

Midtown Messenger

Volume 3

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Issue 10

HOW TO HAVE A SUCCESSFUL GOSPEL MEETING

By: Kelvin Pugh

*L*ocal congregations, when planning gospel meetings, want them to be very successful. Since this is the case, how does a local congregation plan to have a successful meeting?

First, the preacher who will conduct the meeting must be a proclaimer of the gospel. Paul penned, *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, the just shall live by faith”* (Rom. 1:16,17). Since the power is in the gospel, the man coming to preach should preach the powerful gospel. If people are going to be saved, it will be through the gospel message. The speaker must be a gospel preacher!

Second, the meeting will be successful if the local body has made proper preparation. Since the gospel is going to be proclaimed, it is important to have people in attendance who need to hear the soul saving message. Members at the local body need to invite their friends and neighbors so God’s word can be heard and obeyed. People may not immediately obey the gospel, but the seed of the kingdom will be planted in their hearts, and maybe someone else will water, allowing our God to provide the increase.

Third, the meeting will be a success when members of the local church participate in the services. Have you made plans to be at every service to support the meeting? Are

your family members making preparation to attend each service? These are decisions that need to be made long before the meeting even begins. It is important for non-Christians to hear the gospel, it is also important for Christians to assemble to hear the word of God as well. Paul told the Corinthian brethren, *“Moreover, brethren, I declare unto the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; by which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, lest ye have believed in vain”* (1 Cor. 15:1,2). Christians must stand in the gospel and keep it in memory. A gospel meeting is an avenue Christians can use to do that.

Finally, the success of the gospel meeting depends upon the participation of the local church. When the congregation is singing and praying, will each of us sing and pray with the spirit and with the understanding (1 Cor. 14:15)? As we hear the word of God, will we be like the Bereans who received the word with all readiness of mind and searched the Scriptures daily (Acts 17:11)? Will you take notes and attentively listen to the preaching of the gospel?

When everyone does their part with love and fervor, the gospel meeting will always be successful. May the Lord help us to have a great meeting and to glorify and honor Him in all we do.

The Parable of the Mustard Seed

By: Cody Westbrook

If you were to write a book about the greatest kingdom in the world, you would probably say something about a very large kingdom with unmatched military power, an indestructible economy, and a capable king. To human eyes, these things are perfectly sensible but from a divine standpoint, they mean nothing. Jesus promised to build His kingdom (Matt. 16:18) and it is far superior to every human kingdom (Dan. 2:44), but its origin and characteristics are not worldly (John 18:36). The parable of the mustard seed (Matt. 13:31-32) reveals some of these divine attributes, particularly as it relates to the growth of the kingdom.

The mustard seed was the smallest seed used by the Jews in that time. However, its insignificance in size is overshadowed by the size of its fruit. Consider the church from this vantage point. From a purely human standpoint, its origin is insignificant. Its founder was born into the world in lowly circumstances. He grew up in an insignificant town (Matt. 2:23; John 1:46; 7:52). He had no formal training (John 7:15), no vast deposits of wealth (2 Cor. 8:9) and was rejected and murdered by His own people in the most insulting and gruesome way possible (John 1:11). Yet, the Kingdom of Christ was established and witnessed unprecedented growth in the first century (Col. 1:6).

It is encouraging to note that the kingdom can still grow today as it did then. "The seed of the kingdom is the word of God" (Luke 8:11). We serve the same God and have been given the same task. If we have the same conviction and spread the same seed, we can see the same results (Rom. 1:16; 10:18; Acts 8:4). The parable of the mustard seed reminds us that though man may see the kingdom of God

as small and insignificant, it is, in reality, greater than any kingdom man could ever imagine.

Unity in the Body of Christ March 8-11 with Kelvin Pugh @ MidTown

Sunday

- 9 a.m. Friends & Foes of Unity
- 10 a.m. Jesus Prayer for Unity—John 17
(*Fellowship meal after*)
- 1 p.m. Unity When We are Different

Monday

- 7 p.m. Leaders Promoting Unity—
Ephesians 4:11-12

Tuesday

- 7 p.m. Members Promoting Unity—
Ephesians 4:13-16

Wednesday

- 7 p.m. Biblical Formula for Unity—
Ephesians 4:1-6



PRIVILEGED TO SERVE
Week of March 8, 2020

Sunday Morning:

Announcements: Jeff Harris
Scripture Reading: Fred Scherffius

Lord's Supper & Offering

Bread: Patrick Gooch
Fruit of the Vine: Bryant Siegel
Offering: Kevin Sheeran
Assist: Desmon Flonnory, Curtis Scherffius, James Cammock

Sunday Evening: Patrick Gooch, Bryant Siegel

Prayer

A.M. Opening: Bryce Dolan
A.M. Closing: Mike Atkinson
P.M. Opening: Lupe Escojido
P.M. Closing: Anthony Scherffius

Song Leaders:

Sun. A.M.: Larry Nuckels
Sun. P.M.: Jerry FitzSimmons
Wednesday: Anthony Scherffius

Ushers:

Allen Clifton
Doug Jobes

Wednesday Devotional: Gospel Meeting

Open/Close Building:

Sound System: Scott DeDear

Greeters: Dale Hill
Ushers

Prepare Communion: Randles

TODAY! There will be a potluck luncheon after the morning worship. Please stay and fellowship with us. There will be a 1pm afternoon worship service in lieu of our 5pm service today as well.

There are mailboxes for each family in the hallway to be used for correspondence, reminders, flyers, etc. Also, please take a pen in the foyer to give out.

IN NEED OF PRAYERS:

Terry Jamison, who is in ICU in Round Rock. Kristin O'Connor who will have surgery in two weeks.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 8-11: MidTown's Spring Gospel meeting with Kelvin Pugh.
March 14: GEMS meeting @ 9am
March 15: Jr./Sr. high devotional at the Whites home after evening services.
March 21: Monthly Door Knocking

AREA EVENTS

Mar. 26-28: "Women of Valor" Retreat. More info on the bulletin board.
Mar. 27-29: Beeville Gospel Sermon Series
Mar. 28: Youth Day Bible Study Workshop in Beeville.
June 3-7: "Wait on the Lord" Men's Development conference in College Station.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:

Happy Birthday: Isaac Jobes (10th)

Happy Anniversary: Leon & Janet Morales (11th)

KEEP IN PRAYER

MIDTOWN MEMBERS:

Jeff Cannady
Les Daltry
Janice FitzSimmons
Dee Gilpatrick
Wayne Martin
Ann Pantel
Veronica Serenil
Clark Withers

SHUT-INS:

Faye Henderson
Charlie Mabe
Sandy Malone

If you would like to add or remove a name on the "Keep in Prayer" List, please see Nina Siegel.

MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST

Minister: Ronnie Scherffius
Secretary: Nina Siegel

TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Class: 9:00AM
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:00AM
Sunday Evening Worship: 5:00PM
Wednesday Bible Class: 7:00PM

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

Week of March 1, 2020

Bible Class.....87
A.M. Worship.....111
P.M. Worship.....69
Wednesday Bible Class.....92

Offering \$4,568

Reading for this week:

"...when all Israel comes to appear before the LORD your God at the place that he will choose, you shall read this law before all Israel in their hearing. Assemble the people, men, women, and little ones, and the sojourner within your towns, that they may hear and learn to fear the LORD your God, and be careful to do all the words of this law..."

Deuteronomy 31:11-12

SUPPORTED WORKS

India - Mani Pagidipalli

Bible Land Passages - John & Carla Moore

Southwest School of Bible Studies - William Pedigo

GO PAPERLESS!

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