Bringing Men To Jesus

Intro: Mat. 11:11 “Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.” Without fear of controversy it can be said that John’s was a high and noble work: to prepare the way of the Lord; to bring men to Jesus. We have a good example of his work in:

1. John 1:29, 35, 42 “The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world…. 35Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples;… 42And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone.”

2. Many lessons can be gleaned from this text.

I. **Why Should Men Be Brought To Jesus?**

A. **Because men are sinners in need of salvation.**

1. Rom. 3:23 “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;”
2. Rom. 3:10 “As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:”

B. **Because there is salvation in Jesus alone.**

1. Acts 4:12 “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”
2. John 14:6 “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”

C. **Because He has promised to save all who come unto Him.**

1. No earthly physician could make such a claim.
2. Mat. 11:28-30 “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. 30For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”
3. John 6:37 “All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.”

D. **Because He has saved all who have come unto Him.**

1. Not only a promise but also a proven fact.
   a. The apostles and all recorded conversions prove this.
   b. The miracles prove it.
   c. Christ resurrection proves it.
2. Such is not true of the way of man.
   a. Pro. 14:12 “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.”
   b. Jer. 10:23 “O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.”

II. **Those Brought To Jesus Should Bring Others.**

A. This is included in their conversion: they have not been saved to merely enjoy heaven alone but to take others with them.
B. **Having found salvation we will be anxious to bring such to others.**
   1. 2 Tim. 2:2 “And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.”
   2. 2 Tim. 4:1-2 “I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; 2Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.”
   3. 1 Pet. 3:15 “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:”
   4. Mat. 28:19-20 “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”

III. **How can Christians Bring Others to Jesus?**

A. **By talking favorably of Him.**
   1. Mark 5:19 “Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee.”
      a. The man named Legion has evil spirits cast out of him; he desires to go with Jesus, instead Jesus instructs him to stay and talk favorably of Him.
      b. Luke 8:40 “And it came to pass, that, when Jesus was returned, the people gladly received him: for they were all waiting for him.”
   2. To talk favorably of Him one must talk favorably of His body, the church.

B. **By a dedicated life.**
   1. Rom. 12:1 “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.”
   2. Mat. 5:16 “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”
   3. Adage: “I would rather see a sermon than hear one.”
   4. People buy seeds when they view the flowers.
   5. Song: “Live For Jesus O My Brother”

Live for Jesus, O my brother, His disciple ever be; Render not to any other, What alone the Lord's should be.
Live for Jesus, wand'ring sinner, Under Satan serve no more; Of the promised prize a winner Thou may'st be, when life is o'er.
Live for Jesus in life's morning; At the noontide hour be His, And at eve, when day is turning, And inherit endless bliss.
Live for Jesus, live for Jesus; Give Him all thou hast to give; On the cross the world's Redeemer, gave His life that thou mightst live.

C. **By a joyful attitude in the Lord's work.**
   1. One of the great attractions of early Christianity.
      a. Phi. 3:1 “Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, to me indeed is not grievous, but for you it is safe.”
      b. Phi. 4:4 “Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.”
      c. 1 Thc. 5:16 “Rejoice evermore.”
   2. Which attracts: gloom or joy?
D. By praying for them.
   1. Rom. 10:1 “Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.”
   2. Thus his life was spent preaching to them.
   3. Jam. 5:16 “Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”

E. By inviting them.
   1. According to the Barna Group: “73% of people who don’t attend church were never invited.”
   2. Yet, according to Dr. Thom Rainer
      a. Most people come to church because of a personal invitation.
      b. Only 2% of church-going people invite someone to church in a given year (98% of church-goers never extend an invitation in a given year).
      c. Yet, 82% of the unchurched are at least somewhat likely to attend church if invited.
   3. According to Dr. Thom Rainer and Sam Rainer: “Perhaps one of the most underestimated reasons people return to the church is that someone simply invited them back. 41% of the formerly churched said they would return to the local church if a friend or acquaintance invited them.”

Conclusion: Song: “You Never Mentioned Him To Me”
When in the better land before the bar we stand, How deeply grieved our souls will be; If any lost one there should cry in deep despair, “You never mentioned Him to me”
O let us spread the word where’er it may be heard, Help groping souls the light to see, That yonder none may say, “You showed me not the way,” “You never mentioned Him to me”
A few sweet words may guide a lost one to His side, Or turn sad eyes on Calvary; So work as days go by, that yonder none may cry, “You never mentioned Him to me”
“You never mentioned Him to me, You helped me not the light to see; You met me day by day and knew I was a stray, Yet never mentioned Him to me.”