

PRACTICAL HELPS FOR SOUL WINNERS

1 Chronicles 12:32; Matthew 11:12; 2 Corinthians 10:4-6; Jeremiah 1:10.

Soul winning is the most noble, most rewarding work on earth in which a believer can be involved. Though, it is every believer's ministry, we need wisdom to win souls. The soul winner needs to employ all scriptural and legitimate means to win the lost. To be effective in the divine assignment of soul winning, there must be conscientious effort of obey the command of the Lord in rescuing the perishing. We also need strategies for the work of soul winning. Our campuses need the demonstration of the power of God. It is with violence that the soul winners can take captives out of Satan's strongholds into God's kingdom. This can be done using only spiritual weapons. The Lord has set us over the campuses and over the kingdoms to root out and pull down and to destroy, to throw down (all forms of strongholds), then to plant and to build righteousness and God's kingdom.

1. IDENTIFYING DIFFICULTIES SOUL WINNERS FACE ON THE CAMPUSES

Romans 2:1; Acts 19:13,15; Mark 5:18-19; Acts 12:1-5; Matthew 9:36; 2 Peter 1:2-8.

Students are peculiar set of people in the society. They have their problems special needs, interests, privileges and temptations (Daniel 1:8; 3:1-25; 6:6-17). Reaching them for Christ demands special strategies. Pervading spirit of immorality, worldliness, unwillingness to forsake sin etc could pose serious threat to evangelistic efforts on campus. The measure of your compassion will determine the sacrifice you make, the effectual fervent prayer you offer, the long journeys you make, the tears you shed, the earnest special invitation to Christ you give and the hardship you endure for rescuing the souls of men. It is passion that turns the wheel of progress. Saving the sinners and securing the saints are only done by the compassionate soul winners. Others are lack of compassion, purposeful planning, power for service (Acts 1:8; 8:29) knowledge and visitation.

The territorial forces, evil spirits controlling the minds and lives of people make penetration difficult (Acts 19:28; 17:16-23). This occurs in the form of paganistic reasoning, philosophical ideologies and dogmas, false religious practices, traditional beliefs and superstitions. The measure of your compassion will determine the sacrifice you make, the effectual fervent prayers you offer, the long journeys you make, the tears you shed, the earnest speeches invitation to Christ you give and the hardship you endure for rescuing the souls of men. It is passion that turns the wheel of progress. Saving the sinners and securing the saints are only done by the compassionate soul winners.

Lack of knowledge (Psalm 143:3; Ecclesiastes 8:1), ignorance of spiritual warfare for souls, prayerlessness etc., are other difficulties. These difficulties must not in any way hinder or discourage our obedience to the great commission.

2. PROFFERING SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEMS

Jude 20-21; Ephesians 6:10,13-18; 2 Corinthians 10:5; Psalm 2:8; 4:3; Isaiah 52:11-12.

Evangelism consists of seeking, praying, finding and leading a sinner to the knowledge of the Saviour. Hence, for effective evangelism the soul-winner must have the experience of genuine salvation, conviction, commission, compassion, holiness of life, Holy ghost baptism (Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 2:4-5; Micah 3:8) and effective prayer power (Psalm 126:5,6). Be clothed with the whole armour of God and put to use your spiritual weapons (Ephesians 6:12-18; revelation 2:11; Matthew 12:29). Praise worship is necessary for every intercession (praise God for what He has done; praise Him for what you expect Him to do and praise Him for who He is).

Purity guarantees the presence of God and power in our outreaches. And be sure you are filled with the Spirit (Acts 8:29). The Holy Ghost power is indispensable to fruitful evangelization. He directs the sensitive soul winner to fruitful contacts and provides the anointing that breaks the yoke of sin and spiritual bondage (Isaiah 10:27). Working without the spirit can be likened to a lay man trying to recondition a vehicle engine without essential tools.

A working knowledge of the scriptures is important (Joshua 1:8). Constant study of God's word makes us effective soul winner, a workman that needs not to be ashamed rightly dividing the word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15). We must avoid procrastination and make effective use of our time (Psalm 89:47; Colossians 4:5; John 9:4; Ephesians 5:16) by avoiding wastage of resources.

All available strategy must be used (1 Corinthians 9:22). Including our talents. As students in the academic community, we should not forget the power in printed pages (2 Corinthians 10:10; Habakkuk 2:2). God has many people in our campuses. We should therefore saturate our campuses with gospel literatures so that multitudes will be brought to the Lord (Acts 16:20). Dr. H. E. Freeman noted that within a period of few years, the gospel of Christ had spread throughout Palestine, Europe, Africa, Asia, Greece, Crete, Babylon, Italy and Spain. All took place without the modern privileges of printed pages, rapid transportation, mass communication etc.