

January 2012

Telling the Story

Acts 4:20

Emphasis: To help men accept the responsibility of telling the story of Jesus.

Teaching: Matt Emmons was only one shot away from winning his second gold medal in the 2004 Olympics. He had performed so well he only needed a 7.2 score to win the fifty-meter three-position rifle event. He took his position, carefully aimed at the target, and squeezed off his shot. Yet the judges gave no signal; his target showed it had not been hit. Upon examination, it was found he had hit a target, just not his. He fired at the wrong target causing him to lose the gold medal.

How many of us today miss our opportunities to serve our Lord by setting our sites on the wrong target? How can we restructure our lives to become men with a common spiritual goal? How can we be spiritual storytellers?

- We must know what we possess as Christians from a personal experience. We must understand the game we are in. No coach or player can ever win a sporting event without knowledge of the rules and objectives.
- We must be aware of the players around us. How well do we know the guys in our church and mission group? Are we aware of their needs, talents, and abilities? Opportunities abound around us but we must know our capabilities to make a difference.
- We must be willing to get in the game. No team ever wins by their ability to sit and watch. They can only win if they compete. The early disciples quickly realized they needed to be in the world if they were going to make a difference. Men need that same excitement in sharing their faith.

Mission Application: There is a recipe for success in the Christian faith. It includes a belief in our Lord, practicing our faith, and giving it away by telling the story. Give your men simple witnessing tools that they can use in their daily walk. Consider having a training session for them on story-telling. Take time to pray that your church would be renewed and recommitted to engaging the community evangelistically. Make this a frequent prayer.

Notes