

For Deeper Study

1. Acts 24:10–27 gives us insight into how Paul testified of his faith in Christ. Read this account, then study 2 Timothy 2:23–26. Consider the spirit in which Paul tells Timothy to relate to the unsaved. How does Paul exercise these virtues when speaking to Felix?

Have you ever become impatient and even angry when witnessing to someone? Why did this happen?

2. The Greek word used in Acts 24:16 for “strive” is *askeo*, which means “to take pains, endeavor, exercise by training or discipline.” Compare a good conscience to a good coach. What qualities should a good coach have?

Words of Encouragement

After viewing "The Way of the Master" course, today I graduated from mere church attendee to ministry. I grabbed my sample pack of Bible tracts provided and headed for the local shopping mall. In the fashion taught by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself and passed on to me by Ray and Kirk, I approached no fewer than 17 people, four of whom were Marines. One girl was a professing Muslim. One man from Colombia was a theology student. For the theology student, it was his first realization that sin was a condition of the heart and not necessarily a commission of the flesh. I presented the perfect Law of God, the Ten Commandments, and let the Holy Spirit challenge and convict them.

As stated in the instructions, I bypassed the intellect and spoke straight to the conscience. My questions were pointed yet sincere. Not one person challenged me in argument. I was amazed at how intently they all listened and participated and answered the questions. I had a wonderful time doing this.

Though the approach was soft, humorous, and jovial, the gravity of the subject was not lost on any. One teenage girl's face turned red and her eyes welled up with tears of conviction.

Praise the Lord for this course. I found my feet of faith. I was thrilled to be used by the Lord to present the truth to those Marines serving our country in this time of war against terrorism. Thank you! —Darrel R., Texas

Does your conscience ever speak to you about the sin of apathy regarding evangelism? What can you do to ensure that you don't have an offending conscience in this area?

3. Has there ever been a time when you chose not to listen to the voice of your conscience? How did that make you feel?

What impact did that feeling have on your relationship with God (on your prayer life, etc.)?

4. Explain the work of the conscience according to Romans 9:1 and 2 Corinthians 1:12.
5. When Felix heard Paul "concerning the faith in Christ," what did Paul talk to him about (see Acts 24:25)?

Do you think this is how most Christians witness? If not, why not?

Read John 16:7,8. How does the content of Paul's message assist the Holy Spirit in His work?

6. According to Romans 2:15, what did Felix's conscience do for him as he listened to Paul, and why did it speak in such a way?

7. Read 1 Corinthians 9:16–22. Read it the first time as the words of the apostle Paul, then read it again out loud as your personal prayer to God. Begin with "Dear Father," and end with "In Jesus' name I pray. Amen."

MEMORY VERSE

"Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God."

1 CORINTHIANS 6:9,10