

A Heart For Evangelism

Volume 2 Issue 1

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Evangelistic Opportunities

There are no distributions or door knocking scheduled for January.

Evangelism training class will begin Monday January 26th, 7:00 pm at the building.

Inside this issue:

<i>Who Can Evangelize?</i>	1
<i>Evangelistic Efforts at Collinsville</i>	1
<i>Do You Have The Heart Of A Soul Winner?</i>	2
<i>Your Involvement.</i>	2
<i>Important Statistics for December 2008</i>	2

Who Can Evangelize?

Jesus knew the growth of His church dependent upon every member of His body being mobilized to teach, preach, and reach the lost. As far as is known, not a single priest or Levite was among the originally selected apostles as couriers of the message of saving grace.

One of the most astonishing statements uttered by the Lord was, "... the laborers are few" (Matthew 9:37). The priests in Jerusalem were so numerous they took turns performing temple ceremonies, yet Jesus said, "...the laborers are few."

If ever the world is going to be won for Christ, it will be done by the devout disciples

in the pews. Much of the church today has become too "professional." We have promoted the "let-the-preacher-do-it-all" syndrome to the point of discouraging ordinary Christian from using their diverse talents to the glory of God.

The attitude of every Christian must be, "my business is winning souls and I work at my job to pay expenses." Satan's subtle strategy has always been to convince common believers that mission work is so complicated and winning souls so complex that only university-trained experts (preachers) could do it. Are wars so complex that only generals can fight?

May God give us grace to see that the fields are still white unto harvest and laborers are indeed few. Let us pray that every Christian be involved in the Kingdom's sure increase, both on foreign mission fields and in evangelistic efforts at home, so that "the earth be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea" (Habakkuk 2:14).

Every Christian, every day, evangelizing in every way is the spirit we are to have if the Gospel is to be shared with the lost world.

Bill Dillon is a writer and preacher of the Gospel from Mountain Home, Arkansas.

Evangelistic Efforts at Collinsville

On Monday January 26th we will be conducting our first in-depth evangelism class. This class will compliment the Wednesday evening evangelism we finished this past quarter. It is the goal of the class to get

each member more comfortable conducting Bible classes, door-knocking, and helping new converts to mature in Christ. The classes will be offered on Monday evenings beginning at 7:00. We will meet for about an hour.

If you have any questions, please feel free to let me know. This is a great opportunity for us to help each other to become fishers of men. Look forward to seeing you on the 19th of January!

A Heart For Evangelism

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Statistics for December 2008

There were no literature distributions or door knocking in December.

3 new Bible correspondence courses were established

28 calls made to the Bible Call system with 74 accesses to messages.

4500 House to House mailers were mailed.

Your Involvement

This past quarter, we just finished an evangelism course in our Wednesday evening Bible class. Now is the time for each of us to decide what area we will work in during the upcoming year. If you can conduct Bible classes, door knock, pass out literature, stuff literature, or help with new converts, your ability is needed. Working together, this congregation can become a beacon of hope for so many who have had a chance to hear the unadulterated Gospel. Decide where you will work and encourage another person to get involved also. Let's become more evangelistic in this new year!

Do You Have The Heart Of A Soul Winner?

The heart of a soul winner is:

PRIORITIZED—Cares of the world have long been a problem for the heart. The Lord tells us this in Luke 8:11-15 when He describes the heart of a disciple allowing the cares, riches, and pleasures of life choke the word of God from him. The heart of a soul-winner must be careful as well; while he might be otherwise faithful (in worship, morality, etc.), the priorities of his heart might become misaligned. The apostle Paul admonished the Corinthians to “examine themselves.” The word is a medical term describing the process a physician puts us through looking for health problems. Here, of course, it is spiritual and Paul says we are to examine ourselves. Why? To see if we are in the faith. What are priorities of your heart? What was Jesus’ number pri-

ority? Luke 19:10 states it plainly—Jesus came to seek and save the lost. Upon examining your heart, are your priorities properly aligned?

PANORAMIC—While we know the importance of one-on-one teaching, we should not limit ourselves to certain individuals. Often the FOM [Fishers of Men] instructor is told by his students that they are taking FOM to convert a specific individual: spouse, parent, child, etc. While we want those whom we love the most to be saved, our scope of reaching the lost must not be limited to ones we know and love. Jesus said take the gospel to the world (Mark 16:15-16). Regarding our spiritual growth, the apostle Peter said those disciples failing to add to their lives the qualities in 2 Peter 1:5-11, were spiritually myopic—they could not see afar off. The Lord certainly was not myopic regard-

ing the plan of salvation—His vision stretched forth for generations. His vision was also panoramic in that it stretched outwardly to encompass the gentiles. The same could be said of Paul—his heart desired the salvation of all Israel (Romans 10:1). His actions teach us that this desire was for all mankind; that they would be altogether like him—except the bonds (Acts 26:29). How is the vision of your heart? Do you envision the dovetailing influence of your teaching for generations; for your family and for others? Like disciples failing to grow spiritually, soul winners must guard their hearts from myopia and develop an ever-increasing panoramic heart.

To be continued next issue:

Article by W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr. Fishers of Men—Lifeline. Dec. 2008 issue.