

CHRISTIANS SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

- 1 John the Baptist was a prophet sent by God. He told the people to repent of their sins and be baptized. When he saw Jesus he said, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" **John 1:29**. The next day John was with two of his followers and again saw Jesus. He said, "There is the Lamb of God!" **John 1:35**.
2. **John 1: 35-39**. These two followers heard what John said and they wanted to know more about Jesus. They followed Jesus and spent the rest of the afternoon with him. They listened carefully to all that Jesus said, and they believed that Jesus was a special person sent by God called the Messiah.
3. **John 1:40-42**. The next day Andrew, one of the two men, went and found his brother Simon who was a fisherman. Andrew said, "We have found the Messiah." He told his brother what he had learned about Jesus and brought Simon to see Jesus. Jesus welcomed Simon and changed his name to Peter. Peter became the leader of the disciples. Andrew also brought other people to see Jesus (**John 6:8-9**). First John the Baptist told his two followers to follow Jesus, and then Andrew found his brother and brought him to Jesus. We also need to bring other people to Jesus (**2 Corinthians 5:18-20**).
4. One day Jesus and his disciples went in a small boat to the other side of the Lake of Galilee. Jesus met a man who had many evil spirits in him. The man was wild, he ran around naked, and lived among the burial caves. When he saw Jesus he yelled out, "Jesus, Son of the Most High God! What do you want with me?" Many evil spirits were controlling this man. They were afraid of Jesus because they knew he had authority over them.
Jesus sent the evil spirits into some pigs. They became wild and ran into the lake where they drowned.
Luke 8:35-37. Immediately, the man could think clearly and he became normal. He was no longer wild and put on clothes. The people who looked after the pigs went back and told the people in the village. When they came they found the man sitting near Jesus feet listening to everything he said. The people did not want Jesus to stay in their area and they asked him to leave.
5. **Luke 8:38-39**. The man who had been set free from the evil spirits wanted to go with Jesus. Jesus said to him, "Go back home and tell what God has done for you." This man was so happy because Jesus had set him free from the evil spirits that he went and told all the people in the area what Jesus had done for him. What has Jesus done for you? Have you told others about the wonderful change Jesus has made in your life.
6. When Jesus comes into a person's life he makes many changes (**2 Corinthians 5:17**). Have people seen a change in our attitudes, and the way we speak and act. The Bible says that the person who told lies will now tell the truth (**Ephesians 4:25**). The person who used to steal will work with his hands (**Ephesians 4:28**). There will be no more dirty talk, or gossip about other people. Instead Christians will say those things that will help and encourage other people (**Ephesians 4:29**). Instead of being angry and bitter, Christians will be kind and forgiving to other people.
7. We share the good news about Jesus not only by what we say but also by how we live. Jesus said to the disciples, "All people will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (**John 13:35 NIV**). There are many ways in which we can show love to other people. We can help children. Jesus said that even a simple thing like giving a cup of water will receive a reward from God (**Matthew 10:42**). Helping old people and those who are sick by taking food to them are ways to show the love of Jesus. What other ways can you think of?
8. Just before Jesus was to go back to heaven he met with his disciples and said to them, "When the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you will be filled with power, and you will be witnesses for me in Jerusalem, in all of Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth" (**Acts 1:8**).
9. To be a witness means to tell others what Jesus has done for us and how he has changed our lives. We can share this with our family and friends in their homes, and at work. Some people will go as pastors to other villages or to big cities. They will preach the gospel and tell others about the wonderful change Jesus has made in their life.

