

GoDeeper



CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION WITH YOUR SMALL GROUP, FAMILY, OR IN YOUR PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY TIME.

Contagious | Causal Invitation | Pastor Steve Wells | 07.05.2020
Replay message at: <http://www.northpointeFL.org/messages>

Memory Verse: 2 Peter 1:3a

"3 By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life."

Pastor Steve asked us some important questions this morning regarding our faith, our faithfulness in sharing our faith and inviting others to join us. He asked us:

- When was the last time you felt God nudge you to share your faith?
 - How did you respond?
 - Did you push past the tension and fear?
 - Did you shy away and miss the opportunity?
 - What is keeping you from correcting your mistake? (If you did not shy away-what could keep someone from correcting that mistake?)

We always hear that happiness is contagious. When you are around someone who is overflowing with happiness and cheer, typically the people around them are either happy too or they WANT that happiness as well and ask how do they get it. This is the evidence and fruit of their happiness. Our faith and hope in God should also be contagious. We should be people overflowing with God's Love, His Hope, and His Peace. Our own abundance of love, hope and peace should cause others to want to know where ours comes from.

- What do you consider to be the evidence and fruit of your faith?
 - Based upon your answer, could someone come to faith in Jesus based upon that evidence alone? (Not about living a good life--how else could they connect the dots to understand you are this way--because of Jesus.)

Asymptomatic Christianity--Discuss what you think this means with your small group or family.

- What does it mean to be asymptomatic in a health situation?

Pastor Steve told us this morning "You may be the only Bible someone will ever read."

- If you have no fruit and no evidence of your faith (no symptoms) what does that mean about your faith?

2 Peter 1:3-8 NLT Growing in Faith

"3 By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know Him, the one who called us to Himself by means of His marvelous glory and excellence. 4 And because of His glory and excellence, He has given us great and precious promises. These are the promises that enable you to share His divine nature and escape the world's corruption caused by human desires. 5 In view of all this, make every effort to respond to God's promises. Supplement your faith with a generous provision of moral excellence, and moral excellence with knowledge, 6 and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with patient endurance, and patient endurance with godliness, 7 and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love for everyone.8 The more you grow like this, the more productive and useful you will be in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

This passage tells us how to be productive Christians- producing fruit and evidence. Who we are on the outside needs to match up to who we are on the inside and who our faith is in. We can start with obedience and a casual invitation that can lead us to a crucial conversation.

- Are you willing to be known as a Christian?
 - If so, we should be asking God to prepare our hearts and minds for the opportunities ahead.
- Pray and ask God to give you the opportunity to invite someone to church (or to watch online).
- Pray for the nudge and clarity to see when the opportunity arises.
- Pray that God gives you the words to say and removes any fear to say them.