

***Why Are We Not
Converting The World?***

Matthew 9:35-38

**God's People Have Responsibility
Teach The Gospel To The Lost**

- Great Commission

Mark 16:15-16

15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to the whole creation.

16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that disbelieveth shall be damned.

**God's People Have Responsibility
Teach The Gospel To The Lost**

Church is Pillar & Ground of Truth

1 Timothy 3:15

15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how men ought to behave themselves in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

**God's People Have Responsibility
Teach The Gospel To The Lost**

Early Disciples Spread the Word

Acts 8:4

4 They therefore that were scattered abroad went about preaching the word.

Acts 11:19-20

19 They therefore that were scattered abroad upon the tribulation that arose about Stephen travelled as far as Phoenicia, and Cyprus, and Antioch, speaking the word to none save only the Jews.

20 But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they were come to Antioch, spake unto the Greeks also, preaching the Lord Jesus.

**God's People Have Responsibility
Teach The Gospel To The Lost**

- Great Commission
- Church is Pillar & Ground of Truth
- Early Disciples Spread the Word

*We Ought To Be Working To
Convert The World!*

Ways We Can Reach The World

- Gospel Meeting
- Computer Classes
- Home Bible Studies
- Tracts & Tapes, CD's
- Special Series
- Bring Others to Regular Services

Why Are We Not Converting The World?

Preaching The Gospel

World Is Not Interested In The Gospel

Why such little interest?

- *Cares of the world* (Luke 8:14; Philippians 2:21)
- *Gospel demands changes – love darkness* (John 3:19)
- *False sense of security* (Jeremiah 6:14; 8:11)
- *Not popular* (Matthew 7:13-14; John 1:11-12; 6:66)

World Is Not Interested In The Gospel

Our job – not to convert, but teach

- *Command is to teach* (Mark 16:15)
- *Even if don't listen – done our job* (Ezekiel 3:16-21)
- *Jesus taught – many turned away* (John 1:11-12)
- *Crowds rejected the apostles* (Acts 13:45; 17:32)

World Is Not Interested In The Gospel

The “unlikely” just may listen & obey

- *Religious/Gentile* – Cornelius (Acts 10)
- *Non-Religious* – Simon (Acts 8:9-13)
- *Worldly* – Corinthians (Acts 18:8; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11)
- *Ignorant* – Jews (Acts 2:23; 3:17)
- *Persecutor* – Saul (Acts 8:3; 9:1-2; 1 Timothy 1:15; Acts 22:12-16)
- *Politician* – Jailer (Acts 16:25-33)

Don't View The World As Lost

World is lost in sin

- *All men are sinners* (Romans 3:9, 23)
- *Sin separates from God* (Isaiah 59:1-2)
- *If die in sin – hell fire* (Romans 6:23; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10)
- *Reason Jesus came to earth* (Luke 19:10)

Anyone who has not obeyed the gospel is lost!

Don't View The World As Lost

World is lost in sin

How we view people of the world

- Good people
- Believe different than we do (Galatians 1:6-9)
- Focus on friendship, likeable, good moral qualities
- Little or no attention to the fact – they are LOST!

May be because our focus is on the here and now!

Don't View The World As Lost

Motivated to greater evangelism

- If viewed the people from - spiritual condition (Ephesians 2:1-2)
- If view them without hope (Ephesians 2:12)
- If view them on road to eternal separation from God (Revelation 21:8)

Message Preached Is Not Redemption

Gospel Message – Redemption / Salvation

- Power unto salvation (Romans 1:16-17)
- How we are saved (1 Corinthians 15:1-4)
- Peter's sermon – salvation from sin (Acts 2)
- Paul's sermon on Mars Hill – salvation (Acts 17:22-31)

Message Preached Is Not Redemption

Gospel Message – Redemption / Salvation

- Peter's sermon to Gentiles (Acts 10:34-48)
- Paul's Sermon in Antioch on 1st Journey (Acts 13:16-41)
- Books like Romans, Galatians, Ephesians, Colossians, etc. have themes about salvation.

Message Preached Is Not Redemption

Gospel Demands Change of Life

- Repentance (Acts 2:38; 17:30-31)
- Stop & cease sin (Romans 6)
- Give up old religion (1 Thessalonians 1:9)
- Start doing things to serve God (Acts 26:17-20)

Message Preached Is Not Redemption

Message Has Shifted - Social

- More on relationships
- How to be a better person
- "Feel Good," "motivational" preaching
- Topics: Depression, Coping, Aging, Relationships, etc.

The Social Gospel:

Church Kitchen
 Fellowship Hall
 Ball Teams
 Recreation Programs
 Day Care Centers/ Preschools
 Gimmicks To Draw Crowds
 Etc...

Building Relationships
 July 11-13, 2003
Third Annual Youth Gospel Meeting
at the Church of Christ in Santa Clara
For Jr. High through College Ages
 Guest Speakers: Andy Cantrell from North Hills, CA
 Zach Echols from Bakersfield, CA

July 12, 2003
 Saturday- 10:00am-11:15am: *Bible classes & singing
 4:30pm-5:30pm: *Bible classes
 *Bible classes provided for adults as well as teens and young adults
 Adult Topic: Building relationships with your children

July 13, 2003
 Sunday- 9:00am: Bible Classes for all ages
 10:00am Worship Service
 Lesson: Building relationships with friends
 Speaker: Andy Cantrell
 6:00pm: Worship Service
 Lesson: Building a relationship with God
 Speaker: Zach Echols

In addition to the worship and bible classes, **other edifying activities** are prepared and provided by **individual members**. We hope you will plan to attend.
 (see attached list of activities and registration forms)

Building Relationships
Fellowship Activities

July 11, 2003 Friday, 6:30-9:30pm:
 Meet at Bob and Bonnie Loader's Rec. Room
 4230 Erie Ct. Santa Clara, CA. 95054 (Maps attached)
 for Final Registration, Games, Singing, Housing Information
 and Drop-off.
 **Pre-registration is preferred- please be sure to mail in your forms early.

July 12, 2003 Saturday (maps will be provided)
 11:30am: **Central Park in Santa Clara (Arbor area)** on Kiely Blvd. for **BB-Q, games, sports, etc.**
 6:00pm: **Pizza & Pipes**
 Sat Evening: **Select on pre-registration form your preference of three activities (Laser tag, Bowling, or games/videos)**

July 13, 2003 Sunday
 11:30am: Homestead Park for Potluck lunch and more activities
 7:00pm: Parent **pick-up after evening services**

While these recreational activities are optional, they have been planned by individual members for further fellowship. It is their hope that all teens and young adults will plan to attend.

For Additional Information Call Steve Wilson: (408) 257-1634

Building Relationships
Pre-Registration form

Name: _____ Age: _____ Town of congregation? _____
 Street Address: _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone Number _____ Cell Phone _____

Select preferred Saturday Evening activity:
 Bowling (bring approx. \$10.00) Laser Tag (bring approx. \$10.00) Videos, games

List two emergency Contacts: _____
 Phone# _____
 Phone# _____

Special Needs or Dietary Restrictions: _____
 For Whom: _____
 Health Care Provider: _____ Policy/Plan/Group #s: _____

** **Exemptions** **
 I give permission for my dependent(s) to be transported and cared for, by responsible members of the church, or to receive medical treatment, if needed, while in the Santa Clara area between 7/11/02 & 7/13/02.
A fax copy of my signature is valid, and equivalent, to that of an original.

parent/guardian signature _____

Please advise if you will need housing or inform us who you will be staying with. Final housing accommodations will be confirmed Friday evening the 11th at the Loader's.
 Will you need housing? Yes No
 Other Young Adults you prefer to stay with? _____

After completing this form, please mail to the following address:
 Jennifer Wilson
 1513 Camino Drive
 San Jose, Ca. 95129

***** If able, please enclose \$10 to help cover meal costs on Saturday.**
Make checks payable to Jennifer Wilson
 Or fax registration forms to (408) 269-0903

The Social Gospel

NOTE: Social activities, recreation, and benevolence were never offered in NT days as the means by which to get people to become Christians. THE GOSPEL IS GOD'S DRAWING POWER BY WHICH TO CALL MEN.
 (2 Thessalonians 2:14; Romans 1:16)

Are these things worthy of the blood of Jesus Christ?
cf. Ephesians 5:25; Acts 20:28

The "social gospel" is "another gospel."
cf. Galatians 1:8-9

The gospel of Christ is to save the soul for eternity ... The social gospel calls for the improvement of social conditions for the here and now.
 The gospel of Christ treats the disease while the social gospel treats only the symptoms.
 The gospel of Christ seeks to convert people to Christ; the later simply to a better & more pleasant way of life.

The "social gospel" is "another gospel." cf. Galatians 1:8-9

The gospel of Christ seeks to make society better by making Christians while the social gospel seeks to make Christians through social adjustments.

For example, educators are urged to combat social diseases, unwed motherhood, and other related problems by teaching and making arrangements for "safe sex," whereas the gospel of Christ simply says "Flee fornication."

The "social gospel" is "another gospel". cf. Galatians 1:8-9

The standard of authority for each is also different.

- For the gospel of Christ, it is the Scripture, the wisdom of God;
- For the social gospel it is human wisdom (cf. James 3:13-17; 1 Corinthians 1:20-25)

Content To "Keep House"

What is meant by "keeping house"?

- Assemble, worship – do little more
- Maintain "status quo"
- Thinking: We have a church – place to worship – so we meet Sunday & Wednesday do nothing more.

Content To "Keep House"

Why are we content?

- Think our mission to merely show up at worship
- View church as a religious club

Content To "Keep House"

A Church that didn't keep house

Church at Antioch
in Syria

Acts 13-14 First evangelistic tour of Paul
Acts 15-18 Second evangelistic tour of Paul
Acts 18-21 Third evangelistic tour of Paul

Fear Of Offending & Alienating Others

Fear of offending

- Gospel will offend (Matthew 10:34ff; Acts 13:45-48)
- Gospel is distinctive & narrow (1 John 4:1, 6)
- Gospel convicts world of sin (John 16:8; Acts 2:37)

Fear Of Offending & Alienating Others

Fear of offending

- *Fear of making folks mad – upsetting them*
 - Uncomfortable when bringing a friend and sermon deals with ...
 - Afraid to “turn them off” or they will dislike us

Fear Of Offending & Alienating Others

Fear of Alienating a friend

- *Gospel sometimes will alienate people (Matthew 10:34ff)*
- *If try to convert friend or family – could cause a strain*
- *So, deem it not worth the risk (cf. Luke 16:28)*

Why We Are Not Converting The World

World Is Not Interested In The Gospel

Don't View The World As Lost

Message Preached Is Not Redemption

Content To “Keep House”

Fear Of Offending & Alienating Others

What Can We Do?

Become more evangelistic

Try to reach family, friends with gospel

Use Bible materials

Set up Home Bible Studies

Bring someone to a Gospel Meeting

Bring someone to a special class or service

Talk to others about Bible questions