

Mark 16:15,16; Matthew 28-18-20

- “Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature....”
- “God ye therefore and teach all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and Son and Holy Spirit....”
- 2 Timothy 2:2- “and the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.
- Biblical pattern for preaching the gospel of Christ.
- Not to be ashamed of it but boldly proclaim it.
- Hebrews 4:16- Jesus died to cleanse us of our sins, so we can boldly approach our God who is holy and without sin.
- Acts 4:29- “and now behold their threatenings and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word.”

The Great Commission And Christians Today

- Mark 16:15- “ go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature...
- 2 Timothy 2:1,2 “ the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to others who will teach others also.”
- God’s personal work program is simple. **EACH ONE TEACH ONE**
- The gospel is a spoken message and when given its’ place in the hearts of honest men it will change them forever Rom. 10:14- How shall they hear without a preacher?
- Acts 8:30,31- “ do you understand what you are reading?” How can I except some man guide me”

The Book Of Acts- Truth Marches On

- Chapter 1- The Apostles waiting. Will you now restore your kingdom? You shall be my witnesses in 1. Jerusalem 2. Judea and Samaria and 3 Uttermost parts of the earth- Outline of book of Acts 1:8
- Acts 2:1-8:1- Jerusalem Acts 8:1-11-Judea and Samaria Acts 11-28- Uttermost parts of the earth.
- Acts 2: 41- 3000; Acts 2:47- The Lord added to the church daily those being saved; Acts 4:4- 5,000 men; Throughout the book of Acts multitudes Acts 4:32, many Acts 6:1-multiplied
- The Truth keeps on marching and people are being saved. Why aren't the same things happening among brethren today?

Why Are We Not Converting More?

- Too many distractions? No. They had distractions also.
- Too busy? They had the same amount of time we do
- More discouraging today? They had discouragement also. James killed- Acts 12:2; Steven stoned-Acts 7:59
- Resistance From religions? Pharisees and Sadducees in the early years. Riot at Ephesus later on. Paul chased everywhere he went for awhile.
- Resistance from government? Rome hated Christians. All they had to do was worship Caesar and God and they would be left alone

A Distinct Privilege and Honor Set Before Us

- 2 Timothy 4:2-4 “Preach the Word, be urgent in season and out of season reprove rebuke and exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine for the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine but will heap to themselves teachers having itching ears and will turn aside from truth and be turned aside to fables.”
- Romans 1:16- The gospel is still the “power of God unto salvation to all who believe....”
- Romans 10:15- still need preachers to carry the message. Faith still comes by hearing the word of God- Rom. 10:17.

Are There No More Fields White Unto Harvest?

- John 4:35- “look upon the fields for they are white unto harvest.”
- John 9:36-37 “when he saw the crowds he had compassion on them for they were helpless like sheep without a shepherd. The harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few.”
- Notice what Jesus said- the prospects are there Rom. 3:23- “all sin and fall short of the glory of God”; Rom. 6:23- the wages of sin is death...”
- We have a precious message and powerful one Rom. 1:16. Heb. 4:12- “for the word of God is quick and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of joints and marrow and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

Do We Truly Care? Have We Become Numb And Apathetic? How Many Christians Put In the Time To Reach The Lost?

- Ezekiel 3:18- “when I say to the wicked you will surely die, and you give him not warning nor speak to warn him of his wicked way; to save his life, that wicked man will die in his sin, but his blood will I require of you.”
- Brethren it is serious business not to do what we know to do (James 4:17- “to him who knows to do good and doeth it not to him it is sin.”)
- If we do not follow the command to reach the lost and sow the seed and warn the wicked of his way, we will be held accountable and be lost on the day of judgment. This should frighten and alarm us to action.

We Have The Gospel- We Can Help

- All those who do not know God and obey not the gospel shall suffer punishment even eternal destruction from the face of the Lord ...” (2 Thess. 1:7-9). The very nature of sin requires spiritual death and the sinner must pay for his actions. Sin weakens (Rom. 5:6). As a sinner one is an enemy of God (Rom. 5:9). He can not be saved in such a state.
- We can help do something about this
- **Urgency Must Replace Apathy**
- We must all face our responsibility to the lost. Until we come to grips with the lost state of others we will stay apathetic and inactive. If we are unconcerned how can we expect the sinner to be concerned?
- The most astonishing fact is that those of us who have been delivered from sin and Satan and who know the joy of salvation as well as the destiny of the lost- can stay silent about the gospel of Jesus and be cold to the needs of others. Do you remember what it felt like to be lost? Others feel that way! Were you upset with truth?

If The Name Of The Savior Is Precious To You- Will You Not Tell It Today?

- We must reignite that fire of evangelism in the hearts of every Christian. **The enthusiasm and success of the first century occurred because of brethren who were on fire to teach others what they had learned about salvation in Christ.**
- Luke 10:30-37 teaches us about concern for those unfortunate. Which of us would not be a Samaritan when we see the physical needs of someone? How many of us are like the priest Levite who saw the need but failed to become personally involved when it comes to spiritual needs of the lost? Brethren, we are the priest and Levite when it comes to teaching the lost today! How sad!
- Acts 4:18-20- Commanded not to preach anymore about Jesus, 20- “we cannot help but speak the things we have seen and heard.” Spirit of Peter and John.

God's Plan Works- Work It

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Discouragements and Excuses

- See little response to our efforts—resulting in thoughts of “what’s the use- no one wants to hear the Bible anymore.” Weary in our well-doing we are tempted to agree and we try to convince ourselves that we can do all our personal work by just being a good example.
- Our pulpit preaching grows weak, we settle for a sweet and fluffy inoffensive gospel and settle to watch our numbers dwindle and wring our hands in despair at the lack of growth. Clinical preaching checks all the boxes but the gospel must be preached with conviction.
- Statements like, we live in a different world, people are too busy, no one cares and the preacher isn’t too good at this
- Nothing wrong with the gospel- so where does the blame lie? God’s plan of a taught Truth is flawless.
- Believe it- Do not be ashamed or it! Do not apologize about Truth! No one can sit on the sidelines. Paul would not be stopped and we must be the same.
- Believe in the product. Cannot convince someone of something you don’t believe in.

Sow The Seed- God Brings The Increase- Plant And Water

- Mk. 10:17-22- Rich ruler did not heed Christ – we will not have 100% response through obedience. But every time we teach the gospel there will be a response- positive or negative.
- Seeing one obey the gospel is worth all the trials.
- You are doing lasting good.
- God rewards diligence- not laziness (Heb. 11:6).
- How can we be idle when Jesus suffered and died for us (Mt. 26:46-27:56; 2 Cor. 5:14)?

The EPITAPH OF UNEVANGELISTIC CONGREGATIONS

- Here lies the ruins of the local congregation of the Lord's church at _____ . They were good people- they loved the Lord- they had a nice facility- they had two meetings a year- they met regularly- they had good teaching- BUT- THEY DIED AND HERE LIES THE RUINS OF A CHURCH THAT DID NOT LOVE SOULS- They simply sat in their building and died through apathy and a lack of true love for souls- "I never knew them."
- Will this be the destiny of this congregation?

Open Doors Everywhere

The waitress- your family- your neighbors- your co-workers.

Methods- too numerous to give a complete list. Nothing beats sitting at a table with an open bible and sharing the precious message of Jesus.

Teach and preach the gospel. You will be better for the experience. Young men- you could not choose anything more fulfilling than preaching the gospel of Christ.

- All Christians are to be teachers. Make a list of 5 people you will contact this year. Get busier sowing the Seed.
- Groups who are growing are doing so by activating The bible plan.
- Sow the Seed brethren.

PREACH THE WORD MY BRETHREN

- **“Brother, roll up your sleeves and thunder forth that message that rocked the hills and vales around the Jordan long ago—that pierced the hearts and convicted thousands on the day of Pentecost and subsequent days—that vibrated through the hills and valleys of Kentucky and Ohio in the days of the restoration, and that still thrills and influences the hearts of men when it is given its rightful place and emphasis!! Preach it because you can do nothing greater. Preach it because you love it. Preach it because you are afraid not to preach it. And preach it exactly as it is written, neither fearing nor favoring men. Preach it every time you go into the pulpit like that time will be your last time. Preach it as “a dying man to dying men!”—Foy L. Smith, Firm Foundation, Volume 80, Number 5---**

Acts Closes- 28:24

- “AND SOME BELIEVED THE THINGS WHICH WERE SPOKEN, AND SOME BELIEVED NOT.”
- We cannot change hearts- no man is able to do so and God will not do it.
- We are not responsible for those who reject the truth.
- We just keep on teaching and preaching Christ.
- God’s plan works in everything else, and His plan is the only one that pleases Him in evangelism.
- But it requires getting out of our comfort zone and doing it.
- We can be victorious with Christ.