

Lesson 20. S-Visitation Guidelines and Using Visual Aids in Witnessing

1. Visitation Guidelines

Strike out the wrong words in italics.

1. When Christians visit someone's home, they have *two/five* goals. These goals are to evangelize the non-Christians (Lk 24:47), and to strengthen the Christians (Ac 18:23).
2. To prepare for visiting, there are several things that need done ahead of time.
 - 1) Pray you will be guided by the Holy Spirit and pray for each person you will be visiting (Zec 4:6). (This also means that the leader of the team should be selected prayerfully.)
 - 2) Prepare the message to be delivered (1Pe 3:15b) after checking the visitation records to see what message was given last time and what message might be needed this time.
 - 3) Prepare the things to take along such as addresses and phone numbers, visual aids, Christian printed matter, Bibles, song sheets, pencils, paper, anything you promised to bring for that family when you last visited.
 - 4) Decide who will be the leader of the team.
3. You want to take notice and endeavor to reach out to every single person who is there (Isa 45:22; Lk 14:13). Thus it is *important/not important* to notice those who are mentally or physically handicapped, those who are very quiet and might easily go unnoticed, the children, the elderly, the ones who are not interested in the Gospel message, those who are busy serving you tea, etc.
4. You should take an interest in the people you are visiting (Php 2:4). This means paying attention to pictures on the walls, children's school awards, hobbies, work the family might do to earn money in the home, etc. You *must/must not* talk on and on about former visits and detailed directions regarding the next place you are going. The people you are visiting are the important subject of conversation.
5. Sometimes when you are visiting one family, some of the people there will want to go with you to visit others. This may not necessarily be helpful. They may not have your goals of witnessing to the non-Christians and strengthening the Christians. If they do not have the same vision you have, and do not know clearly what they are to do and not to do, often it is more harmful than helpful to have them come along. The team leader *should/should not* be the one who decides whether anyone may join the team to visit others.
6. Before leaving, if possible, give each person some kind of Christian material such as a Bible, a hand-written Scripture verse, a song, a Bible story picture, a Bible story book, etc.
7. Be aware of the family's living conditions, the physically disabled among them, their health, etc. (Mt 25:35-36). If possible, *do/do not* help them physically (Jas 2:15-16). If you are unable to help them, then pray with them about their needs and try to find someone who can help them. Do not tell the family that you will help them in any special way unless you are sure you can do it.

8. When visiting, it is important to go two by two--at least two (Lk 10:1).
 - 1) Two people are enough if you are visiting a single person in their home. If there are too many people visiting one person, he may not want to open up and talk very much.
 - 2) *Everyone/not everyone* who visits should have a definite responsibility. No one should go just because he has nothing to do and wants to tag along.
 - 3) The responsibilities can be divided so that one person gives the message; one prays; one plans and distributes the printed material; one sees to it that everyone in the home is greeted and talked with; one notices any physical needs the family has; one minimizes distractions such as someone not interested, a noisy child, or a busy housewife, etc. Distractions should be dealt with *gently/harshly* (1Th 2:7-8).

9. When visiting in someone's home, you should be careful *to/not to* gossip about anyone, not to argue with anyone (even if you do not agree with that person), and not to offend anyone by being impolite (Tit 3:2). Of course this also applies to the relationship between your team members. Those whom you visit will be very much aware about the good or bad relationship between the various members of your team. Be sure it is a loving relationship (Jn 13:35).

10. Write in a notebook how you plan to help the family spiritually and physically in the future. Be sure to follow up on this planning after the visit (Lk 14:28-30). Do be careful when you write things in your notebook. Other than names, addresses, and phone numbers, do not write down anything about the family while you are there. Wait until you get home to record personal details about the family.

11. Make a list of the persons contacted on each visit and pray for each one for at least a week (1Sa 12:23a).