

21 DAYS TO CHANGE YOUR LIFE

**Sharing Your Faith with
Confidence and Compassion**

TOM ELIE

Author of the *ONE MINUTE WITNESS*

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21 Days to Change Your Life: Sharing Your Faith with Confidence and Compassion
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Congratulations! Your Next 21 Days Could Change Your World!

You're beginning a journey that could change your world—and influence many others for Jesus!

As you read this book over the next 21 days, I invite you to take this simple challenge:

1. Ask God for His Heart

Each day, ask God to fill your heart with fresh compassion for people who don't yet know Jesus. Ask Him to help you see people through His eyes. **When we see others through His eyes, we become more like Jesus.**

2. Read One Article Each Day

During your daily devotional time, read one article from this book. Invite the Holy Spirit to renew His compassion in your heart. You may even feel a little uncomfortable. **Welcome it!** God often stretches our hearts before He stretches our faith.

3. Write Your One Minute Witness

Go to the back of this book and write your personal faith-story using the One Minute Witness. You can also create it online at **www.OneMinuteWitness.org**.

You may be amazed at how simply and naturally you can tell someone what Jesus has done for you!

4. Find a Faith Partner

Find a friend to practice with you. Then take the **21-Day Challenge**: share your faith with someone every day for 21 days. Text or call your partner daily to encourage one another and pray together.

Make It a Habit

I pray these 21 days will establish a **godly habit of faith**—helping you recognize opportunities and boldly share your story.

When your 21 days are complete, tell us what God did in your heart at **www.OasisWorldMinistries.org/testimonies**.

Let the 21 days begin!

About Oasis World Ministries

Oasis World Ministries is partnering with **entire denominations and nations** to mobilize believers for the Great Commission.

Now working in more than **120 nations**, we equip everyday Christians to confidently and compassionately share their faith-story and the Good News of Jesus.

Our vision is bold: **to help awaken and equip the Church to become the army of God He designed us to be.**

Every believer a witness.

Every church mobilized.

Every nation reached.

The harvest is ready. And every believer has a part to play.

Want to join our team or have your church trained? Contact info@oasiswm.org. Check out our website at:

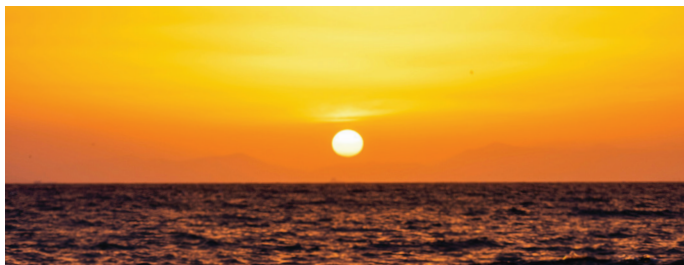
www.OasisWorldMinistries.org

Jesus is coming soon. Until He does, we get to be His ambassadors.

Let's reach our world together!

1. God Loves Me!

*Before you read one more verse today, let this sink in:
you are loved on purpose, and love is chasing you down.*



Love is a tricky word.

We love learning. We love ice cream. We love traveling. We love our parents. We love the sound of the ocean.

But **God's love is nothing like that.**

The Greek language has several words for love. One of them is *agape*—the word that describes God's deepest, unfailing love for you and me.

God's love isn't affection. He gives only to those who deserve it.

It's a settled, relentless devotion that pursues us on our worst day just as fiercely as on our best.

Think about that.

You don't have to perform for God's love.

You don't have to earn it.

You can't outrun it.

He loved you before you ever loved Him.

Are you ready to see just how deep His love really goes?

“Long ago the Lord said to Israel: ‘I have loved you, my people, with an everlasting love. With unfailing love I have drawn you to myself.’” Jeremiah 31:3 NLT

And it gets even better:

“For the Lord your God is living among you. He is a mighty savior. He will take delight in you with gladness. With his love, he will calm all your fears. He will rejoice over you with joyful songs.” Zephaniah 3:17 NLT

Think about that last phrase: He rejoices over you.

God isn't reluctantly putting up with you.

He delights in you.

Jesus showed us the ultimate measure of love:

“Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.” John 15:13 NKJV

And that is exactly what Jesus did for us.

“We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love. God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them.” 1 John 4:16 NLT

Don't just read these verses.

Memorize them. Believe them. Pray them.

Let them move from your head into your heart and stay there.

Believe them at 2 a.m. when doubt creeps in, not just when everything is going well.

Then do something with what you know.

Tell one more person today how much God loves them.

2. The Love of God

*Someone once loved you enough to tell you about Jesus.
That single act is the reason you are reading these words today.*



Someone cared enough to step out of their comfort zone and tell you about God's incredible love. But why did they have the courage to speak to you?

Because they had personally experienced the love of God.

They knew His forgiveness. His mercy. His sacrifice.

And once you've tasted that kind of love, it's hard to keep it to yourself. **God's love doesn't just change us—it compels us to share it.**

In 1906, my great-grandfather was the town drunkard. But someone in that town looked at him through the eyes of God.

Instead of judgment, they showed compassion.

They brought him to church, where he heard about a God whose love was powerful enough to forgive every one of his sins.

And he got saved.

Today, **six generations of our family are passionately serving Jesus.**

One person understood the love of God—and decided to share it.

One act of compassion.

One conversation.

One life changed.

Six generations impacted.

That's the power of evangelism.

Knowing the love of God changes us in two ways: **we understand it—and then we express it.**

“May the Lord lead your hearts into a full understanding and expression of the love of God and the patient endurance that comes from Christ.”

2 Thessalonians 3:5 NLT

Paul says the love of Christ compelled him. God gave him the ministry of reconciliation, and he became an ambassador for Christ.

If we truly understand the love of God, how can we keep it to ourselves?

There are people all around us who need to hear what we have already heard—people who need forgiveness, hope, and the assurance that God has not forgotten them.

So ask God to help you understand just how deep His love is for you.

Then ask Him to fill you with His compassion and give you the boldness to tell someone else.

You received the Good News. Now go give it away.

3. You Weren't Meant to Walk Alone

You were never designed to face this life gripping your own hand.



I'm not known for having a great memory, but I remember being five years old and walking to school on my first day.

My mother was sick, so my grandmother walked me instead.

It was a big event, and I wanted to be a strong, brave boy. But I was nervous.

I remember it so clearly because **I wasn't facing it alone.**

As long as my grandmother held my hand, everything was going to be okay.

When Jesus left this earth, He told His disciples to be His witnesses. But before they did, He told them to wait in the upper room for the Holy Spirit to come upon them.

They weren't meant to walk alone.

The Holy Spirit would hold their hand.

And He holds ours, too.

"...be filled with the Spirit." Ephesians 5:18 NKJV

To be filled with the Spirit means this isn't a one-time experience. **It's a continual, daily process.**

When I'm filled with the Spirit, I have a clear awareness that I'm not walking alone.

He walks with me.

Listen to what the Bible says:

"And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him."
Acts 5:32 NKJV

I'm not just a personal witness of what God has done in my life. **The Holy Spirit has witnessed my transformation.**

He convicted me of sin. He drew me to repentance. And He witnessed my confession of Jesus as Lord.

There are two witnesses inside me: my witness—and His.

That gives me real confidence.

When I obey God and share my faith, I know I'm not just speaking on my own.

The Holy Spirit reminds me of what He has done in my life, and He speaks through my mouth.

He gives me compassion for the lost, confidence that what I'm saying is authentic, and boldness to overcome my hesitation.

My confidence was never rooted in my personality.

It's rooted in something far greater:

God is in me, with me, and holding my hand.

So don't wait until you feel brave.

Take His hand. Step out. Be His witness.

4. May I See Your Papers, Please?

*You don't need a diploma to change someone's eternity.
You just need to say yes.*



Every time I fly, I have to show my driver's license and boarding pass. When they check my photo ID, I sometimes tell them, "That really isn't my best picture."

They usually laugh.

And sometimes they agree a little too quickly!

We live in a world of credentials.

Doctors have medical degrees. Pastors have ministerial credentials. Students graduate with diplomas.

But what credentials do you need to tell someone about Jesus?

That question stops many believers.

What if I say the wrong thing?

What if they ask a question I can't answer?

What if the conversation gets awkward?

Maybe I should leave evangelism to the "professionals."

Absolutely not.

Jesus didn't give the Great Commission only to pastors, evangelists, missionaries, and Bible scholars. **He gave it to His followers.**

God saved us. God called us. And God commissioned us to be His witnesses.

That means **your story is one of your credentials.**

You don't need to know everything. You just need to know **Who changed your life.**

I'm certainly not "smarter than the average bear." But I've discovered something wonderful: God teaches us as we go.

Every time you share your faith, you're getting on-the-job training in God's **School of Evangelism.**

And graduation day is in heaven!

So if you feel unqualified, you're actually in pretty good company. Moses felt inadequate. Jeremiah felt too young. Peter was an ordinary fisherman.

Yet God used them. Why?

Their sufficiency didn't come from themselves. It came from God.

"Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God, who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant..." II Corinthians 3:5-6a NKJV

God doesn't call the qualified and then send them out alone. He calls the willing—and qualifies them as they go.

You already have the most important credential you could ever possess:

Jesus has changed your life.

5. Return to Your First Love

When was the last time your heart burned for Jesus the way it did when you first met Him?



Do you remember when following Jesus felt fresh?

Maybe it was when you first surrendered your life to Christ. Your baptism. Your first answered prayer. Or that unforgettable moment when God touched your heart and suddenly **Jesus became real to you.**

I remember being water-baptized at 12, experiencing Spirit baptism at 14, and taking my first missions trip at 16.

Those moments marked my life.

But something can happen along the journey.

We can become so busy doing things for Jesus that we forget the joy of simply being with Jesus.

Ministry gets busy. Life gets crowded. Responsibilities multiply. And without realizing it, yesterday's fire can become today's routine.

Scripture reminds us:

“Oh, that men would give thanks to the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men!” Psalm 107:8 NKJV

Sometimes the most spiritual thing we can do is simply **stop and remember.**

Remember His goodness.

Remember the prayers He answered.

Remember the times He protected you.

Remember the joy you felt when you first realized your sins were forgiven and **Jesus had given you eternal life!**

Then slow down.

Spend time alone with Him again. Open your Bible—not because you have to prepare a sermon or teach somebody else—but because **you want to hear His voice.**

Read slowly. Pray honestly. Worship freely.

Something powerful happens when we return to our first love:

His heart starts becoming our heart again.

We begin seeing people differently.

The cashier isn't just a cashier. The neighbor isn't just a neighbor.

They are people Jesus loves.

And some of them desperately need the hope we carry.

Ask the Holy Spirit each morning, **“Who can I encourage today? Who can I tell about Jesus?”**

When you fall freshly in love with Jesus, you begin loving what He loves—and **Jesus loves lost people.**

First love produces fresh evangelism.

6. Are You Just Wearing the Label?

*You can sit in church your whole life
and still miss God completely.*



It's possible to know about God without actually knowing God.

You can grow up in church, know the songs, quote Bible verses, even call yourself a Christian—and still never experience a relationship with Jesus Christ.

That's the danger of **nominal Christianity—Christian in name, but not transformed in heart.**

God warned Israel:

“For my people are determined to desert me. They call me the Most High, but they don't truly honor me.”

Hosea 11:7 NLT

They knew what to call God. They just weren't living like they knew Him.

Christianity was never intended to be a cultural label we wear on Sunday.

Jesus came to make us new.

So how do we help people who know Christianity but don't truly know Christ?

1. LIVE WHAT YOU BELIEVE.

Let your life preach before your lips do. Following Jesus isn't merely something we say—it's someone we live for.

2. LOVINGLY TELL PEOPLE THEY NEED JESUS.

Don't assume someone knows Christ because they attend church or call themselves a Christian. Ask questions and listen. You may find an open door to share your faith-story.

3. SHARE WHAT THE BIBLE ACTUALLY SAYS.

Explain the difference between knowing about Jesus and surrendering your life to Him.

Nominal Christianity settles for the label.

Real Christianity says:

“Jesus, You have my life.”

Have you inherited a culture?

Or have you personally encountered the Savior?

People around us may think they're Christians simply because they've been around Christianity.

Don't condemn them. Love them.

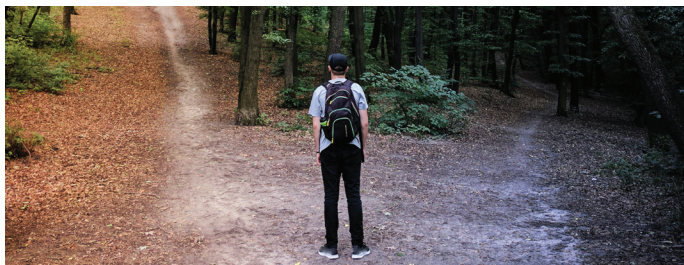
Live Jesus before them. Share your story. Tell them the Good News.

Our world doesn't need more people who **wear the name Christian.**

It desperately needs people who know Jesus—and aren't afraid to introduce Him to others.

7. The Culture Test

*Somebody is discipling you every single day.
The only real question is whether you know who.*



Is your culture shaping you—or are you shaping your culture?

Make no mistake: **Culture never sits still.**

Every day we're influenced by what we watch, listen to, read, and the people we spend time with. Without realizing it, the culture around us can become the culture within us.

David gives us a simple **culture test** in Psalm 105.

So let's take the test together.

Pick six. Which words best describe your daily habits?

1. "Give (**complaints, advice, thanks**) to the Lord and proclaim his greatness."
2. "Let (**no one, a few friends, my church, the whole world**) know what he has done."
3. "Sing to him; yes, sing (**worries, doubts, his praises**)."
4. "Tell (**no one, a few, everyone**) about his wonderful deeds."
5. "Exult in (**my promotion, my good looks, his holy name**); rejoice, you who worship the Lord."

6. *“Search for (the world’s applause, more money, the Lord) and for his strength; continually seek him.”*

Psalm 105:1–4 NLT

So...**how did you do?**

Here’s the bottom line:

Your habits reveal who’s shaping you.

Culture doesn’t change because Christians complain about it.

Culture changes when Christians decide to live differently.

Be kind when others are harsh.

Refuse to join the gossip.

Show integrity when nobody is watching.

Forgive when revenge feels easier.

Speak about Jesus when staying silent feels safer.

People are watching. And when they notice something different, they may ask:

“What do you have that I don’t?”

That’s when influence becomes opportunity.

That’s when you can share what Jesus has done in your life.

So don’t just complain about the culture.

Change it.

One habit.

One conversation.

One person.

One day at a time.

Don’t let culture shape you.

Let Jesus shape you—and then go shape your culture.

8. Sigh and Cry

What if the tears we're tempted to hide are actually evidence that our hearts still care about what breaks God's heart?



A church that has forgotten how to grieve over sin may eventually forget why the world needs a Savior.

In Bible times, tears expressed sorrow, repentance, and a heart deeply moved by what was happening.

Daniel and Nehemiah didn't merely complain about the sins of their culture. **They humbled themselves, prayed, repented, and wept before God.**

Ezekiel gives us a powerful picture:

"And the Lord said to him, 'Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and cry over all the abominations that are done within it.'" Ezekiel 9:4 NKJV

Notice who caught God's attention.

Those who sighed and cried.

Their hearts were still tender.

What grieved God **grieved them.**

That raises a challenging question:

Have we become too comfortable with what should break our hearts?

Instead of becoming angry, cynical, or judgmental, **we can become brokenhearted.**

Brokenhearted for families being torn apart.

Brokenhearted for people growing up without knowing Jesus.

Brokenhearted for people stuck in sin and searching for peace.

And before pointing fingers, we should allow God to search **our own hearts.**

When we truly love God, we begin loving what He loves and grieving over what grieves Him.

But our tears must eventually become **action.**

“Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy. He who continually goes forth weeping, bearing seed for sowing, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.” Psalm 126:5–6 NKJV

They weren’t just **weeping.** They were **going.**

They were carrying seed.

For us, that seed is the Good News of Jesus Christ.

So don’t merely criticize the darkness. **Carry the light into it.**

Pray for someone who doesn’t know Jesus.

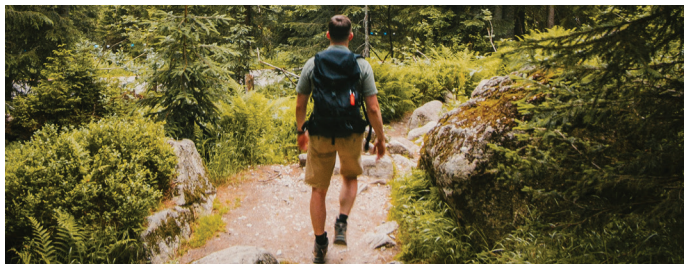
Ask the Holy Spirit to give you His compassion.

Then take your **One Minute Witness faith-story** and lovingly share the hope you have found in Christ.

A tender heart becomes a powerful witness.

9. 3 Faith-Stretchers

*Your hardest season might actually be God's training ground.
The question is: will you let it grow your faith?*



Life isn't determined merely by our troubles, but by **our response to them.**

Some experiences make us bitter. Others make us better.

Here are three areas God can use to stretch our faith:

1. **HARDSHIP**

Life's pressures force decisions.

Hardship can make us retreat—or advance.

Some of life's greatest lessons are learned **in the valley, not on the mountaintop.**

Hardship exposes what we really trust.

Will I trust my feelings? My circumstances? My own reasoning? Or will I trust God?

2. **OPPORTUNITY**

New possibilities can be exciting—and frightening.

When opportunity knocks, we can retreat to our comfort zone or **lean in and see what God might do.**

Faith doesn't mean ignoring wisdom. It means refusing to let fear make all our decisions.

3. FAITH-CHOICES

Jesus did this with Philip.

Thousands of hungry people needed food. Jesus asked Philip where they could buy enough bread to feed everyone.

Why ask Philip?

Jesus already knew what He was going to do.

“When Jesus looked out and saw that a large crowd had arrived, he said to Philip, ‘Where can we buy bread to feed these people?’ He said this to stretch Philip’s faith. He already knew what he was going to do.” John 6:5–6 MSG

Jesus saw the miracle before Philip saw the possibility.

You and I are in that same school of faith, learning to trust Him instead of depending on our own reasoning.

Our faith often gets stretched most when we stop thinking only about ourselves.

TODAY, someone may need encouragement.

TODAY, someone may need to hear how Jesus changed your life.

TODAY, God may put someone in your path who needs the hope you carry.

What looks like an interruption may be a divine opportunity.

So instead of saying, “Lord, I’m too busy,” try saying:

“Lord, I’m available.”

10. Finish Strong!

*What would you want said about you at the end of your life?
And are you living today so it will be true?*



Here's an unusual exercise:

Write your own eulogy.

Write down what you hope people will say about your life.

“He finished strong. He loved God deeply. He loved his family. He lived with integrity. He boldly shared his faith.”

Those are wonderful words.

But hope alone won't make them true.

We have to live today the way we want to be remembered tomorrow.

Paul understood this:

“For I fully expect and hope that I will never be ashamed, but that I will continue to be bold for Christ... And I trust that my life will bring honor to Christ, whether I live or die.” Philippians 1:20 NLT

Paul wanted his entire life to bring honor to Jesus.

Whether he lived or died.

When I begin a new project, I like to start at the finish line.

What's the ultimate goal?

Then I work backward and identify the steps to get there.

Why not approach our lives the same way?

Start with the finish line.

What kind of spouse, parent, friend, or Christian do you want to be remembered as?

Then work backward.

What needs to change **today**?

Perhaps you need to spend more time with Jesus.

Love your family more intentionally.

Forgive someone.

Take some bold steps of faith.

Or begin sharing your **One Minute Witness faith-story** with people God puts in your path.

We don't accidentally finish strong.

We finish strong because we choose to live strong.

So picture the finish line. Then ask yourself:

“Am I living in a way that will make that ending possible?”

Love boldly. Give generously. Forgive quickly.

Share Jesus courageously. Live without regrets.

Start with the finish line—then live backward from there.

And when your race is complete, may your life have said:

“Jesus was worth everything.”

11. Taboo?

*Somewhere near you right now is someone who has never really
heard the truth about Jesus.*

And they won't know until someone tells them.



We don't know what we don't know.

While ministering in the Philippines, I learned there were still unreached people groups there. For many, becoming a Christian is considered taboo. Many simply don't know the freedom and hope Christ offers.

And they won't know until someone tells them.

Years ago, I met a woman in the USA who had never heard of Jesus and didn't know what Easter was about.

That surprised me.

But unreached people live in every country—including ours.

Some have never had anyone clearly explain how they can personally know God through Jesus.

And they won't know until someone tells them.

Many people carry a bias against Christianity.

So approach people with genuine love and friendship. Listen to them. Care about their lives. Let them see something different in you.

But eventually, **tell them why.**

“But thank God!... Now he uses us to spread the knowledge of Christ everywhere, like a sweet perfume.”

2 Corinthians 2:14 NLT

God wants our lives to spread the fragrance of Jesus wherever we go.

At work. In our neighborhoods. Wherever God puts us.

But perfume only makes a difference when it gets out of the bottle!

Our faith was never meant to stay bottled up.

Evangelism doesn't have to be awkward or taboo.

Love people. Listen to them. Build friendships. Then naturally share your **One Minute Witness faith-story** and tell them what Jesus has done for you.

You don't have to win an argument.

You simply have to be a witness.

Then trust the Holy Spirit with the results.

Someone told you about Jesus.

Someone cared enough to share.

Now it's our turn.

12. Where Are the Reapers?

Right now, your witness could be an answer to someone's prayers.



I once saw a man wearing a gold cross and asked, “What does that cross mean to you?”

He replied, “Oh, my grandma gave it to me.”

Immediately, I realized:

He had a praying grandma—and I might be about to become an answer to her prayers.

She had been sowing.

Maybe it was my turn to reap.

Every farmer lives for harvest season.

A farmer doesn't only sow.

He also reaps.

Could we sometimes forget that spiritually?

We pray for people. We love them. We invite them to church.
We plant seeds.

But eventually, someone has to reap.

Jesus said:

“For in this case the saying is true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored and you have entered into their labor.” John 4:37–38 NASB

You may share Jesus with someone today whom God has been preparing for years.

A mother may have been praying.

A friend may have shared Scripture.

Someone may have invited them to church.

The Holy Spirit may already be working in their heart.

And then **you show up.**

You share your **One Minute Witness faith-story.** You explain the Good News. You ask if they would like to receive Jesus.

And suddenly, you are reaping where someone else has faithfully sown.

That’s the beauty of God’s harvest.

We’re a team.

Sometimes I sow and you reap.

Sometimes you sow and someone else reaps.

So where are the reapers?

Don’t assume evangelism is only for pastors or evangelists.

The harvest may be sitting beside you, working in the next office, or living across the street.

So today, ask the Holy Spirit:

“Lord, is there someone around me who is ready to hear about You?”

13. Speak Up, in Jesus' Name!

*The moment God tells you something precious,
expect the enemy to show up and try to talk you out of it.*



Evangelist Reinhard Bonnke once believed God told him,
“Pray for totally blind eyes to open.”

Immediately, doubt came:

“What if nothing happens?”

Bonnke’s response was powerful:

“Devil, it doesn’t matter if nothing happens. What matters now is that I obey the voice of the Holy Spirit!”

That’s faith.

Faith is obeying God and leaving the outcome to Him.

Bonnke prayed boldly and later testified that people began reporting they could see.

But he had to speak before he saw the results.

We often worry:

What if they reject me? What if I say the wrong thing?

Instead of asking, **“What will people think?”** maybe we should ask, **“What does God want me to do?”**

God has put His Spirit within us and invited us to participate in what He is doing.

Years ago, I misquoted my pastor and was warned never to speak for him again.

I understood his concern. I had gotten his words wrong.

But in spite of our faults, God invites us to speak for Him!

He calls us His ambassadors. His witnesses. His representatives.

Of course, not every thought is God speaking. We test what we sense by Scripture and stay humble.

But once we know what God has clearly told us to do, **fear should not have the final word.**

“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.” II Timothy 1:7 NKJV

So speak up.

Share your **One Minute Witness faith-story**. Offer to pray for someone. Tell someone what Jesus has done for you.

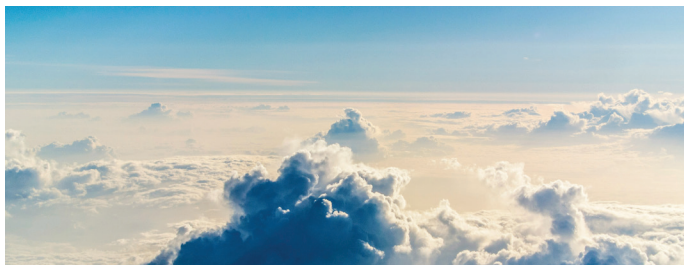
Courage is obeying God even when fear is still knocking on the door.

When God opens the door, don't let fear close it.

Speak up—with love, humility, and faith!

14. Who Won't Be in Heaven?

This may be one of the most uncomfortable devotionals you read all week. But it could also be the most important.



King Solomon said we can learn more from a funeral than from a feast. Often, eternity becomes real when someone we love dies.

Where will you spend eternity?

Does everyone who thinks they're going to heaven actually go there?

Jesus gave a startling warning:

"And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"

Matthew 7:23 NKJV

Notice Jesus didn't say, "You never went to church."

He said, **"I never knew you."**

Christianity isn't simply knowing about Jesus. **It's knowing Jesus.**

Church membership or good behavior can't save us. We are all sinners, and none of us can earn heaven.

Paul warned that a lifestyle continually surrendered to sin is incompatible with God's Kingdom:

“Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like...those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.”

Galatians 5:19–21 NKJV

That's sobering.

But don't miss the **Good News**.

The Gospel isn't that good people get into heaven and bad people don't.

The Gospel is that sinners can be forgiven!

Everyone who turns to Jesus Christ in repentance and faith can receive God's grace.

And that should change how we see people around us.

Your neighbor, coworker, and family all have an eternity.

Never assume that because someone is religious, they personally know Jesus.

That's why sharing your **One Minute Witness faith-story** matters.

You don't need to condemn them.

Love them enough to tell them the truth.

Tell them about Jesus' forgiveness. Tell them He died and rose again.

Love them enough to speak up.

15. Two Bullies!

Fear and timidity still know your name, but they do not have to run your day.



EVERYBODY HAS BULLIES!

Maybe you remember them from school—the ones who tried to intimidate you, push you around, and make you afraid.

But here's the shocking part:

Some of us still have two bullies.

They're called **FEAR** and **TIMIDITY**.

I hate to admit it—but some days they still try to haunt me.

When I share my faith, I'm usually bolder than I am timid. But every now and then, my old nature tries to intimidate the person I now am in Christ.

And if I'm not careful, **those two bullies can win the fight.**

But here's the GOOD NEWS: **They don't have to win!**

"For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline. So never be ashamed to tell others about our Lord..." 2 Timothy 1:7–8a NLT

You see, **I am a new creation in Christ.** The old has passed away. I have a new commanding officer in my life. Yes, I may still hear those old voices. But they don't have to rule me.

That's GOOD NEWS!

Those two bullies—**fear and timidity**—have been replaced by three POWERFUL forces: **God's power, God's love, and self-discipline.**

They can rule me, protect me, and propel me forward into the person God has called me to be. So don't wait for those two bullies to show up again.

Instead, start each day on the offensive. Pray a simple prayer:

“Lord, I'm available today.”

That prayer acknowledges something critically important: I'm not the boss of my life.

God is.

And when I surrender control to Him, I'm telling fear and timidity:

“You don't run my life anymore!”

When God's power, love, and self-discipline are in control, **a whole new world of possibilities opens up.**

Boldness rises. Faith rises. Confidence rises.

And suddenly, the person who once hesitated to speak becomes the person willing to step forward and say,

“Lord, use me!”

Why? Because you're no longer facing the day alone.

God is walking right beside you. And when God is with you, those two bullies don't stand a chance.

16. Hell's Evangelists

If someone from hell could speak to you for sixty seconds, what would they beg you to do?



Jesus already answered that question.

In the story of the rich man and Lazarus, the rich man's thoughts immediately turned to the people he loved.

“Then he said, ‘I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father’s house, for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.’” Luke 16:27–28 NKJV

Think about that.

He desperately wanted someone to **warn his five brothers.**

If he could have delivered one more message, it would be:

“Tell them!”

The rich man understood something too late:

Eternity matters.

He wanted his family to understand while they still had time.

But Abraham answered:

“If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.”
Luke 16:31 NKJV

His opportunity was over.

Ours is not.

Right now, we can pray. We can love. We can speak.

We can tell people Jesus loves them, died for them, rose again, and offers forgiveness and eternal life.

Recently in Honduras, I shared my **One Minute Witness** with a waiter who told me he was the prodigal son of a pastor.

After he prayed to receive Christ, I prayed:

“Lord, just as You allowed me to be an answer to a pastor’s prayer for his son today, please send someone to speak hope into the life of my own prodigal son today.”

Somewhere today, another mother, father, or grandparent is praying.

And **you may be the answer to their prayer.**

So don’t wait for the perfect moment.

Don’t assume somebody else will do it.

One minute.

One conversation.

One faith-story.

One person.

The rich man wanted someone to go.

Jesus has already sent us.

So who can you tell today?

17. Your Best Day Ever!

What if you knew the greatest day of your life was coming—but you didn't know exactly when?



As a child, Christmas morning was almost unbearable. You knew something wonderful was waiting for you. The presents were there—but you couldn't open them yet. Then came the moment you had been waiting for.

Christmas morning. The gifts were finally revealed.

Similarly, one day something infinitely greater will happen to every Christian.

Jesus will be personally revealed to us.

Since Jesus ascended into heaven, no human has physically seen Him.

But one day, everything changes.

John writes:

“Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He

is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.” I John 3:2 NKJV

Think about those words: **“We shall see Him as He is.”**

One day, we *will* see Him.

The One we have trusted but never seen.

The One we have loved by faith.

The One we have worshiped.

We will see Him face to face.

And when He comes, everything about us will be changed.

Paul says we will be transformed *“in the twinkling of an eye.”*

Nothing will ever be the same again.

So don't let today's worries consume you. Don't let possessions, accomplishments, or temporary pleasures become more important than what lasts forever.

Look up. Your King is coming!

Let's set our minds on things above. Let's invest our time, talents, and treasure in what has eternal value.

And most importantly, **let's make sure we are ready to meet Jesus—and help others get ready, too.**

Children eagerly anticipate Christmas because they know a great gift is coming.

We have an infinitely greater day to anticipate.

Perhaps it's today.

18. “Why?”

What if God is the one asking why?



Why?

It may be the single most common word in any language.

We ask it when we don't understand.

We ask it when something goes wrong.

We ask it when we want an explanation.

But what if **God is asking us the same question?**

Why?

“Why let the nations say, ‘Where is their God?’”

Psalms 115:2 NLT

Think about that question.

Why let France say, “What happened to Christianity in our nation? We are now less than 1% Christian, when we once called ourselves a Christian nation?”

Why let England say, “Why are so many Christian churches closing—and being turned into mosques or nightclubs?”

Why let Nigeria say, “Why are 4,000 Christians being martyred each year for their faith in our country?”

Why let the USA say, “We were once a missions-minded nation. Why is Christianity declining here?”

Why let northern India say, “Who will come and tell us the Good News of Jesus? We have less than 1% Christians here.”

But here’s the good news:

We can be their answer. God is still looking for people who will say “yes.”

“Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: ‘Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?’ Then I said, ‘Here am I! Send me.’” Isaiah 6:8 NKJV

Notice Isaiah didn’t say, “Send someone else.”

He said, **“Send me.”** And that invitation is before us today.

We can go.

We can send others.

We can share our faith wherever we are.

Today God has placed people around you who need to hear about His love and forgiveness.

Your neighbor.

Your family member.

Your coworker.

Your friend.

So perhaps the question isn’t, **“Why isn’t someone doing something?”**

Perhaps God is asking **you and me:**

“Why let your nation say, ‘Where is their God?’”

Don’t just ask **“Why?”**

Be the answer.

19. Love-Lamps

How brightly is your life shining for Jesus right now?



Imagine living in a country with no electricity.

In 2003, that was Liberia, Africa.

After years of civil war, Liberia's electrical grid had been devastated. A few businesses had generators, but when night came, most homes depended on candles, flashlights, and whatever small source of light they could find.

When the Bible was written, there was no electricity. People carried small, oil-filled lamps to light their way.

That's what makes this passage so interesting.

Paul was preaching late into the night, and Luke tells us:

"Paul...continued his message until midnight. There were many lamps in the upper room where they were gathered together." Acts 20:7-8 NKJV

Many people. Many lamps. And a lot of darkness outside.

Now consider this:

Is your lamp full?

Jesus said, *“I am the light of the world.”* But He also told His followers that **we are the light of the world.**

Jesus has chosen to shine His light through us.

For many people around us, **the clearest opportunity they may ever have to see the light of the Gospel is through a follower of Jesus.**

That makes our spiritual condition incredibly important.

If our lamp has no power, we have little light to give.

And when our oil is running low, something happens. We can become spiritually apathetic. We care more about our comfort than about people who desperately need the hope of Christ.

So what’s the answer?

We need to be continually filled by the Holy Spirit—and filled with God’s love and compassion for people who don’t yet know Jesus.

Paul tells us:

“So, as God’s own chosen people, who are holy [set apart, sanctified for His purpose] and well-beloved [by God Himself], put on a heart of compassion...”

Colossians 3:12a AMP

Many people have religion. But what they desperately need is a real relationship with Jesus.

And we have what they need. Not because we are better than they are. But because Jesus has given us the Good News.

So let’s keep our lamps full.

And let’s carry the light of Jesus into the darkness—**one person at a time.**

20. Dream-City!

What would it feel like to finally go home after being a prisoner for generations?



Imagine suddenly hearing five words that change everything:

“You’re free. You’re going home!”

That is the breathtaking picture behind Psalm 126:

“When the Lord brought back his exiles to Jerusalem, it was like a dream! We were filled with laughter, and we sang for joy.” Psalm 126:1–2a NLT

Israel had been carried away captive to Babylon.

But then God brought them home.

It was like a dream!

And that ancient story points to a reality all around us today.

Millions of people are living in spiritual captivity—and many don’t even know they can be free.

Sin has wounded and broken lives. Some are trapped in habits they cannot escape. Others have lost hope.

But here’s what they don’t know: **They have a Savior!**

When Jesus puts compassion in our hearts, we can't simply see hurting people and walk away.

Why? Because we remember when we were there.

We were once bound by sin. We needed mercy. We needed forgiveness. We needed hope.

And when Jesus rescued us, He gave us more than freedom.

He gave us a mission.

“Those who plant in tears will harvest with shouts of joy.”
Psalm 126:5 NLT

Captives coming home.

The hopeless finding hope.

The lost being found.

People who were far from God coming home to Him.

We have been rescued to help rescue others.

So here's the challenge:

Who is your one?

Who has God put on your heart?

Who needs to hear that Jesus forgives?

Who needs to know their past doesn't determine their future?

Who needs to hear that Jesus still saves?

Don't just pray for them.

Go to them. Love them. Serve them. Tell them about Jesus.

Plant the seed—even if you have to plant it with tears.

What if your tears today become their testimony tomorrow?

Jesus paid the price for our freedom.

Now we are free to help others find theirs.

21. Go Deeper

*What if you've only scratched the surface
of how much God loves you?*



Decades ago, I pledged my love to my incredible wife, Vicki. I meant it with all my heart.

But I've discovered something over the years:

I had no idea how selfish my love really was.

Marriage has a way of exposing selfishness. It teaches you to become more caring, more patient, and more understanding.

Because a good marriage is never done learning how to love.

But even the deepest human love cannot compare with the love of God.

God's love is perfect. Continual. Unending.

He is the GOAT—the Greatest of All Time!

God's love never runs dry. **It never fails. It never quits. It never gives up on us.**

And this is one of the greatest things He wants us to discover:

His love is much deeper and wider than we can imagine.

He doesn't love us because we deserve it. He loves us because **He is love**. His love doesn't condemn us. It draws us. It restores us. It changes us.

Take one minute and meditate on these powerful verses:

“Now may the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patience of Christ.” II Thessalonians 3:5 NKJV

“Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Romans 8:37–39 NKJV

Now take **one week** and ask God to take you deeper into His love—for you and for others.

Slow down.

Meditate. Think deeply. Look for His fingerprints everywhere.

Look at creation and wonder. Look at people and recognize His handiwork. Look at your life and thank Him for His mercy.

Thank Him for salvation.

Thank Him for His presence.

Thank Him for His patience.

Thank Him for His compassion.

Let His love permeate your thoughts, your attitudes, your words, and your relationships.

Because when you go deeper into God's love, you will love Him more deeply. And you will love the people He loves more deeply, too.

The 21-Day Challenge

If God asked you to give Him one minute a day for a special assignment, would you give it to Him?

If you said YES, here's your assignment:

Share your One Minute Witness at least once a day for 21 days (visit www.OneMinuteWitness.org to get trained).

Why 21 days? Because you're not just completing a challenge. **You're creating a new habit.**

Jesus wants you to become a faithful witness—one day, one person, and one minute at a time.

Here's how it works:

1. FIND A PARTNER

Find someone who will take the 21-Day Challenge with you—a friend, a spouse, a pastor, or someone you connected with today.

Jesus sent His disciples out two by two. Don't do this alone if you don't have to!

2. STAY CONNECTED

Exchange phone numbers, email addresses, or whatever works best. Contact each other every day.

Share your witness. Encourage each other. Celebrate your victories. Go out together whenever possible.

Accountability makes a difference!

3. START WITH PRAYER

Begin each day with a simple prayer:

“Lord, I am available to be Your witness today. Direct my steps and show me who You want me to touch with the Good News. Holy Spirit, help me!”

Then watch what happens. **God will open doors you could never open yourself.**

4. LOOK FOR PEOPLE

Ask God to help you notice people who need encouragement and hope. It could be a cashier at the store. A server at a restaurant. Someone sitting at a bus stop. A neighbor. A coworker. A stranger you meet during your day.

People are everywhere. And every person has a story.

5. ASK THE QUESTION

When you meet someone, simply say:

“When I meet people, I like to ask them a question. Would you mind if I asked you?”

Or simply greet them:

“Hi! How are you today?”

After they respond, say:

“I’m out meeting people and asking them the question of the day. May I ask you?”

When they say yes, ask:

“What is the best thing that has ever happened to you?”

Then listen!

Let them tell their story. Don't rush them. When they finish, thank them for sharing.

Then ask:

"Would you mind if I shared with you the best thing that has ever happened to me?"

When they say yes... **share your One Minute Witness!**

6. KEEP IT TO ONE MINUTE

Stick to your four simple points:

B.C. — Before Christ

What was your life like before you knew Jesus?

T.P. — Turning Point

How did you come to Christ?

A.D. — After Discovering Jesus

How has Jesus changed your life?

IF I NEVER MET CHRIST

Where would you be today without Him?

Keep it short.

One minute. One story. One powerful witness.

Then simply say:

"Thank you for listening."

7. TAKE IT FURTHER

Most people will thank you and continue on their way.

That's okay! You planted a seed. But sometimes someone wants to know more.

If they're still standing there and seem interested, ask:

"How about you? Do you have any spiritual beliefs?"

Or:

"What do you think a person needs to do to go to heaven?"

Then listen carefully.

Don't interrupt. Don't argue. Don't debate.

When they finish, simply say:

"Thank you for sharing that. Would you mind if I shared with you what the Bible says about knowing you have eternal life?"

If they say yes, take them through the A-B-C's on page 21 of your One Minute Witness booklet, or on the back page of your One Minute Witness handout (download both at www.OneMinuteWitness.org).

8. ASK THE NEXT QUESTION

If they are open to hearing more, ask:

"What would stop you from totally surrendering your life to Christ today?"

If they say, "Nothing would stop me," ask:

"With God's help, would you be willing to turn away from what the Bible calls sin and follow Jesus daily?"

Then give them the opportunity to respond.

Don't pressure them. Let the Holy Spirit do His work.

9. GIVE THEM AN OPPORTUNITY TO PRAY

If they are ready to surrender their lives to Christ, lead them in a simple prayer of salvation.

You can use the A-B-C's:

A — Admit

Admit your need for God and turn from sin.

B — Believe

Believe in Jesus Christ and what He has done for you.

C — Confess

Confess Jesus as Lord and commit your life to following Him.

Keep it simple. **You don't save people. Jesus does.** Your job is simply to faithfully share the Good News and help people take their next step toward Him.

10. DISCIPLESHIP STARTS NOW!

If someone gives their life to Christ, don't just celebrate the decision—help them begin their new life with Jesus!

Encourage them to start doing three things:

1. PRAY DAILY

Talk to Jesus every day. Ask Him for help, wisdom, and direction.

2. READ THE BIBLE DAILY

Help them get a Bible and begin reading in the Gospel of John.

3. FIND A BIBLE-BELIEVING CHURCH

Invite them to your church. If your church is too far away, help them find a good Bible-believing church near them.

And then ask:

“Can I stay in touch with you?”

Exchange contact information and continue encouraging them.

Finally, encourage them to share the new best thing that has ever happened to them—**Jesus!**

YOUR 21-DAY MISSION

ONE PERSON.

ONE MINUTE.

ONE DAY AT A TIME.

FOR 21 DAYS.

Don't wait for the perfect opportunity.

PRAY. GO. SHARE. LISTEN. LOVE.

The Holy Spirit is already working.

Your assignment is simple: BE AVAILABLE.

One minute can change a life. And God can use **YOU!**

(Write your personal faith-story using the **One Minute Witness** online at www.OneMinuteWitness.org)