

THE BULLETIN—VOL 45, NUMBER 33, August 25, 2019

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: Ed Kelleher , Grace—Ours to Give, What

PM: Ed Kelleher , Grace—Ours to Give, How

A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services. Come see!

**YOU MUST HAVE HOPE!
YOU MUST KNOW WHY!
YOU MUST:**

**“... *be* ready always to *give* an answer
to every man that asketh you
a reason of the hope that is in you “ - 1 Peter 3:15b**

Test all things; hold fast that which is good. - 1 Thess 5:21

West Columbia Church of Christ
1701 Augusta Road
West Columbia SC 29169
www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org

**JOIN US IN
PRACTICING
NEW TESTAMENT
CHRISTIANITY
TODAY,
COME SEE!**

SERVICES

Sunday 10 AM Bible Study
Sunday 11 AM , 6 PM Assembly
Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study
Office Phone (803) 794-5320
Nursery provided

INFORMAL BIBLE STUDY

On Request
Everyone Welcome!
Bring your friends & Bible questions

EVANGELIST

Other than the members
none at present time
Full time man wanted

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“every disciple that is perfect shall be as his master.” Luke 6:40b

How Do I Evangelize?

Sometimes it is not required to say many words to say very much. A prime example of this is found in Acts 17:22-31. A Short passage which does not take much time to read, it is a sermon by Paul in the city of Athens. He explained, very briefly, what that audience needed to hear in order to receive salvation. He first understood who it was he was speaking to (17:16, 22-23). Understanding where they were at “religiously” he began preaching to them what they needed to hear. What they needed to hear was there was one true God who made everything and who Himself was not made as were the idols surrounding them in Athens. The one true God is also the creator of mankind and He desires that every man of every nation would seek Him. Paul is telling the men of Athens of the character of God. The idol worshippers of Athens probably well understood the idea of wanting to please their gods but the idea of their gods seeking after them was nonexistent. The one true God who made all the living constantly seeks out His creation, to have a relationship with every man from every nation. Paul also taught of the need for God because one day God, as the creator will judge what has been created. This will be done through Jesus, the only one who has ever defeated death. This too was not something any follower of an idol could ever claim about their so-called deities. From 17:32-34 we can read of the response to this sermon. Some became obedient to God, others sneered, others said “we will hear you later.” Clearly nothing about the response to the preaching of Jesus has changed from Paul’s day to ours.

There is no “text-book” way to evangelize, no specific sermon, no one program to guarantee winning souls to Christ. The answer to “How do I evangelize?” is answered just as anything else is when it comes to faithful living, and that is with another question: “What does the Bible say?” You may never preach a sermon, especially one in a setting like that of Athens. But what do we see from this passage which will equip us to share our faith? What did Paul observe and what did he do in response? He saw what these folks lacked in truth and he gave it to them. It really is as simple as that. Most of our hesitancy to teach the gospel does not come from not knowing how, it comes from not knowing what to say. Because we do not know what to say, we tell ourselves “I don’t know how” because that feels better than saying, “I don’t know enough.” If you want to know how to better spread the gospel, begin with knowing better the gospel for yourself. It is much easier, even in difficult circumstances, to talk about what you know as opposed to what you do not know.

- T.J. Bolen, Gospel preacher, West Columbia South Carolina

“Test all things; hold fast that which is good.” - 1 Thess 5:21

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“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Don Blackwell, Merrie Christmus, Margaret Herring, Pat Joyner, Jan Kelleher, Gwen Pittman, Barbara and Melvin Reeder, Stephanie Rigney.

- **Amy Strickland** is to have surgery Monday. Pray they find something that can be treated to relieve her of the pain she's been in.
- **Janet Boyd** is to have a medical procedure. **Margaret Herring** is having more bad news about her health. **Pat Joyner** is still suffering extreme dizziness as well, without any good news but remains faithful in attendance. Pray for these. Sending a card would encourage them.
- **Lauren Beard** is doing well with job interviews, with one she particularly wants.
- **Prayers** are requested for **Joey Reeves, Lola Richbourg's** nephew.
- Also, continue to remember: **Jan Kelleher, Laura Nichols,** and **Steve Rigney.**
- **Keep ALL these in your prayers,** that the Lord be merciful and pray also that we **all** grow in **faith, hope, love, humility, zeal, mercy, knowledge.**

"We are bound to thank God always for you brethren, as it is meet, because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one of you all toward one another aboundeth;" - 2 Thessalonians 1:3

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **Melvin and Barbara Reed** are in need of a ride to our assembly. People are lined up for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays. Details are on the bulletin board in the foyer.
- **Pray earnestly that our search for a sound preacher bears fruit!**
- **What does God Require of us?** Check the bulletin board for member's responses to this question, and add your own.

“For we have great joy and consolation in thy love, because the bowels of the saints are refreshed by thee, brother.” - Philemon 1:7

Test all things; hold fast that which is good. - 1 Thess 5:21

“... PEOPLE, ZEALOUS OF GOOD WORKS.” - Titus 2:14

“For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also *is* Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, ... For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body *were* an eye, where *were* the hearing? If the whole *were* hearing, where *were* the smelling? But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. And if they were all one member, where *were* the body? But now *are they* many members, yet but one body. And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary: ” - 1 Cor 12:12-22

Godly Living — A Dire Need

Am I guilty of willful neglect? Am I too weak to do what I know is right? Do I blame others for my mistakes? Have I resolved in my heart that I will do my duty regardless of what others do or think? Have I made a good impression on my neighbor by my faithfulness to the Lord and His church?

Do you realize the influence of a godly life? The influence of gospel preaching is doubled by "practicing what we preach." Let us **"walk in the light as he is in the light"** and have fellowship with one another (**1 John 1:7**). **"I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils" (1 Cor. 10:20). "What fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness?" (2 Cor. 6:14).** Truth and error will not mix.

If Naomi had been weak like some of the people in our day, she would never have converted her daughters-in-law to the truth, or to the true God (**Ruth 1**). She would never have converted them by partaking of their evil religion. If a thing is not right, **"Touch not, taste not, handle not" (Col. 2:21).** The doctrines and commandments of men are condemned by the Lord (**Matt. 15:9**).

- E.M. Borden, Gospel preacher, late 1800's– early 1900', in Texas

There Is Only One Church

The Lord has only one church, and it is the redeemed in the aggregate. Paul said, **"There is one body" (Eph. 4:4).** Jesus said, **"I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matt. 16:18).** Jesus is the head of the church, and that church is His body (**Eph. 1:22-23**).

On the day of Pentecost the Lord added to the church **"daily such as should be saved" (Acts 2:47).** This one church was purchased by the blood of Christ (**Acts 20:28**). This means that every member of the church of Christ has been saved by the blood of Christ. People are saved as they are added to the church. When we become Christians, our names are written in the book of life in heaven, which means we are members of the church for which Jesus died.

- E.M. Borden, Gospel preacher, late 1800's– early 1900', in Texas

Is your heart like Paul's, whose heart was like Christ's?

“Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. ... For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. ... For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?” - Romans 10:1-14

People believe in God but it does them no good because they have not obeyed God, because they have not heard the whole counsel of God preached. They will hear it here! Invite people to come hear so they might be saved. Tell them **yourself**.