

“Can I Get A Witness!?!?!?”

(A Heart That Reaches Out)

2/10/10

Scripture: 2Cor. 1:3&4 “Praise be to God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the same comfort we ourselves have received from God.”

SUMMARY:

Repeatedly the word of God says to “serve the Lord with all your heart.” God wants us to serve him passionately, not dutifully. We rarely succeed doing anything we don’t feel passionate about. God’s desire for us is that we use all of our **“natural interests”** to serve both him and others. So how do we know if we are **servicing from the heart**? One of the greatest signs is serving with enthusiasm, or passion. When you are doing anything you love to do, no one has to motivate you, or challenge you. You do it out of sheer enjoyment. You won’t need any reward, applause or to get paid for it. The opposite is also true, when you don’t have **the heart for reaching out** and serving God and others, you will become easily discouraged. Another important characteristic of a **heart that reaches out** is effectiveness. If we are doing what God has equipped and wired us to do we will be effective and excel at it.

NOTES:

DISCUSSION POINTS:

Opening Question: Have you been comforted? Explain!!!!

- Do you have a heart that reaches out? Why or why not?
- What are some ways you can earn the right to talk to co-workers/others about Christ and the meaning of life?
- Is there an unlovely person who has made life difficult for you? What can you do to have a heart that reaches out to them?
- What is your tendency when you encounter someone who is struggling with a deep hurt or pain? How can you respond?

APPLICATION:

The example of the good Samaritan teaches us that love takes the initiative. Who is the one **difficult** person you can reach out to this coming week? (work or community) How can you **specifically** show Christ like love for that person? **The Challenge:** Make a commitment to pray daily for this person for 30 days and ask God to help you see this person through His eyes.

ON YOUR OWN...

Please Read & Meditate On The Word:

Acts 1:8
Matt. 25:31-46
Luke 10:30-34
Col. 1: 9-14
2 Cor. 1:3-5