

**September 25, 2019**  
**“Why is it so Hard to Share my Faith?”**  
**Various Passages**  
**David Self**

***“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*** (Acts 1:8)

**1. Cultural Barriers**

- A. Tolerance of other opinions** (John 8:32) *“You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”*
- B. Fear of giving offense** (John 15:20) *“Remember the word I spoke to you: ‘A slave is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will also keep yours.”*
- C. Lack of an eternal perspective** (Colossians 3:2) *“Set your minds on what is above, not on what is on the earth.”*

**2. Personal Barriers**

- A. ‘I don’t know how’** (Ephesians 6:15) *“and your feet sandaled with readiness for the gospel of peace.”*
- B. It’s not my job.** (Ephesians 4:11-12) *“And He personally gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup>for the training of the saints in the work of ministry, to build up the body of Christ,”*
- C. I witness by my life** (1 Peter 3:15) *“but honor the Messiah as Lord in your hearts. Always be ready to give a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you.”*
- D. It’s the Pastor’s job** (Matthew 28:18-20) *“Then Jesus came near and said to them, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup> Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*
- E. I’m afraid of rejection** (James 4:6) *“But He gives greater grace. Therefore He says: God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.”*

**F. I don't feel worthy** (1 John 1:8-9) *"If we say, "We have no sin," we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

**G. I'm too busy** (Matthew 6:33) *"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you."*

### **3. What's the Solution?**

**A. Holy Spirit Power** (Acts 1:8) *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

**B. Personal Equipping** (2 Timothy 2:20) *"Now in a large house there are not only gold and silver bowls, but also those of wood and clay, some for honorable use, some for dishonorable."*

**C. Intentionality** (2 Corinthians 5:20) *"Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, certain that God is appealing through us. We plead on Christ's behalf, "Be reconciled to God."*

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