

Romans 14:19 - ...Let us pursue the things which make for peace & the things by which one may edify another

THE LENEXA EDIFIER

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Meeting Times:

Sunday Bible Classes	9:30 am
Sunday Morning Worship	10:20 am
Sunday Evening Worship	5:00 pm
Wednesday Bible Classes	7:00 pm

PREPARING OURSELVES

by *Jim Stauffer*

OUR GOSPEL MEETING IS HERE OCTOBER 6-9

WITH *DEMPESEY COLLINS*
*A STUDY OF PERSONAL
EVANGELISM*

SUNDAY 9:30 – 10:20 AM
SUNDAY EVENING 5:00 PM
MONDAY-WEDNESDAY
7:00 PM

We read of those in the New Testament times who were committed to teaching others the same gospel that had saved them. (Acts 8:4) These people were so committed to saving the souls of those around them they continued to teach the gospel even as they were fleeing for their lives for believing that very gospel.

These brethren would surely fit the description of 'doers and not hearers

only', James says. (Jam. 1:22-25) They recognized teaching others as part of the good works for which they were "created in Christ Jesus". (Eph. 2:10)

Jesus said the seed, the word of the gospel produces when it falls into the good and honest heart. (Luke 8:15) Barnabas placed his emphasis on cleaving to the Lord with purpose of heart. Acts 11:23 *who, when he was come, and had seen the grace of God, was glad; and he exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord.*

It seems clear the first step for us to become like our New Testament counterparts is the proper preparation of our hearts.

If we can accomplish this prior to our meeting with bro. Collins, we will have gone a long way toward achieving the success the meeting is designed for.

It is, after all, "with the heart man believeth unto righteousness." (Rom. 10:10)

You see, the first step is ours.

How To Have A Successful Gospel Meeting

Our Gospel Meeting is just two weeks away. For us to feel like we have had a successful meeting, there are several things we need to do.

The preaching is just one part of a meeting, we must realize that this is an opportunity for us to spread the gospel of Christ to those who normally would not attend our services.

The first thing we must do is pray for the meeting. Pray that we have visitors who are seeking the truth of God's word. Pray that we have the strength to endure (yes, this will disrupt our normal routines) the extra services that week. Pray that the message falls upon sound hearts and minds. Pray that God give us an increase in souls to assist us and for us to serve them. Pray for each one of us to make the efforts to invite people to the meeting. And let us pray for courage to stand up and be recognized as a sound faithful church of Christ.

One thing we must do is to really make our visitors feel welcome. Sometimes when we hear the last amen; we talk amongst our family and close friends, but we need to make an effort to get everyone to approach the visitors and talk to them, welcome them, ask questions of them, and see if there is something we can do for them. When people feel welcome, they will be more comfortable. So greet the visitors and welcome them in such a way as they would want to come back.

We need to get out of our comfort zone and go ask people to attend. We need to give them a reason to attend. It is because their souls are important to us, but also important to God. After all, was it not God who gave His Son? If we are to be Christ-like,

we are to be concerned for souls. Once people realize that we are concerned and care about them, they will be more receptive to listen to what we have to offer. Salvation that comes from God.

Hopefully it will be an opportunity to fellowship brethren from other local churches. We are really far apart, so they will be making an effort to come visit. Be thankful for their support, and when they have meetings, we can support their meetings as well. It will be a time to meet other Christians so that we can encourage them, and they in turn will encourage us.

In the end, the truth to determining whether this gospel meeting is a success will be our attitudes. We should have an attitude that we have the opportunity to spend time with Christians. We are here to worship God, and encourage each other.

Our job as Christians is to help people hear God's word and obey it. Evangelism is the method that God employed to bring the message of salvation to people who need it. Let us all work to make this a successful gospel meeting. Pass out some flyers.

Carey Scott

INVESTIGATE THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

The church of Christ is composed of those who are being saved. It is not a denomination. When a person hears the gospel of Christ, believes it with all sincerity, soberly repents of his sins, confesses Christ as the Son of God and is baptized (immersed in water) by the authority of Christ, God forgives that person all his past sins and seals him with the Holy Spirit. Such is the person considered in the Bible as being saved and added to the Lord's church, the body of Christ. And such is the person rightly called a Christian. Please, confirm all these things in **Acts 2:36-47; 1Cor. 12:13 and Acts 11:26.**

God wants you to investigate the church
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of Christ, the church for which Jesus shed His blood and died. Satan, the deceiver of man from the beginning has created several and various counterfeit churches many of which seem to look in some aspects to be the church of Christ. In denominationalism, Satan has tried to portray the kingdom of Christ as being divided against itself (**Matt. 12: 25**), but the truth is that Christ is never and can never be divided (**1 Cor. 1:12,13**). Heaven and earth shall pass away, but His word remains forever unchangable (**Matt. 24:35; 1 Pet. 1:25**). Like a counterfeit piece of money, which any reasonable person will reject, the Lord wants you to be careful that you do not get yourself stuck in counterfeit churches which exist in every place. Some of these counterfeit churches are very old and popular, while some are fairly new or young but popular too. Therefore, be careful!

Jesus Christ or His apostles did not start any denominations. And you don't read of a Roman Catholic disciple, a Methodist disciple, a Baptist disciple, a Pentecostal disciple or any sectarian disciple in your Bible. Do you? Also, Jesus Christ did not design His church to be shredded into denominations ruled by conflicting creeds. Even His apostles rose up boldly to expose and check those who Satan was using in their time to plant the seed of denominations. Please, read with sober reflection **Jno. 17:20,21; 1 Cor. 1:10-13 and Rom. 16:17, 18**

If we are sincere, it must be admitted that the Spirit of Christ is lacking in all professed believers who neglect the one divine pattern of Christianity set forth plainly in the New Testament and divide themselves into conflicting, and in some instances antagonistic sects. One sect is Methodist which operates upon a human-made constitution, another is Baptist, another is Catholic, another is Jehovah's Witnesses so called. You also have the numerous brands of the charismatic assemblies, and various brands of so called evangelistic groups. You count and count until you are fed up. This is wearisome to any God fearing, right thinking person who reads about true Christianity as demonstrated in the New Testament during the first century A.D..

The major instruments of division among believers are the creed books, constitutions or manuals of the various sects. Creed contradicts creed, constitution varies from constitution and doctrine conflicts with doctrine. Whereas, the prophet of old had said, "... the Lord is our law giver" (**Isa. 33:22**), and James also declared "There is one law giver, who is able to save and to destroy" (**Jas. 4:12**). Even though our God has given us the law in the Bible, people have neglected their Bible and become a law to themselves. The Bible is neither subject to revision or amendment because of its inerrancy. It is all sufficient for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness to equip the man of God for every good work (**2 Tim. 3:16,17**). However, every sect has written its own constitution, or creed according to what they felt was right in their own eyes, using the Bible to give it legitimacy.

The main and sure source of information for you to avoid being misguided is the Bible. Therefore, take up your Bible now and start your investigation of the church of Christ, because the Bible is the only book in this world in which "holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit." Your feelings, your conscience, what the majority are doing or saying, what your parents or ancestors have been doing, what the leaders say, etc. cannot guide you into what is religiously right or wrong. The Bible, the Book of God is the only source of truth in all spiritual and moral matters.

Remember, when you use your measuring tape to measure an object you accept the result without questioning. Will you not accept whatever the Bible tells you in all moral and spiritual matters, even much more readily because it affects your eternal destiny? God has given all men the Bible to enable them to identify the true church of Christ, so they can be saved from being trapped in counterfeit churches which deprive men of the true hope of eternal life. Start today to investigate the church of Christ.

By Ezekiel A. Akinyemi

Mark 16:15 *And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to the whole creation.16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that disbelieveth shall be condemned.*

News & Notes

by Jim Stauffer

Eph. 2:19-21 "So then ye are no more strangers and sojourners, but ye are fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God, being built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the chief corner stone; in whom each several building, fitly framed together, groweth into a holy temple in the Lord."

1 Pet. 2:9 "But ye are an elect race, royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that ye may show forth the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:"

Psalms 1:1-6 "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the wicked, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scoffers; but his delight is in the law of Jehovah; And on his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by

streams of water, that bringeth forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also doth not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. The wicked are not so, but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. Therefore the wicked shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For Jehovah knoweth the way of the righteous; but the way of the wicked shall perish."

Let us remember the instruction of our Lord by visiting in whatever way we can, **Jan Patrick, Terry Czirr, Candiss Cason, George Root and Wendy Taylor.**

Matt. 25:40 "And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of these my brethren, even these least, ye did it unto me."

The Church at Lenexa is a congregation of brethren who have been "justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus" (Romans 3:24).

As a result of this justification we have been "delivered out of darkness and translated into the kingdom of the Son of his love, in whom we have our redemption, the forgiveness of sins" (Colossians 1:13-14).

We therefore respect the inspired Word of God that will

completely furnish us unto every good work by speaking only as the oracles of God (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 1 Peter 4:11).

EVANGELIST & EDITOR:
Jim Stauffer

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WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

- **HEAR** the gospel, Romans 10:17
- **BELIEVE** in Jesus Christ, Hebrews 11:6
- **REPENT** of sin, Acts 17:30
- **CONFESS** Christ as Lord, Romans 10:9-10
- **BE BAPTIZED** for the remission of sins, Acts 2:38

