
Witness Unhindered:
“Making Much of Jesus”
Acts 2: 14-41

Thoughts to Shape and Spark Discussion:

“A church can become crowded with legitimate causes, concerns, and needs. And it can be hard to find Jesus.” - Ray Ortlund

“There have been men before now who got so interested in proving the existence of God that they came to care nothing for God Himself ... as if the good Lord had nothing to do but exist! There have been some who were so occupied in spreading Christianity that they never gave a thought to Christ. Man! Ye see it in smaller matters. Did ye never know a lover of books that with all his first editions and signed copies had lost the power to read them? Or an organiser of charities that had lost all love for the poor? It is the subtlest of all the snares.” - CS Lewis

“The great desire of the Holy Spirit is that our churches so exalt Jesus Christ that men and women are moved to God through Christ, become his disciples in the fellowship of the churches, and then follow him into adventuresome service and controversy in the world . . . The Holy Spirit wants, above all else, that Jesus be known in the world. The main way that Jesus is known in the world is by the faithful preaching and teaching of Scripture’s gospel.” - Dale Bruner

*“The work of the Spirit is Christocentric. He will draw attention not to himself but to Christ. He will glorify Christ. It is the things of Christ that he takes and declares, that is, his ministry is built upon and is the necessary sequel to that of Christ . . . Wherever a church or person centers thoughtfully (that is, biblically and evangelically) on honoring the person, teaching, and work of Jesus Christ, there, we may be quite sure, we are in the presence of the Holy Spirit. For the Spirit’s work is the thoughtful honoring of Christ.”
- Dale Bruner*

Themes and Questions to Guide Reflection and Response:

- What from the Scripture passage or the sermon made an impression upon you? Are there lingering questions to be answered or rabbit trails to be followed for you?
- How would you respond to Ray Ortlund’s remark that “it can be hard to find Jesus”?
 - What prevents you from finding Jesus?
 - What prevents you from making much of Jesus?
 - On the other hand, what is helping? Where are you finding Jesus in the midst of the crowd of legitimate causes, concerns, and needs?
- Dale Bruner focuses and simplifies the ministry of the Holy Spirit in his words above and then connects the ministry of the Holy Spirit to the preaching and teaching of the Gospel.
 - Do you agree?
 - Is the preaching and teaching of the Bible the main way Jesus is revealed and exalted for you?
 - How has God met you recently in through the preaching or teaching of the Word? How did that come about? How is it helping you make much of Jesus?