



The Berryville Church of Christ

# Bible Beacon

"Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." (Psalm 119:105)



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## Some Common Misconceptions About Evangelism

Kevin Cauley

When you mention the phrase, "Personal Evangelism" some people just cringe. It is an awesome and daunting responsibility to take the gospel to other people in an up close and personal kind of way. Through the years, I have been involved in several efforts to get the word out about one event or another that the church was having. I have also done some door knocking and speaking to folks about the gospel and while I don't know everything about personal evangelism (and do not think that I am really that good at it), I have come to learn that I had several misconceptions about personal evangelism when I was younger.

**Misconception number one: Most people hate to talk about the Bible.** While there are some that try to avoid subjects such as this, many people will be happy to have a discussion with you about it. Most of the time the problem is that we ourselves are not comfortable talking about it and that makes the other person uncomfortable talking about it as well. If we demonstrate a comfort level of talking about the Bible, and smile and are generally pleasant, you will find that people will open up to you in the conversation.

**Misconception number two: I just don't know enough to talk to someone else about the Bible.** You would be surprised to find out how much we really do know in respect to most people in the world. Out of all the "churches" in the world, the church of Christ emphasizes regular Bible study. Most others simply do not emphasize this and as a result their membership is very weak in knowledge of the Bible. Again, a lot of times, it is our own personal comfort level that

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Kevin's Korner

Our youth rally came and now it is gone. We all had a great time, though and we were able to influence some souls for good. We are thankful first of all to God for granting us the privilege to serve the young in this manner. We are also thankful to Brent and Rusty who organized this effort and MADE IT HAPPEN! God works through His people to accomplish His will upon the earth. This was truly an event that was spiritually uplifting and edifying. I am already looking forward to and thinking about next years youth rally. We will continue to grow as we go forward!

Now that the youth rally is over, we will be looking forward to our next big event—Vacation Bible School! We have scheduled the second week in June for our VBS. We will start on Monday, June 10th and go through Thursday, June 13th. Our theme is "Great Kings of the Bible!" We still need a teacher for the nursery class so if anyone wants to volunteer, please let me know. The kit for this VBS is in and is sitting in my office. If you want to come by and look at it, feel free.

In conjunction with our VBS, the Sunday prior we will have a "Friends and Family" day. You may be asking yourself, "What is a 'Friends and Family' day?" Perhaps I can help answer that question.

Basically, it is a day set aside out of the year in which you invite all of your friends and family to come to services with you. It is an opportunity for us to do some personal evangelism and it gives a "special" reason for people who are not members of the church to come and see what we are all about. It is a day



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to focus upon what both our friends and family mean to us in relationship to our God. Also, since we are doing it the week of VBS, we can kind of kick off our VBS this way as well. We will be promoting our "Friends and Family" day in the community as the day grows closer. We need everyone to participate and support this event for it to be a big success in the community.

Well, once again I was privileged to be able to float down some of the local streams. Brother Quigley and I "fished and floated" down King's river this past Monday. He actually caught fish, whereas I simply floated with my hook in the water. The strangest thing would happen as we were fishing. The moment I would put one of his lures on my fishing pole, the lure would get stuck or break off and one time just came off and was lost into the water. However, I did not lose a single lure of my own. Just dumb luck, I guess. My poor fishing skills wouldn't have anything to do with it—naaaah.



Jesus once asked some folks to go fishing with Him. He said to the apostles, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men" (Matthew 4:19). The same invitation is open to us as well. Fortunately for me, my poor fishing skills in the water will not be judged in the final day. However, I will be judged based upon my spiritual fishing skills. We are to be fishers of men. We have several opportunities coming up in which we can heed the invitation of our Lord to fish for men. Our "Friends and Family" day, our VBS; we can always use our "Potluck" luncheons as a tool for evangelism. Our men's breakfasts are also a good opportunity for us to evangelize. God has granted us so many opportunities to get the message out. All we need to do is spread that message. Let's each make a resolution this very hour. In the month of May, I will invite at least one person or family to one of these events. This is not a daunting task and we have one whole month and a half to do it in—plenty of time. Let's get out there and start evangelizing!

### Times of Worship and Study

Sunday Morning Bible Class:..... 9:30 AM  
 Sunday Morning Worship: ..... 10:30 AM  
 Sunday Evening Worship:.....6:00 PM  
 Ladies Bible Class:..... 10:30 AM  
 Wed. Evening Bible Class:.....7:00 PM

is the barrier. We need to get in the position to teach others the basics and then get out there and teach. One more thing—there is nothing wrong with telling someone that you don't know the answer to their question but that you will find out and get back to them. The church at Corinth had many questions that they wanted answered so they wrote a letter to Paul to get them answered. Sometimes we need to get answers from someone who knows a little more about God's will. This is OK and people will understand if we need to do this.

**Misconception number three: I just don't know how to do personal work.** Oh, but you really do. Personal work does not necessarily have to be a personal Bible study every time you go out to do it. It can merely be visiting the nursing homes, hospitals, passing out flyers, writing letters to the editor, working with mail outs, or visiting the sick. Simply getting out into the community, getting involved, and making contacts is often the best personal work that one can do. There are PLENTY of things to be done and that need to be done that anyone can do. We can find something for EVERYONE to do in regard to personal work.

**Misconception number four: Nobody is going to respond anyway.** The problem with this is that it is a defeatist attitude. Of course nobody is going to respond if we don't go out and work. You never know who is going to respond to the gospel until you go out and do some work. And I don't mean just a little work either. Many people think that one Saturday of door knocking per year is enough, and then they deem the effort "unsuccessful" because of the little results that it generated. If we were out in the community knocking doors once a month, people would take notice of that and wonder what's going on. Consistent steady efforts are the key to any successful endeavor. How many successful salesmen do you know who gave up after their first pass through the community? Any good salesman will tell you that it takes time, effort, and consistency to gain a new client. Why should we think that it would be any different in our spiritual work as well?

We can do personal work in our community. The biggest barrier to this is ourselves. We need to determine to get out and start evangelizing for Christ. The stakes are too high and the souls of men hang in the balance to do anything less. Let's resolve to redouble our efforts and make a greater determination to evangelize our community than we have in the past. The fields are white unto harvest!



## News, Notes and Prayer List



- Please remember the following in your prayers: Geneva Atchley, Francis Defenbaugh, Theresa Fields, Regina Horton, Geneva Smith, Angel (Marie's granddaughter), Ethan and Etion Weems.
- Lucille Wright is in room 504 of the Berryville nursing home. Jessica Lovelady is in room 307.
- Edith Mischler is in the nursing home in Eureka Springs.
- Mary Patterson and Elsie Meadows are confined to home at this time.
- Tonight we will have our youth devotional at Rusty and Tiffany's house. No one needs to bring anything (except chocolate for Rusty) because we have plenty left over from the youth rally.
- Family and Friends day is June 9th. See Kevin's Korner for more details.
- Remember our upcoming VBS June 10th-13th. Let's everyone start planning for this great event.
- Next Sunday (second Sunday) is question and answers. Please submit your questions today!
- We will also have a VBS teacher's meeting next Sunday, so please make plans to attend that after our Q & A session.
- Saturday will be our monthly men's breakfast. Rusty and others show up early and bring lots of grub for this meal. It is ALWAYS VERY GOOD. Please make your plans to attend.
- We have had several requests for pantry items in the past month and the truck for the children's home is coming June 4th. Please make your plans to donate to the pantry this month so that we can help fill up the truck.
- The Pantry Item for this week is Coffee.



## Serving One Another

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
<b>Sunday Morning:</b>	May 5th, 2002	May 12th, 2002
<b>Song Leader:</b>	Clyde Atchley	Larry Elliott
<b>Preacher:</b>	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Leon Duncan	Rusty Windle
<b>Scripture:</b>	Brent Moore	Perry Foster
<b>Lord's Table:</b>	Bruce Foster	Bob Moore
	George Eddings	Brent Stevens
<b>(assist)</b>	Ray Duncan	Bill Fort
	Perry Foster	Brandon Foster
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Bill Fort	Clyde Atchley
<b>Sunday Night:</b>		
<b>Songs:</b>	Glenn Williams	Rusty Windle
<b>Preacher:</b>	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Dale Pinkley	Clay Bozarth
<b>Scripture:</b>	Brandon Foster	Glenn Williams
<b>Lord's Table:</b>	Rusty Windle	Dale Pinkley
	Bob Moore	George Eddings
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Ken Smith	Ray Duncan
<b>Wednesday</b>		
<b>Songs:</b>	Kevin Cauley	Clay Bozarth
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Clay Bozarth	Glenn Quigley
<b>Invitation:</b>	Larry Elliott	Clyde Atchley
<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	Hugh Atchley	Larry Elliott
<b>Monthly Assignments</b>		
<b>Announcements</b>	Glenn Williams	
<b>Worship Coordinator</b>	Bob Moore	
<b>Communion Prep</b>	Lucille Fort	Donna Henderson
<b>Communion Carry</b>	Leon Duncan	Clay Bozarth

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