Outline #2  Winsome Witnesses: The power of personal testimony

1. Unlikely witnesses
   a) Mark 5:1-5, 6-13, 14-17, 18-20 (see also Luke 8:38-39). Why did Jesus send this former demoniac back to his people rather than allowing him to join the band of disciples who traveled with Jesus?
   b) How did the personal testimony of this former demoniac impact those who heard his story?
   c) Name some other unlikely witnesses whose stories are recorded in the New Testament.
   d) Share a time when you heard a remarkable testimony from an unlikely witness.

2. Proclaiming the Risen Christ
   a) Mark 16:9-11 (see also John 20:11-18) What was Mary Magdalene’s reaction after she encountered Jesus risen from the dead?
   b) What important lesson can we learn from Peter and John when instructed by the Sanhedrin to stop sharing their testimony about Jesus? Acts 5:26-29
   c) Share a time when you felt compelled to give your testimony about Jesus, even when some didn’t want to listen or actively opposed you.
   d) What is an appropriate response when someone tells you, “I don’t want to hear your testimony about Jesus”?

3. The testimony of a transformed life
   a) Acts 4:5-13 Why was the testimony about Jesus given by Peter and John so compelling?
   b) Acts 26:9-18 Why was the testimony of Paul before King Herod Agrippa so powerful?
   c) What elements of Paul story, recorded in Acts 9:1-25, are omitted in his testimony before Herod Agrippa? Why?
   d) How is the apostle John’s testimony different from that of the apostle Paul? What do they have in common? 1 John 1:1-4
   e) Share a testimony of a transformed life that made a profound impression on you.

4. Sharing your personal testimony
   a) What key elements should be included every time we share our testimony as a follower of Jesus?
   b) Think of a time when you shared your testimony, either with an individual or a group. How did this experience impact your life? How did your testimony impact your hearers?
   c) Who would be willing to share a testimony today of how knowing Jesus has impacted your life?
   d) How has your attitude about sharing your testimony changed as a result of this study?