



ACTS



CONTEXT

WITNESSES

Martus

The Four Witnesses:

1. God
2. Natural World
3. Apostles
4. Ordinary disciples

The Witnessing God

And God, who knows the heart, bore witness to them, by giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us.

Acts 15:8

But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me.

John 15:26

And from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness,
the firstborn from the dead and the ruler of
the kings of the earth.

Revelation 1:5

Truth (Reality)
+ Spirit (Presence & Power)

Truth (Reality)

Truth is all of reality (seen and unseen by us)
as it is seen and known by God. Truth about
God, us, the world.

David Takle

Spirit (Presence & Power)

The Holy Spirit is God omnipresent and omnipotent. When we consider God the Spirit, we meet God present in person in power.

Simon Ponsonby

You Will Be My Witnesses

Witness here carries two fundamental connotations for these disciples. They carry the real history of life with Jesus. They are now in the position of the master storytellers. Like elders of the village who remember well the old ones and the old ways, so too the disciples will soon speak of when they walked with Jesus, drawing from fragile memories the fragments of sights, sounds, and the words of the man from Galilee. They will be an irrefutable presence. They will also be witnesses of divine presence. They will give room to the witness, making their lives a stage on which the resurrected Jesus will appear and claim each creature as his own, as a site of love and desire. Willie Jennings

BECOMING A WITNESSING COMMUNITY

**Witnessing is simply transformed
people telling & demonstrating the
reality of Jesus & his kingdom to the
ends of the earth**

I've always said that I don't respect people who don't proselytize. I don't respect that at all. If you believe that there's a heaven and a hell, and people could be going to hell or not getting eternal life, and you think that it's not really worth telling them this because it would make it socially awkward—and atheists who think people shouldn't proselytize and who say just leave me alone and keep your religion to yourself—how much do you have to hate somebody to not proselytize? How much do you have to hate somebody to believe everlasting life is possible and not tell them that?

Luke 24:44-49

I mean, if I believed, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that a truck was coming at you, and you didn't believe that truck was bearing down on you, there is a certain point where I tackle you. And this is more important than that. This guy was a really good guy. He was polite, honest, and sane, and he cared enough about me to proselytize and give me a Bible.

Penn Jillette

Waiting on the Spirit
Watching in prayer
Stories of mission
Crossing boundaries
Conversion & renewal
Uncommon bonds
Healing & restoration
Presence in trials &
suffering
Generosity
Calling & service
Understanding Scripture