

July 29, 2022

The Lord wants you to experience real and abundant life:

Rom. 10:14-15 *How, then, can they call on the One they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the One of Whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"* (NIV)

As believers who are walking in the abundant life of Christ, we should be obedient to share our faith with others. Most believers want to according to the latest statistics from the Billy Graham Association. But when asked 'what is your greatest hindrance to witnessing?' 9% said they were too busy to remember to witness. 28% said they felt they lacked the information to share. 12% said their own lives were not speaking as they should and 51% were afraid of how the other person would react. The sad part is that we are quiet about what we should be shouting from the rooftops. I've wondered for many years what causes this to happen in Christians. Why are we so timid to speak of what the LORD has done for us? And I believe it comes down to this; we are not living with the complete filling of the Holy Spirit. We are somehow trying to compartmentalize the Spirit to only control parts of our lives. In the same way that the 'spirit' of alcohol can control someone's actions, so can the Spirit of the living God. **Eph. 5:18** *Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.* (NIV) So what does it mean to be filled with the Spirit. This term means completely filled leaving no room for anything else. Have you ever sat down to an amazing home-cooked meal of all your favorite foods? We tend to over-eat and then afterwards we might say, "I am stuffed." This is the picture of taking all of God into our lives. We need to be stuffed with the Spirit, so that He controls all of us. The Spirit of God wants to tell others about Jesus, so why don't we let Him? We must step aside from our selfishness and allow Him to use us as His mouthpiece. If you are fearful about what you are to say or what that person might think of you, remember what **Psalm 34:4** says, *I sought the LORD, and He answered me; He delivered me from all my fears.* (NIV)

Let's quit debating on when and where and just go. We've wasted way too much time 'getting ready' to go. He has blessed us, commissioned us, and authorized us. Let's begin today. Ask the LORD to put someone on your heart to share the gospel with. Then just go in love and tell them about Jesus. You'll be surprised at how easy it becomes.

Dear LORD, help us to not only live in the abundance of life, but to share that with others. They need to know You as well. We cannot continue to hoard Your love. There is so much more to give. Help us LORD. Fill us LORD. Send us LORD. In Jesus Name, Amen