



Gospel Talk
A Study of *Tell Someone*
“Stepping Stones and Bridge Builders”
Matthew 28:19-20 / 2 Corinthians 3:1-3

February 20, 2019

“For this I toil struggling with all His energy that He powerfully works within me.” (Colossians 1:28)

I. It’s Testimony Time

- a. Share your story: 1) faith story; 2) Evangelism efforts; 3) praise report
- b. What are your thoughts concerning the third paragraph on page 38? Do you agree or disagree?

II. Time, Place Letter Delivered on Time (pp. 36-37)

- a. There is a time and place for everything (Eccl 3:1)
- b. Are you a stepping stone or stumbling block? A bridge builder or a barrier to Christ?
 1. Esther and Jonah
- c. We are to build bridges and be stepping stones to Christ for our families, workplaces, neighborhoods and in the world.
- d. *There are two reasons why people don’t go to church: 1) they **don’t** know a Christian; 2) they **do** know a Christian.* Christian hypocrisy injures the evangelistic mission of the church.
- e. You are a living letter to represent the Good News in today’s community. Deliver the Good News on time. **(Read 2 Corinthians 2:1-3)**
- f. The name of the first newspaper was the Daily Universal Register founded in 1785. The name changed to *The Times* in 1788. Since then many papers all over the world have used the name.
- g. The original meaning of *time* is to happen, so the *times* means that what has happened, which is a fitting name for a newspaper.
- h. As living *letters* we are to tell people what has happened to us.
- i. Not everyone will “get the story”, but we have to give them the opportunity to read it.
- j. When people observe (read) us do they see Jesus? Do they see grace under pressure? Do they see change? Have you ever read a story over again, and each time it is read, you notice different things?
 1. We want people to know our story. Our story has both consistency and change. Failure and success. Joy and pain.
- k. When people *read* us do they see Jesus? Do they want to be our friend?
- l. If our message is to be authentic, we must demonstrate it by our words, actions, and thoughts, that the message of Christ is transforming us.

III. “Let No One Go Unwarned and Unprayed For”

- a. *If sinners be damned, at least let them leap to Hell over our dead bodies. And if they perish, let them perish with our arms wrapped about their knees, imploring them to stay. If Hell must be filled, let it be filled in the teeth of our exertions, and let no one go unwarned and unprayed for.* (Charles Spurgeon, p.46)
- b. The primary way God has chosen to reach people is through other people, by proclaiming the gospel. Tell your story!
- c. We have the cure for eternal separation from God.
- d. The gospel means *Good News*. It is only Good News if it gets there in time.