

Thank you, ...David Washburn
Speaker for today

Attention

Workday: Prep building and grounds for our meeting!
Saturday, October 12 at 9:00 am

MEETING FLYERS TO THE NEIGHBORHOODS!

Regular business meeting next Sunday
October 13

*“We’ll work ‘til Jesus comes,
and we’ll be gathered home”*

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.

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Getting Ready...

We’re just TWO weeks away
from our gospel meeting! Workday, next Saturday
to prep the building and grounds.

MEETING FLYERS TO THE NEIGHBORHOODS!

What Can I Do?

By Brian Mitchell

Long ago, Isaiah said *“Here am I, send me”* (Isaiah 6:8). Unfortunately, many today say, “there are the preachers and the elders and the missionaries; send them.” In this article we are going to begin to get more personal in our discussion of personal evangelism. In today’s bulletin we shall consider 2 points. We will answer the question “What can I do?”, and we will discuss three common mistakes made by those who desire to influence others for good.

What can you do in personal evangelism? It is a much-debated mystery as to why more members of the blood bought body of Christ are not personally involved in His call for global and local evangelism. Is it because:

- we lack the desire or motivation to lead lost souls to Christ,
- we lack the training or know how to lead souls to Christ or perhaps
- we are just fearful that we will be rejected or that we won’t know what to say or how to answer objections.

Personally, I believe that it is all 3 and that the first 2 factors are influenced greatly by the third factor.

Regardless, it is my belief that the majority of God’s people have convinced themselves that there just is not very much they can do when it comes to the subject of evangelism. I am here today to challenge that conception by showing you what we can do in evangelism and by helping us avoid some of the common mistakes

associated with evangelistic endeavors. The simple fact is that there are a number of things related to evangelism, some of which can be done by all. And I am challenging us all to begin doing the things we can all do right now, today, and to begin making preparations to do the things we are not yet ready to do.

In the remainder of this article we will focus on one thing we can all do; we can all pray about evangelism. One of the greatest mistakes that we make in the area of evangelism is failing to pray about evangelism. If we neglect to pray for or evangelistic efforts, we run the very high risk of rendering our work a complete failure. Before Jesus selected His Apostles he prayed about it—Lule.6:12-13. Before the early church sent Paul, Barnabas, and their companions out on their missionary trip, they fasted and prayed about it—Acts 13:1-3.

It may be that we have so few opportunities to teach others because we spend so little time in prayer about it—Colossians 4:2-4. Are we praying for the evangelistic efforts of the congregation? It is something that every member of this congregation can do right now without any need for further training. If we would spend as much time praying about evangelism as we spend in evangelism, I believe great things would result.

Unfortunately, many of us are spending as much time praying about evangelism as we are spending in doing evangelism—the problem is that we are not doing much of either. ***“The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails [or accomplishes] much”*** (James 5:16). If we truly believe this then let us begin to fervently pray for opportunities to reach more people with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

One Gospel for All

by Ronald Bartanen

“I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek” (Romans 1:16).

An increasingly popular view is that different cultures have different religions available to bring people to God. While in America we are predominantly a somewhat Christian culture (at least for the present), in Muslim nations God is available through Islam, in Israel God is found through Old Testament law, in India

access to God is through Hinduism, etc. Tolerance of other faith-systems has been seen in the past as the allowing of liberty to differ, but it has evolved into the shaming of those who would seek to actually convert someone of another religious persuasion to one’s own view. Some would even refer to preaching against the teachings of other religions as “hate speech.” Such a concept would make the Great Commission of our Lord—the preaching of the gospel of Christ to all nations, as Jesus commanded (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16; Luke 24:47)—no longer acceptable.

The gospel of Christ alone is *“the power of God unto salvation”* (Romans 1:16). It is one gospel for all. Jesus said, *“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man cometh unto the Father but by me”* (John 14:6). This may seem narrow-minded in our ears today, but it is either true, or Jesus is not to be believed.

There is one gospel for all because all are alienated from God by sin. *“All have sinned and come short of the glory of God”* (Romans 3:23); and *“The wages of sin is death...”* (Romans 6:23). In such a state, man is alienated from God and from eternal life. Dependence for acceptance with God on the basis of avoiding gross sins and being a good neighbor will not suffice.

There is one gospel for all because Jesus, God’s Son, died for all. *“God commendeth His love toward us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us”* (Romans 5:8).

There is one gospel for all because salvation is found only in Jesus: *“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved”* (Acts 4:12).

There being but one gospel for all, those who sincerely would follow Christ should look beyond popular opinion, men and denominations to the Biblical standard for the means of coming to God. Believing Jesus to be the Christ, the **Son of God who died for us, was buried, and rose again** (1 Corinthians 15:1-4), let all accept Him as Savior and Lord in accord with God’s word—in repentance and baptism (Acts 2:38; 22:16), thus being assured by Christ, that *“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved”* (Mark 16:16). Continuing in faith and faithful living, we are assured, *“Be thou faithful unto death (even to the point of dying for that faith) and I will give thee a crown of life “* (Revelation 2:10).