

Today's Order of Worship

Announcements: Greg Lowery

Song Leader: Billy Box

Opening Prayer: Josh Berryhill

On the Table: Head - Ralph Burleson
Servers - Lannie Key
Charles Berryhill
Gary Addison

Closing Prayer: Al Corkren

Preparing the Lord's Supper Lellie Dickinson

Weekly Service Times

Sunday

Bible Study	10:00 am
Morning Worship	10:45 am
Evening Worship	5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study	7:00 pm
-------------	---------

Visit Our Website

www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org

Elders: Deacon: Al Corkren
Leonard Key / David Key
Billy Box / Eddy Dickinson Minister: Greg Lowery

Contact Information:
Phone: (205) 465-9142

Brilliant Church of Christ
930 Main Street
P.O. Box 222
Brilliant, AL 35548

Going Into All The World Preaching The Gospel



*The
Brilliant
Beacon*



The Perfect Example of Evangelism

By Sam Willcut

Jesus not only preached to masses of people throughout His ministry here on earth, but He also knew the importance of teaching the individual. In seeing Him as the perfect example of evangelism, notice several lessons from Him in His contact with a Samaritan woman and other Samaritans from Sychar in John 4. First, Jesus showed compassion. In leaving Judea for Galilee, the text reads that “he must needs go through Samaria” (John 4:4).

Since many of the Jews traveling from Judea to Galilee circumvented Samaria on the eastern road through Jericho, Christ’s need to travel through Samaria was spiritual and not geographical. When Jesus confronted the Samaritan woman after sending His disciples for food, she was perplexed that He would have dealings with her because of her race and gender. Christ’s contact with a hated race was enough to impress her with His compassion. If I am to follow His example of evangelism (cf. 1 Cor. 11:1), then I must be compassionate to others.

Second, Jesus introduced the gospel with the gift and the giver (John 4:10, 14). We are living in a world of sin. People do not need a “watered-down” gospel. Rather, the world needs to hear about the gift and the giver (Rom. 6:23). The gospel we are commanded to teach should involve both, and any other gospel is accursed (Gal. 1:8). Thus, if I am to follow the example of Jesus in evangelism, then I must introduce the gospel with both the gift (salvation) and the giver (Jesus).

Third, Jesus was interested in all souls, and He looked for more opportunities to share the gospel. After she inquired about receiving everlasting life, Jesus asked her to call her husband. Certainly, He already had in mind the opportunity to prove His deity, but He was not only interested in her soul, but the souls of her family as well. Later, the Samaritan woman brought many from Sychar to see Jesus, who then believed in Him (John 4:39). We should open our eyes and look for opportunities to spread the gospel to as many as we can. We must be interested in all souls!

Fourth, Jesus taught her properly the truth. He corrected her concept of worship (John 4:19-24), not giving her any idea that she was worshipping properly. He did not commend her sincerity. To be more precise, he said, “Ye worship ye know not what”

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Faye Cotton: did not receive a good report, please be praying that some new treatment can be found that will help her

Denise Kimbrell: still taking treatments and has been diagnosed with Rheumatoid Arthritis; please be praying that with med’s all of this can be controlled

Rosa Melton: will have surgery to remove cancer from her womb, please be praying that the surgery will be successful and the cancer has not spread

Kay Dodd: is continuing to take treatments, please continue to pray that this cancer will stay in remission

Barbara Wilkinson: still having problem with infection on her feet, please pray that the medicine she is taking will cure this infection

Danny Harbin: recently diagnosed with prostate cancer, please keep him in your prayers

Mable Weeks: has several health problems and has been placed under hospice care, please continue to keep her in your prayers

Cory Davis Holmes: was born with neuroblastoma, he is undergoing treatments and is showing improvement, please pray for this young child and his family

Sandy McCaleb: has started cancer treatments, please be praying that this cancer can be treated and defeated

Charles Gay: last scan showed shrinkage with his brain tumor, attends the Cleveland congregation, please pray for him and his family

Adam Stidham; (co-worker of AI) has been diagnosed with leukemia, please pray that this will be treatable

Barbra Fields: is undergoing cancer treatments, please pray that with these treatments cancer will be in remission.

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Kristy Ingram: was diagnosed with cancer and is presently undergoing treatments, please pray that these treatments will work

Larry Metcalf: has been diagnosed with lung cancer; please pray that he can receive treatments that will defeat this cancer

Vertie Mae York: knee replacement surgery went well, please pray that she can make a quick and full recovery

Dewayne Wilkinson: having some heart problems, please pray that he can receive help with this

Michael Flippo: has a brain aneurysm, a tumor on his hip and knee, and also has bone cancer, please pray that the doctors can help him

Alice Foster: diagnosed with congestive heart failure and having problems with her lungs she is currently in the nursing home undergoing rehab, please keep her in your prayers

Greg Stidham {Adam Stidham’s father}: suffered severe injuries in a recent auto accident, please pray that he can recover from these injuries.

Mary Box: the new spots are cancerous and she is taking radiation treatments, please pray that these treatments will defeat this cancer

(John 4:22) and then taught her the proper method of worship according to both spirit and truth (John 4:24). Sometimes, teaching the gospel in an evangelistic manner requires some tearing down before building (cf. Jer. 1:10). We cannot overlook the need to deal with false doctrines; we must teach people properly the truth, for only it can save (cf. John 8:32).

Fifth, Jesus continually realized the importance of soul winning (John 4:35). Although the disciples questioned His involvement with this woman and tried to urge Him to eat, He was interested in the harvesting of souls. What more of a purpose statement do we need as Christians? Evangelism ought to be as much a part of our lives as breathing air! To follow the example of our Lord in evangelism, we ought never to let down in looking for opportunities, realizing its great importance.

Sixth, Jesus understood the concept of preparation in soul winning. Many of the Samaritans believed in Him from this account (John 4:39-42). A short time later, Philip would come to Samaria and baptize many of them (Acts 8:12). Possibly, some of the Samaritans that heard Philip remembered the day they heard Jesus. Many times, we get discouraged in soul winning because we cannot see the immediate fruits of our labor. However, just because we do not see immediate success does not mean that we have not been successful in preparing the soil for another to reap the harvest. For us to follow the example of Christ in evangelism, we ought to rejoice when others can build upon the work we have done in teaching the gospel. We ought to be patient when we do not see an immediate harvest. We ought to be selfless, occupied in our task and willing to rejoice when others reap the harvest.

Seventh, Jesus knew the correct way to teach was exclusively from the word of God (John 4:42). When we teach the world, not with creeds or doctrines, but from the holy word of God, then God will add many saved souls to His kingdom.

Therefore, let us all apply these wonderful principles of evangelism from the example of the greatest soul-winner, and thereby gain more success in our endeavors!

Obtained at: www.churchofchristarticles.com

Thank God, I Have Another Opportunity

By Dan Jenkins

The title of this article, “Thank God, I Have Another Opportunity,” comes from the heart of a new Christian I knew in New Zealand more than fifty years ago. Like almost every new Christian, she could not wait to tell her friends of the great treasure she had found in Christ. Like almost every joyful Christian, she told her friends over and over again. They seemingly were not interested in what she had to say.

Then, the church planned its gospel meeting, and she now had a new approach to use. Her words to me, “I am so thankful when we have a gospel meeting. It is the best week of the year because it gives me one more chance to invite others to learn about Jesus.” She never saw inviting others as an unpleasant “chore.” Instead, it was a time of joy to do all she could to teach others.

Somehow we have failed to understand the parable of the sower. This kingdom parable shows Christians as a sower who goes out into the world to spread the seed. That seed of the kingdom is the word of God (Luke 8:11). The responsibility of the sower is very simple. As he walks through the field, he simply spreads the seed. He does not go out to find only the good soil and then to spread the seed there. His task is to spread the seed everywhere.

The seed when it is sown almost always does NOT produce an abundant harvest. Meditate on this parable. Sowers do not always produce fruit! The seed seems to be “wasted” on three out of the four kinds of soils. Somehow, we have overlooked this and think that our task is to baptize everyone. We were sent to teach, not to baptize (1 Cor. 1:17). It may seem strange, but He will not ask us, “Did you ever lead someone to Christ?” Think about what question He will ask us!

The Lord does not need scouts, He needs sowers. We have misunderstood our work. He never sent us into the world to be His scouts just looking out for receptive people. How can we really know the hearts of others? We can only look at the outward appearance, and only the Lord can know the hearts of those around us. We must forever remove from our vocabulary the phrase, “I cannot find anyone to teach,” which means that we cannot find anyone who we think might respond favorably to our approach. It is far better to see all hearts as soils worthy of the gospel. We can never say, “I cannot find anyone in whose lives I can sow the seed.” They are all around us! Hearts like wayside soil, stony ground and thorny ground are all around us! {www.churchofchristarticles.com}

There’s An App For That!

By Timothy Merrill

These days, there’s a smartphone app for just about everything. But what about spiritual concerns? Where can you turn?

- * Depressed? Try the joy app. Read Isaiah 51:11.
- * Tired? Try the renewal app. Read Isaiah 40:30-31.
- * Unsettled? Try the peace app. Read Philippians 4:7.
- * Unloved? Try the love app. Read Romans 8:38-39.
- * Worried? Try the refuge app. Read Psalm 46:1.
- * Fearful? Try the power app. Read 2 Timothy 1:7.
- * Guilty? Try the forgiveness app. Read Colossians 1:13-14.
- * Praying? Try the prayer app. Read 1 John 5:14-15.

The Scriptures are God’s storehouse of meaningful applications for what we face every day. Think of the Bible as the iTunes Store of spiritual apps. Best of all, everything’s free!

Upcoming Events

Today	Missionary Report {Stacey Ferguson}	10:00 am
Today	Country Place {Devotional}	2:00 pm
October 8 th	Nursing Home	2:00 pm