Thank you, ... Alexis Brown **Speaker for today**

Attention

Workday: Prep building and grounds for our meeting! Saturday, October 19 at 9:00 am **Regular business meeting next Sunday** October 13

"When in the better land, before the bar we stand, how deeply our soul may be, if any lost one there should cry in deep despair, you never mentioned Him to me."

MEETING FLYERS TO THE NEIGHBORHOODS!

October Birthdays

8 Esmeralda McCollum 16 Elizabeth Carrillo 28 Allan Brown

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday......9:45 a.m. Sunday......10:45 a.m.

Wednesday......7:00 p.m.

Website: indiochurchofchrist.com

Preacher: Vacant

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ATTENTION!! MAJOR MISTAKE REGARDING GOSPEL MEETING PLEASE READ...

The meeting flyers inadvertently have the wrong date...the meeting actually begins on October 27, NOT October 20. There are now corrected flyers. Please try to notify friends, etc. about the correct date.

> Now we're just TWO weeks away from our gospel meeting!

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The article below is another by our friend, Bruce Evans. The article has very appropriate advice as we prepare for our gospel meeting

"Whatever your hand finds..." By Bruce Evans

"Whatever your hand finds to do, verily, do it with all your might: for there is no activity or planning or wisdom in Sheol where you are going." (Ecclesiastes9:10)

Whatever became of excellence? Excellence, exceptionally high quality which seems to be a rarecommodity across the breath of our nation. Mediocrity, just what it takes to get by seems to be the accepted norm. But such an attitude takes the joy out of life that comes by always striving to doone's best. Solomon in Ecclesiastes chapter nine lays out the rationale that we, each one, has

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been given but one life to live, "Go then, eat your bread in happiness..." (v.7) "Enjoy life with the woman whom you love all the days of your fleeting life which He has given to you under the sun; for this is your reward in life, and in your toil in which you have labored under the sun." (v 9)

Moreover, as a child of God, one should have a drive to do the best absolute best in every aspect of life. Consider what Paul pens to the brethren in Ephesus as seen I chapter six and verses five through six. "Slaves, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in the sincerity of your heart, as to Christ, not by way of eyeservice as men-pleasers but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart." Applicable to us today as seen in the paradigm of the employee and employer relationship.

Sadly, many get caught up in simply going through the motions if life; not striving for excellence. Excellence must be the benchmark for the child of God, as previously noted. In the 31st chapter of Proverbs, there is found a celebration of the wife and mother who was exceptional. *"Her children rise up and bless her; her husband also, and he praises her saying: Many daughters have done nobly, but you excel them all."* (vs 28-29) Of course this principle would apply regardless of gender. In short to be the best spouse/parent possible. But consider as well, verse 31. *"Give her the product of her hand, and let her works praise her in the gates."*

Stand back, look at the comportment of your life. Can we honestly say that in all we do, we strive to do it to the best of our ability? Or as my wife used to say to our sons when they were younger and given an assigned task, they would come in and say they were finished and she would ask them, "are you a member of the 100% club?" They knew what it meant and, on a few occasions, they would excuse themselves and go back and do a better job. Clearly, they knew what their mother wanted. Come on now, we really do know what our Heavenly Father expects from us in all that we do. What He desires is that we do to the (see Matthew 25:14-30) best of our ability. Think back to Ecclesiastes 9:10, "Whatever your hand finds to do…"

So, are we a member of the 100% club? The brethren in Ephesus thought they were. However, in Revelation 2:4 they were told, *"But I have this against you, that you have left your first love."*

What were they told to do? Go back and do the deeds they did at first (see verse 5) is what they were directed to do. Oh, so simple. *"Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men; knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve."* (Colossians 3:23-24)

Thank God, I Have Another Opportunity Excerpts from article by Dan Jenkins

Somehow, we have failed to understand the parable of the sower. This kingdom parable shows Christians as a sower who goes out into the world to spread the seed. That seed of the kingdom is the word of God (Luke 8:11). The responsibility of the sower is very simple. As he walks through the field, he simply spreads the seed. He does not go out to find only the good soil and then to spread the seed there. His task is to spread the seed everywhere.

The seed when it is sown almost always does NOT produce an abundant harvest. Meditate on this parable. Sowers do not always produce fruit! The seed seems to be "wasted" on three out of the four kinds of soils. Somehow, we have overlooked this and think that our task is to baptize everyone. We were sent to teach, not to baptize (1 Corinthians 1:17). It may seem strange, but He will not ask us, "Did you ever lead someone to Christ?" Think about what question He will ask us!

The Lord does not need scouts, He needs sowers. We have misunderstood our work. He never sent us into the world to be His scouts just looking out for receptive people. How can we really know the hearts of others? We can only look at the outward appearance, and only the Lord can know the hearts of those around us. We must forever remove from our vocabulary the phrase, "I cannot find anyone to teach," which means that we cannot find anyone who we think might respond favorably to our approach. It is far better to see all hearts as soils worthy of the gospel. We can never say, "I cannot find anyone in whose lives I can sow the seed." They are all around us! Hearts like wayside soil, stony ground and thorny ground are all around us!