with the issue of blood was healed, and Jairus' daughter was raised from the dead (Luke 8:41-56)).**

**John 19:38-39 tells us of a rich and influential man who became a disciple of Jesus, but fear kept Joseph of Arimathea from sharing Jesus with anyone else. Another influential leader and teacher, Nicodemus, was kind and sympathetic toward Jesus, having received the wonderful revelation of the New Birth in John 3, but again, no sharing.**

**What a contrast to the woman at the well and the redeemed demoniac!**

**The ones we *think* would have had the largest audiences and the greatest influence were silent, while the ones we**

***think* would have been the least effective were the most successful!**

**Which example will we follow? Will we understand that who we are makes no difference to Jesus? Sharing Him with others is all He wants us to do.**

**(Illustration: Domestic worker meets rich, highly educated, 'society woman' at the laundromat. (Lady's house was being renovated at the time.) One-time opportunity. Jesus was shared. Lady was saved!)**

**Let's SHARE JESUS!!**