

Stop the Silence

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7/27/05

Intro: High School Hell (Drama)

This was just a drama, but tragically, this very thing happens all the time. So many people do not know Jesus Christ as their hope of salvation, but yet we keep silent. I know I've been guilty of letting opportunities slip by... of keeping silent when it was time to speak up. I wish I could go back to High School and speak up more than I did, but I can't. I wish I could get back into some of those situations, where I missed God's direction, and do it right, but I can't. It does no good to wish we could change the past, but we can make a difference about today and every day still to come. We can choose that we are going to be bold with our faith from now on. Now is the time for us to speak up and let all those around us hear that there is a heaven and a hell. It is time for us to let the people we see at school, our families, those we run into at the store, and everyone in our community know that Jesus is the only way to be saved. We have to open our mouths and tell people or they will never hear.

What Holds Us Back??? Why Don't We Share Our Faith???

-What will people think???

Maybe we're worried about what someone might think of us, if we tell them that we are Christians. Perhaps we are worried that they will look down on us for what we believe. Heaven forbid that we be ridiculed for our faith...

Luke 6:22-23 (NASB)

"Blessed are you when men hate you, and ostracize you, and cast insults at you, and spurn your name as evil, for the sake of the Son of Man. [23] "Be glad in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for in the same way their fathers used to treat the prophets." -Jesus

We should be happy when people persecute us for the sake of Christ. When we are made fun of or laughed at because of our belief in Jesus then we are in the same company as the prophets of old (like Jeremiah, who was thrown into a deep pit for his confessions of faith).

One of the scariest verses in the Bible to me is this:

Luke 9:26

If anyone is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.

Imagine what it would be like... when you see Jesus face to face... Just imagine Him looking at you and then with a sad look, He turns his face away and says, "I never knew you." He says to the Father, "Father, this one can't come in... she/he was ashamed of me before men. Her/his faith could not have been real, or she/he would have told people about me. Turn her/him over to the demons... they have a place ready for her/him."

If we realize that it is imperative to our own eternity and to that of millions of lost people, then we must speak out the truth of Jesus to them. When our eyes were opened to the fact they we needed Jesus for our own salvation and that others need Him too, then we became responsible for their souls. If we do not share Christ with the lost then their blood is on our hands. Let's join with the Apostle Paul and say...

Romans 1:16

I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.

Prayer:

If you want to commit to making a difference for eternity, pray this prayer after me. "Jesus, I know that you have saved me. I know that there are many who still need to hear about You. I ask You, Lord Jesus, to remind me always that people need You. Remind me always that there is a heaven and a hell. Help me Lord to be a bold witness this school year. Let me share my faith with many of the teens I will see at school. Lord, don't let me miss any more opportunities. Amen."