

BOLD IN GOD TO SPEAK THE WORD - 1Thes 2:2

(Kaikohe CF - 4/3/98 - EKB)

Vision for 1998:For Northland churches, to see a marked increase in **prayer, holiness and bold witnessing** in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Prayer depends on holiness - *Ps 66:18*.

Bold witnessing depends on prayer and the power of the Holy Spirit - *Eph 6:18,19, Ac 1:8*.

1. **Concern for the lost** is why God sent Jesus to planet Earth, *Jn 3:16, Lk 19:10, Jn 12:47*.
God loves sinners, *1Cor 15:3*.
2. God's love in us, expresses itself in the same way for sinners, (as well as in obedience to God's will, and doing good to other believers).
2Cor 5:14 – "The love of God moves us, compels us, urges us..." If Christ died for every person, then all are under the sentence of death and "the lost are eternally lost."
3. This love of God in us, *Rom 5:5*, for the unsaved: friends, relatives, contacts, neighbours, India and everywhere, moves us to:
 - a. Pray daily for the unsaved.
 - b. Get rid of sin from our own lives.
 - c. Keep filled with the power of God.
 - d. Practically take steps to speak out the Word to unsaved people.
4. **How will we pray for the unsaved?**
Daily, - time set aside, or as we go about daily duties.
From the heart, earnestly. Not out of duty.
For witnessing believers to speak the Gospel to them, including me, *Mat 9:38*
For conviction of sin, righteousness and judgment, *Jn 16:8*.
For blindness, darkness, deception to be stripped away, *Ac 26:18* and for open eyes, light and truth to get in.
For apathy and hostility to the Gospel to be broken and removed and for repentance, faith and the fear of God to come.
5. **How will we pray for us believers?**
Daily - time set aside and as we go about our duties.
From the heart in faith, in the Spirit, *Eph 6:18*.
For opportunities to open up.
For boldness to jump right in and share, *Phile 6*, and not to hold back, *1Thes 2:2, Pro 28:1*.
For words to speak, full of God's power, *Eph 6:19, Mat 10:20*.
For compassion, not judgment and pride.
Refusing fear, *2Tim 1:7, Ac 18:9,10, Is 44:8*.
Confessing His promises, *Mat 4:19, Lk 5:10, 2Cor 3:6, Pro 28:1, Is 51:16, Is 50:4, Ac 4:20, 2Cor 5:14, etc*.
6. **What shall we do?** Read books by people who are good at witnessing.
"We Can Not But Tell' Ross Tooley (YWAM)
"How To Give Your Faith Away" Paul E Little (IVP)
"Telling Others" Nicky Gumbel (Kingsway - an Alpha Book)
"Afraid To Witness?" R Philpott (ELE Ltd)
"Divine Art Of Soul Winning" J O Sanders (Pickering and Inglis)
"So Send I You" R M Riggs (Gospel Publishing House)

What shall we do? Carry tracts at all times that explain how to become a believer in Christ, and be ready to say, “Did you get one of these?”

What shall we do? Join a weekly cell group whose No 1 goal is to help and strengthen one another to be effective, able soul winners. (There will also be worship, prayer, Word and relationship building).

7. The steps in a witnessing situation:
- a. **Relate:** find common ground of interest and start to communicate, talk, chat etc.
 - b. **Create:** a door for the Gospel at some appropriate point.
 “Where are you on the road of life.” “Are you interested in God?”
 “What do you know about Jesus?” and so on.
 - c. **Convict:** mention in some way our No 1 need of forgiveness of sins.
 “How many good deeds do we need to do to be forgiven of our sins?”
 “We have all done things which we wish we hadn’t.”
 “We all need to be forgiven.” See Ross Tooley - chapter 9.
 Ross puts it this way, “But we must clearly understand one fundamental truth. According to Scripture, sin must be repented of for salvation to occur.” (Chapter 9, page 92.)
 - d. **Reveal:** **If there has been a genuine conviction of sin**, and a desire to repent and turn to God, then you can lead a person to pray the sinner’s prayer and accept Christ.

These are the four steps from the Ray Comfort videos.

8. Try and help all you can to encourage Christian fellowship and discipleship, prayer and time with God, Bible reading, good books and tapes.