

Part 4

HE THAT WINNETH SOULS IS WISE

IV Rededication

a. What does it mean?

1. To set apart for a special use.
2. To surrender oneself to a particular course of thought or action.

To renew something, you have to have it in the first place. Rededication is NOT Re-salvation. Rededication is like a reboot, a return to your first love for Jesus Christ and your desire to serve Him.

Romans 12:1-2 ~ And so dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to GOD, let them be a living and holy sacrifice, the kind he will accept when you think of what he has done for you.

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will know what God wants you to do and you will know how good and pleasing and perfect His will really is.

b. What is the purpose of rededication?

The purpose of rededication is to revive one's relationship back with Jesus. You ask, "What can rededication do for me? Glad you asked. Rededication is like revival - what once was living and thriving has grown stale, and you want that life back, you want your faith and love for Jesus and the joy of your salvation BACK.

An example of rededication from the Bible is the story of the Prodigal Son. He walked away in rebellion from his father, but he came back home humble, repentant, longing for reconciliation with his father.

c. Why would one need to rededicate?

* To guarantee your place in heaven

John 5:12-13 ~ Then they asked him, "Who is the Man who said to you, 'Take up your bed and walk'?" (13) But the one who was healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, a multitude being in that place.

*Because we know we are a backslider.

Luke 15:3-7 ~ So He spoke this parable to them, saying: (4) “What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? (5) And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. (6) And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!’ (7) I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.

*Because we have not made a true commitment to Christ

Revelations 3:16 ~ So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.

*Because we have a desire to have a closer walk with God

James 4:8 ~ Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

We exist to know God, hear God, obey God. We are to encourage others to do the same.

If Satan can't get our souls, he will try to get our mind.

d. How do I lead someone through rededication?

When witnessing, ask the person such questions as:

Do you desire a closer walk with God?

How is your relationship with Jesus?

Reinforce that Jesus loves them and desires to have a closer and more intimate relationship with them. Tell them it doesn't matter what they have done, for the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin.

1 John 1:7 ~ But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

Pray for them. Share your story of rededication with them. Get involved in their lives. Once the person has made the decision, lead them in prayer using

1 John 1:9 ~ If you confess your sins, God is faithful and just to forgive you of your sins and to cleanse you of all unrighteousness.”

VII. Preparation for Winning Souls

a. Spiritual preparation before you go

Ephesians 6:10-12 ~ To be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Know the will of God, the Word of God, and how to be used by God. This is being spiritually ready so that you may help someone to rededicate their life to Christ, or to lead someone to salvation.

b. Spiritual Preparation

To be spiritually prepared means to surrender your spirit to God so that you can be used for the work of the ministry. Study God's Word. Fast and pray as the Lord leads you. Participate in praise and worship. Come to church and be part of your church family.

Pray, asking God to give you wisdom, and give you the words to say.

c. A changed life

2 Corinthians 5:17 ~ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ he is a new creation/ old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

If we are not living the Christian life, we can't help someone else confess their sin. If a person is to be successful in winning souls, he must know and have a personal relationship with Christ.

A life that has been changed by the power of God can win should.

The enemy of God wants us to do life on our own, with no fellowship, no one to pray for us or know our struggles. Satan wants to convince the lost that they are alone or yesterday's trash or someone who is not worth saving.

d. How do you prepare yourself spiritually to win souls?

The quality time we spend in the presence of God will have a direct impact on our effectiveness in winning souls. God should be a part of our daily life in prayer, worship and devotion. Our lives should be an example to others, as Christ's life is an example to us.

A life that is changed by the power of the Lord can win souls.

VIII The Don'ts in Witnessing

1. Don't argue. You never get anywhere arguing. You will put a barrier between the sinner and yourself. Ask him if you can "set that question or issue on the shelf" and come back to it later.
2. Don't talk over their head. Don't use big theological words that they do not understand. Remember, preaching without reaching is no good.
3. Don't talk down to them. That is, don't act self-righteous. Don't be religious but be guided by the Holy Spirit.
4. Don't get sidetracked on opinions. Stay with the Gospel.
5. Don't put them on the defensive. Do not criticize or condemn their religion or opinions; you will put a barrier between the two of you.
6. Don't talk too fast. Do not act like a nervous, over-anxious salesman.
7. Don't pray long prayers with a sinner, and pray with your eyes open!
8. Don't rush him. If he feels rushed, he will balk (refuse to go on) and turn away.

9. Don't embarrass him, or you will certainly make him resent you, thus forfeiting your opportunity to win him to Christ.
10. Don't take their excuses seriously. Don't call them a liar but let their excuses go in one ear and out the other.
11. Don't try to get the sinner to have an experience just like yours. Give him the Gospel and get him to seek Christ and not an experience.
12. Don't allow your thoughts to dwell upon the honor of being used. Keep yourself out of the way and remember you are simply an instrument.
13. Don't push the sinner beyond his measure. Your part may be to sow seed, or to water. The increase may come later.
14. Don't be dogmatic (harsh, rough) over controversial issues.
15. Don't try to get the sinner to give up certain specific sins. Show him he is a lost sinner and needs to repent and turn to Christ.
16. Don't raise unnecessary objections such as: "You must go down the aisle," or "Are you willing to quit smoking?"
17. Don't tell them to take their time and think about being born-again; always ask them if they would like to receive Christ now. Attempt to draw the net.
18. Don't operate on last week's experiences. Get with God in prayer and receive fresh instructions from him.

IX

Two Simple Ways to Win Souls

1. Share your story. ***Our job is to make God famous.*** People want to be known. They want safe places to share burdens and fears. This all starts when we share with them what Jesus has done in our life.
2. Use the Acrostic FIRE

F - Family - Ask them questions about their family, names of family members, how well are the relationships in the family working...

I - Interest - Ask them about their hobbies, their job, their school or favorite sports, TV shows, games or books. Try to discover something unique about this person so that you can relate to them on some common ground in the future.

R - Religious Back Story - Ask questions. Did you go to church when you were young? What did they teach about salvation? At this point we can say, "This is where I anchor my faith..." and share Bible verses.

E - Exploratory Questions - Have you ever confessed and accepted Jesus? Where are you going to church? Where are you finding a community of others who will pray for you and encourage you and accept you? Encourage them to find a church and a community.

To land the plane:

1. If you have never had a personal relationship with Jesus, please reach out to us at Northside through our App, website, Instagram or Facebook. Ask for prayer. Ask for someone to help you learn how to have this relationship that is vital to your life; that IS your life, that will enable you to have eternal LIFE in Christ now and unto glory in heaven.
2. Are you saved and running from God? Have you become numb to the joy of your salvation in the midst of the noise and chaos that Satan has created around you? Ask God to empower you. Ask God to reboot your faith. Ask God to help you find the joy of your salvation that somewhere somehow got lost along the way.

Are you a guilty distance from God?

Ask God to reignite the fire He once placed in your heart.

God loves us just as we are, where we are, but He loves us so much He doesn't want to leave us there.