

April 12, 2015

“Eyewitness Views”

Eyewitnesses: Jared Dimmick and Mandy Rhodes
Part 8

“Let’s Get Busy!”

“Men of Galilee,’ they said, ‘why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.’” Acts 1:11

The Ascension of Jesus: Matt 28:16-20; Mark 16:14-20;
Luke 24:50-53; John 20:24-21:25; Acts 1:1-11

A. Why do you just stand here?

1. What keeps you from making a difference in your world?
2. What keeps you from sharing your faith?
3. What keeps you from looking for and longing for His return?
4. Jesus’ coming was predicted! Jesus came! Jesus lived among us! Jesus died for us! Jesus was resurrected! Jesus ascended into heaven! Jesus is coming again!

“...why do you stand here looking into the sky?...”

B. Jesus’ final words to His church...

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” John 1:1

1. Jesus’ words to His followers...“Go and tell...”
2. Jesus’ words to His disciples...“Go and make disciples...baptizing them...teaching them...”
3. Jesus’ words to Peter...“Feed my sheep.” And don’t worry about what anyone else is doing!
4. Jesus’ words to us...“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses...”

“Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.” John 13:17

C. There is a lot of work to do...(*Sharing Christ)

“He came into the very world he created, but the world didn’t recognize him. He came to his own people, and even they rejected him. But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.”

John 1:10-12

1. Nearly 50% of America’s population is considered unchurched! As in they haven’t attended a church for more than six months.
2. Unchurched adults continues to rise! 30% in 1990 and 43% today!
3. The trends indicate that the younger populations are more unchurched.
4. Unchurched population groups:
Seniors (1945 or earlier) 67+ – 28%
Boomers (1946-1964) 48-66 – 35%
Busters (1965-1983) 29-47 – 40%
Mosaics (1984-2002) 18-28 – 48%

D. The only method God has provided to reach our world is....You!

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8

1. God has called every one of us to be a witness!
2. God has equipped every one of us for it!
3. God has positioned every one of us for it!
4. When there is a fire in our heart...it is hard to keep it contained!!

“But if I say I’ll never mention the LORD or speak in his name, his word burns in my heart like a fire. It’s like a fire in my bones! I am worn out trying to hold it in! I can’t do it!” Jeremiah 20:9

