

## Acts 21:19-20

*When he had greeted them, he told in detail those things which God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. And when they heard it, they glorified the Lord. And they said to him, "You see, brother, how many myriads of Jews there are who have believed, and they are all zealous for the law;*

When we tell others about the great things that God has done in our lives (*he told in detail those things which God had done*), others will glorify God (*when they heard it, they glorified the Lord*). If they are not glorifying God, then it's very likely that we are talking more about ourselves than the Lord, therefore others will glorify us rather than God.

One reason people don't share the Lord with others is that they don't know what to say, so they are at a loss for words. Therefore, they think they need to talk about all that they used to do and about all the bad things they did, sometimes going into to great detail. Then at the end they say, "Then Jesus saved me" period. So you talk about yourself for 10, 15, 20 minutes and you throw in one tiny sentence of "the Lord saved me" and expect others to turn to the Lord? Now in some cases it can happen, but being a witness is not telling about yourself, but rather about Jesus and what He did in your life.

One example is; say you are walking down the street, when right in front of you, you witness a car accident, and you run over to help out and make sure everyone is ok. The police show up and ask if anyone saw what happened, and you shout out raising your hand, "I saw it all". So the police come over and ask you what you saw as a "Witness". So you tell them,

*"Well, I over slept this morning because the neighbors dog was barking all night and kept me awake, so I had trouble getting out of bed. Then the coffee pot was dirty so I had to wash it before I made my coffee. Then my kids used up all the hot water this morning when they took a bath, so I had to take a cold shower. Then....."* STOP That has nothing to do with what you saw and it does not give the police any clue as to what happened, because you have made it all about you.

It's the same when we are being a witness for the Lord, if people are saying things like, "Wow, I didn't know that YOU were like that" then it tells you that the focus of your witness about Jesus has been more on yourself than the Lord. Sure, we all have a past that we are not proud of (Or maybe you are, that's why you boast about it?). But I can say in my witness of Jesus that,

*"I was raised in a alcoholic home and used women, because that's how my dad raised me. But then Jesus spoke to my heart through my dad, because my dad got saved by Jesus and as I saw the change that Jesus did in his life, it caused me to want that same change in my life as well, so I gave my life to Jesus and now I am saved because Jesus knows everything about my past and*

*He loves me and wants me in heaven with Him anyway. That's how awesome Jesus' love is for all of us. So you too can have that love if you give your life to Jesus as well"*

I do not need to go into detail of all I did while I was in the world, because we are all sinners, and you don't have to convince someone that you were (and we still are) a sinner. They already know that, even if they are a stranger and you never met them, just a couple quick words to remind them that you were not always walking with Jesus, but the real awesomeness is in what Jesus did to save us, not in what we used to be.

So, in your telling others about Jesus, speak less of yourself, and more and more about Jesus, just like Paul did. Also notice that he told of what God had done in detail, not skimming over what He had done "***he told in detail those things which God had done***" so that God was glorified and God will receive all the glory for sending His Son Jesus to die for all and saving all.

† ***He told in detail those things which God had done. When they heard it, they glorified the Lord.***

† ***John 3:30 He must increase, but I must decrease.***

† ***Isaiah 42:8 I am the LORD, that is My name; And My glory I will not give to another, Nor My praise to carved images.***