

A Heart For Evangelism

Volume 2 Issue 3

April 4, 2009

Warm Weather = More Opportunities

Evangelistic Opportunities

The next literature distribution will be on Saturday April 11th at 9:30am. We will be distributing invitations to our gospel meeting.

Door knocking will begin the week of April 4th. A sign-up sheet is posted on the New & Notes Board

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The Lord is the giver of all good gifts. He has blessed us to have great weather over the past few days. Now that the weather is warmer what do you plan to do? So many look forward to working in the garden, or perhaps in the yard. Many enjoy planting fragrant flowers and getting the lawn lush and green. Some enjoy biking, hiking, and outdoor sports. All of these things are great activities in which to engage, but now that the weather is warming, what type of spiritual plans are you making?

On April 3rd, 20 members of the Lord's body from Collinsville assembled together at 9:30am to distribute literature in

order to promote our upcoming gospel meeting. Two weeks ago, Richard Stopher and I knocked on 53 doors on a beautiful, but balmy day in March. As the weather is breaking, are you making plans to get involved in the literature distributions and door knockings?

We solicit all of your help. So far, 20 has been the best turnout we have had for a literature distribution. We are planning another one on April 11th at 9:30am. Again, we will be sending out literature to promote our upcoming gospel meeting. This is a great opportunity to let our community know about the meeting. Brother Mike King has made preparations to preach the gospel. Are we making prepara-

tions to have lost souls hear the gospel? The preaching of the gospel will not be effective unless the people who need to hear the gospel know about it. That is where you and I come in! Through our distributions we are inviting our community to hear God's Word. The more invitations we send out, the more chances we have to reach people.

Now that the weather is warm, will you commit a few hours of your Saturday for this good work? Will you commit a few hours during the week to join me in door knocking in the community? We hope you will make the commitment to get involved in these good works. A soul or souls depend on it.

-K.A. Pugh

Evangelistic Efforts at Collinsville

What a wonderful turnout we had for the first evangelism class! We had nearly 30 in attendance at each session. We went over door knocking techniques, helpful hints for a successful bible study, how to conduct an Open

Bible Study, and other bible study techniques. One evening, we even had a brain-storming session discussing how we can become more evangelistic and some avenues in which we can make those things happen. If you

missed out on the February classes, we will conduct the classes again in the upcoming months. Now, we are concentrating on putting our skills to use so we can become better fishers of men.

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Statistics for March 2009

419 packets were distributed.

14 calls to the Bible Call System with 43 accesses to the different subjects.

53 doors were knocked.

15 new names were turned in for Bible Correspondence Courses.

1 ongoing Bible study

Using Media to Evangelize

One of the methods we have decided to use to get the message of the gospel out into the community is videos and DVDs. We are in the process of taping several classes to load onto our website and we plan to burn them onto DVD. As we pass out literature and contact friends and neighbors, we will make them aware of the videos that will be loaded on the website. We plan to study all of the conversions in the book of Acts. Later, other videos and DVDs will be made on a variety of subjects.

If you have an evangelistic subject which you would like to see on video or DVD, please let me know. We will do our best to incorporate it in our lesson plans.

We may not be able to physically enter into the homes of all of our neighbors, but we certainly can invite them to view the gospel in video form from our website or DVD in the comfort of their own homes. Continue to pray for these efforts.

The Suggestion Box

Suggestion boxes are usually used to solicit helpful information to someone or some group who is trying to accomplish a specific task. The last meal I had at a local Cracker Barrel had a "suggestion box" and they wanted feedback concerning the food, service, and overall experience we had while at the restaurant. The manager, no doubt, utilizes the suggestions that will make his establishment better.

This same principle can be applied to evangelism. With a congregation of over 200 members, there are bound to be some great suggestions for evangelism. The suggestion box will serve a two-fold purpose. First, it will be used so members can write down ways in which we can be involved in more evangelistic works. If you know of another congregation that is doing something successful in the area of

evangelism, let us know. If you are aware of a community outreach that is effective, we would love to hear the suggestion.

The second purpose for the suggestion box is for members to place names of individuals in which you would like to establish a Bible correspondence course with or setup a personal Bible study. Just put their name in the suggestion box and indicate whether the person wants a correspondence course or a personal study. Please, put your name on the paper also just in case there are questions or any other follow-up that may need to take place.

Evangelism cannot take place without contacts. We want to use all avenues available to make as many contacts as possible. Our congregation is blessed to have 6 elders, 3 preachers, 5 deacons, and a great

membership. There are plenty of men and women who can conduct Bible studies, so don't worry about us having too many contacts (that is actually a good problem to have).

This could also be an opportunity for you to learn how to conduct a study or grade a Bible correspondence course. We want to make sure that we are a congregation busy for the Lord in the area of evangelism. God is always pleased when new members are added to the kingdom of His dear son. Let us do our best to give men and women we know the opportunity to know the Lord and His soul saving will. Who knows, the name that you put in the suggestion box could be one who will one day obey the gospel of Jesus Christ and grow to do great things in the kingdom. It all starts with one suggestion

-K.A. Pugh