

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Enthused About Evangelism

Stated in the simplest of terms, evangelism is the preaching and teaching of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The word “Gospel” is the translation of the Greek word *euangelion*, which means “glad tidings” or “good news”. By virtue of the fact that the Gospel is “good news,” it should be eagerly received and welcomed with open arms. When it is, as in the case of the Ethiopian nobleman, it causes one to rejoice (Acts 8:39). Generally speaking, when one is rejoicing, his rejoicing motivates him to become enthused. And, when one is genuinely enthused about the Gospel, he wants to share it with others. Anytime a person shares the “good news” of Jesus Christ, whether he realizes it or not, he is engaging in evangelism. One way of looking at it is that being evangelistic is but the logical response of his having received heaven’s good news. People want to tell other people about the Savior and the salvation He has made possible. New Testament examples revealing how the Gospel spread throughout the first century world testify to this fact. As a matter of fact, the good news could not be contained. It spread like wild fire throughout every strata of society (cf. Acts 2:41; 4:4; 6:1-7; 8:4).

Why are Christians not evangelistic now as they were 2,000 years ago? Are the Christians living today not enthused about evangelism? Could it be that the Gospel is not “good news” to them? Seemingly, some view Christianity as a system of “dos” and “don’ts,” “rules” and “regulations,” having to “go to church”. There are far too many church members who have just enough religion to make them miserable. They would rather go and do as they please, but their religious training will not permit them to do so. For these, the Gospel is a “pain in the neck”; not good news.

If one loves God, doing His Will is not grievous to them. John penned, ***“For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous”***: (1 John 5:3). Those who find no pleasure in the “good news” of God’s Son have failed to realize how desperately destitute and lost in sin they were (1 Peter 1:9). One just cannot sensibly go on sinning if he understands its consequences. God sent His Holy Spirit to accomplish three purposes. The Holy Spirit came to (1) “reprove the world of sin and (2) of righteousness, and (3) of judgment” (John 16:8-11). When one comes to know sin’s effect upon the soul, the Gospel of Jesus Christ is “good news” indeed! Are some church members afraid to practice evangelism? Often they will openly admit that they will not discuss religious matters on the job for fear of reprisals of one sort or another. Evidently other social pressures restrain a few from sharing the Gospel. Married individuals are sometimes reluctant to bring up the soul’s saving message to an unbelieving mate lest an argument begin. Reportedly, due to remarks made by a neighbor, one brother was so intimidated that he would not share the Gospel of Christ with the people on his block— he was afraid his neighbors would think he was some kind of a “religious nut”.

Cowardly Christians have allowed Satan to turn things around on them. Rather than being afraid to evangelistically spread the Gospel, they ought to be afraid not to. They have been warned: ***“But the fearful...shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death”*** (Rev. 21:8). The famous statement of Franklin D. Roosevelt seems particularly applicable regarding this matter. He declared: “We have nothing to fear, but fear itself.”

Any obstacles a Christian faces in maintaining his evangelistic spirit (and Satan will do his best to make sure they are there), he must overcome them. More than anything else, the world needs the Gospel of Christ. People dying without the Gospel are lost and going to hell (2 Thess. 1:8). But, they are not the only ones. On Judgement Day, for having withheld the Gospel from the lost, many Christians living in the twenty-first century will be lost too.

Every Christian should strive to be able to make with Paul the statement, ***“Wherefore I take you to record this day that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God”*** (Acts 20:26-27). Paul overcame all sorts of problems to preach the Gospel. He

preached to any and all who would listen. He preached to the Jews and the Gentiles, the poor and the rich, the educated and the uneducated, the weak and the powerful and to the kings in Jerusalem and Rome. Why was Paul able to do this? He realized his sinfulness (I Timothy 1:15), that he was saved by the Gospel (Romans 1:16) and that the Gospel was for the world (Mk. 16:15-16). Paul had faith. Faith that allowed him to say, ***“I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me”*** (Phil. 4:13). Paul possessed the enthusiasm, so desperately needed today, to evangelize the whole world.
Tommy J. Hicks

Sympathy

Our sympathy goes out to Kallie Wesson and her family in the loss of her cousin, **Layten Eugene Smith** who passed from this life on December 27th in Lubbock. His services were held at 1pm on Monday, December 31st at Sunset Funeral Home. Layten was 23 years old. Continue to keep this family in your prayers at this very sad time.

Prayer Requests

Hannah Weakland accidentally knocked her right knee cap out of place and had to be taken to ORMC—ER on New Year’s Day. It was put back in place and Hannah is doing okay.

Lindsey Wells had a wisdom tooth removed last Monday.

Winford Hambright was scheduled to have another swallowing test done last week. Also he is able to have some ice now. Continue to keep Winford in your prayers.

Concerns Update

Sharion Price (Jack Wright’s sister) was able to have her retina re-attached. Her retina became detached after she had undergone cataract surgery and while driving turned her head the wrong way. Sharion lives in Capitan, NM.

Linda Tate’s foot is doing better. Her foot was accidentally injured over the Christmas Holiday.

John Wood’s checkup in Dallas on the 27th went well.

Prayer List

Brian Basaldua; Dennis Betts; Elsie Bradford; Bill Brown; Brad Bundick; Bill Butler; Dana Erwin; Densell Fambro; Jennie Fuls; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Wayne Gunn; Winford Hambright; Roberta Hamil; Letha Hooper; Jennifer Jones; Ora McAfee; Glenna McCarty; Juan & Estella Morolez; Sharion Price; Hector Ramirez; Jackie Rex; Janelle Shirley; Charles Simmons; Matthew Simmons; Verla Snyder; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Lisa Wells; James & Janet Wesson; John Wood.

Eisenhower’s Shut-ins

Roberta Hamil; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley; Marilyn Upshaw and Lester Whisenant.

Remember to keep all of our sick, shut-ins, the bereaved, our military personnel and spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

What was the occasion for Jesus leaving Nazareth and going into Galilee the first time in His ministry?

Last Week’s Bible Quiz Answer...

The parable of the talents.

Events

Watch *“In Search of the Lord’s Way”* every Sunday morning at 7:00 am on KWES TV 9, (New West 9)

Also, tune in to hear a message from the Brown Trail Church of Christ on the *“Speaking the Truth in Love”* program every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. on ABC.

Thank You

Dearest Brothers and Sisters:

Thank you so very much for the countless acts of kindness my family received during the passing of our beloved Jimmy Weaver. God’s Richest Blessings.

Terresia, Melissa & Todd Weaver

Office News

We will have a *“Potluck Luncheon”* in the Annex following our worship service this morning. All our visitors are welcome to join us for lunch and fellowship.

Food for Thought...

Every minute you are angry you lose 60 seconds of happiness.

New Year Prayer

Thank you Lord for giving me

The brand new year ahead.

Help me live the way I should

As each new day I tread.

Give me gentle wisdom

That I might help a friend,

Give me strength and courage

So a shoulder I might lend.

The year ahead is empty,

Help me fill it with good things

Each new day filled with joy

And happiness it brings.

Amen.

January 6th, 2019

Announcements

Song Leader

Sermon

Opening Prayer

Scripture

Second Prayer

Closing Prayer

Lord's Supper

(Scripture Reading)

West...

A.M.

Jeff Wesson

Jaxon Straw

Allen Weakland

Jeff Wesson

Richard Siler

Don Easlon

Jr. Munoz

George Warren

Bill Ryan

Scot Straw

Jackie Perkins

P.M.

Jeff Wesson

Craig Wesson

Allen Weakland

Jeff Wesson

Tom Sorenson

Bill Brown

Cody Wesson

Dex Dennard

Communion

(In Library)

East...

Trinidad Wood

David Ryan

Josh Wells

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Jeff Wesson - 556-5547 *Deacon*; Richard Siler 556-2151 *Pulpit*; Richard Siler 556-2151 *Table*; Tom Sorenson 638-9447— *Song Leaders*; Larry May 638-3990 *Recording Sermons*; Dex Dennard 296-1582 *Collections*: Dex Dennard

Sunday AM

"Biblical Optimism"
(Philippians 3:12-16)

Sunday PM

"A Stronghold in the Day of Trouble"
(Nahum 1:7)

Our Records

Bible Class... 62

Morning Worship...105

Evening Worship...75

Wednesday...75

Contribution...\$3,919.34