

# The Wisdom of Soul Winning

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*Prov 11:30*

## I. INTRODUCTION.

- A. The average member of the churches of Christ has heard 4,000 sermons, sung 20,000 songs, participated in 8,000 public prayers, & converted zero sinners.
- B. Yet, we are told, “He who sows souls is wise.”
- C. Illustration about Henry Ford buying an insurance policy, *Illustrations for Biblical Preaching*, pp 124-25.
  - 1. Had Henry Ford’s friend been wise, he would have asked Ford to buy an insurance policy.
  - 2. If we are wise, we will ask individuals to become Christians.
- D. Soul winning is wise, because it:

## II. BRING REWARD.

- A. God has promised to reward soul winners.
  - 1. Those who turn many to righteousness shall shine “like the stars forever and ever” (Dan 12:31).
  - 2. God will give “glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good” (Rm 2:10).
  - 3. Both the one who plans & the one who waters will receive a reward (1 Cor 3:8).
- B. If we are diligent in winning souls, God will reward us.
- C. The implication is that if we are not winning souls, God will not reward us.
- D. The reward we receive is eternal life.
  - 1. If Ezekiel did not warn the wicked, the wicked’s blood would be on his own hands (Ezek 33:8-9).
  - 2. Paul was innocent of the blood of all men (Acts 20:26).

## III. BRINGS REJOICING.

- A. Soul winning causes rejoicing.
  - 1. he who goes forth sowing shall come forth rejoicing (Ps 126:6).
  - 2. He one who finds his lost sheep calls his friends together and says, “Rejoice with me” (Lk 15:6).
  - 3. When Paul & Barnabas told churches about the conversion of the Gentiles, “they caused great joy to all the brethren” (Acts 15:3).
- B. When we win souls, we rejoice—there isn’t any feeling like bringing someone to Jesus.

## IV. BRINGS REPENTANCE.

- A. In winning souls, we often win those who are close to us.
  - 1. Those who have unbelieving spouses are encouraged to stay with those spouses, because those spouses might be saved (1 Cor 7:16).
  - 2. Wives who set good examples can win their husbands (1 Pt 3:1).
  - 3. Although it is difficult, we can win those who are close to us (Jn 1:41-42).
- B. Soul winning brings repentance to those who hear us.
  - 1. Js 5:20.
  - 2. Jude 23.
  - 3. Illustration about Robert Louis Stevenson, *Illustrations Unlimited*, #4, p 178.

V. BRINGS REMEMBRANCE.

- A. When Jesus healed a demon possessed man, the man wanted to go with Jesus.
  - 1. Jesus, however, did not permit him to do so.
  - 2. He told him to go home & “tell [his friends] what great things the Lord” had done for him (Mk 5:19).
- B. God has done great things in our life, & we need to tell what God has done.
- C. Illustration about a healed dog who brought another dog, *Illustrations Unlimited*, #1, p 178.

VI. BRINGS RESEMBLANCE.

- A. Jesus came to seek & to save that which was lost (Lk 19:10).
- B. As we become involved in seeking & saving the lost, we become quite a bit like Jesus.

VII. BRINGS RESPECT.

- A. Before Jesus ascended into heaven, he told us to go into all the world with the gospel.
  - 1. Mt 28:19.
  - 2. Mk 16:15.
  - 3. Lk 24:47.
  - 4. Acts 1:8.
- B. Since we are God’s people, we need to respect God’s instructions.

VIII. BRINGS REFORM.

- A. We live in a deplorable world that needs change.
- B. The gospel changes the lives of those who obey it.
  - 1. 1 Cor 6:9-11.
  - 2. 2 Cor 5:17.
  - 3. Col 3:10.
- C. What if Hitler had been a Christian? What if Hussein had been a Christian?

IX. CONCLUSION.

- A. We all need to be involved in soul-winning.
- B. There are different ways we can all win souls. We can:
  - 1. Invite someone to services.
  - 2. Give someone a tract.
  - 3. Set up a Bible study.