



Lighthouse of Iowa

Keeping in touch with Iowa's Churches of Christ

February 2019

“The Need for Personal Workers”

by Tom Woody

“Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest” ~ John 4:35

Jesus had just finished asking a Samaritan woman for a drink of water when He made this statement to the Apostles who wondered, like most people would have, why a Jew would ever want to speak to that kind of woman.

There just seemed to be too many differences between Jews and Samaritans; too much history; too great a gulf to cross for there to be any reason to “waste” any time with such a person. Like many of us today, the disciples judged the woman at the well by the carnal outward appearance, not as a soul in need of salvation. When we see, like Jesus, the eternal souls on the inside of people, we will see that the fields are already white to harvest!

*“For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.”
~ Luke 10:10*

This great statement was made as Jesus brought salvation to a tax collector who was most likely considered a hopeless cause by the conventional religious wisdom of that day. Complainers were also on the scene to provide resistance to our Savior’s divine rescue mission. Thanks be to God that Jesus never quit saving souls, taking His love all the way to Calvary and beyond the grave, enduring the shame and suffering infliction by those He came to save.

Jesus plainly shows us by His own beautiful life the need for us to bring salvation to the lost.

Saving souls is the essence of the spirit of Christ! While Satan and his agents work diligently and cleverly for the destruction of our souls, Jesus and

faithful followers are doing their best to keep the lost from going to hell.

When Jesus was refused hospitality at a village of Samaria, His disciples suggested vengeance by calling fire down from heaven to destroy all of those ungrateful sinners.

“But He turned and rebuked them, and said, ‘You do not know what manner of spirit you are of. For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men’s lives, but to save them’.” ~ Luke 9:55-56

Sinners deserve to die. We all deserve hell. But remember, the good news is that through Christ we do not have to go there, and neither do our neighbors!

Jesus wants His church here on earth to be devoted to the ongoing task of man’s salvation. After He was raised from the dead and ascended back to heaven, His apostles continued the Lord’s work of salvation by establishing the church in Jerusalem. Along with this newfound faith, there was great enthusiasm among the early disciples as many souls were saved!

When persecution became severe after Stephen was stoned, the scattered group of believers *“went everywhere preaching the word”* ~ Acts 8:4.

These happy pilgrims of persecution were faithful disciples who had learned well the lesson of our Savior and inherited His love for the lost.

So what do we think about the lost today? Will we show the same concern for souls as we see in Christ and in the early church? Or will we be oblivious to the lesson our Savior has taught us? How can we claim to be on of His followers if we don’t follow Him?

The congregation you are a member

of today is in existence only because some member of the church was willing to bring the gospel to the lost. Whether it was an evangelist appointed specifically to preach the gospel, or a simple Christian who wasn’t afraid to talk religion with his neighbor, the establishment of a new church required a worker imbued with the Spirit of Christ who cared about lost souls.

This writer was born into a family where the father was not a member of the church, but the mother belonged to a congregation where the salvation of souls mattered. Thanks to the extra effort of a faithful elder and his son who came to the house for a Bible studies, my father was able to become not only a member of the church, but a better husband and father who led his own children to faith in Christ. It is this same kind of work that continues to add souls to the fold of safety today.

There are different reasons why some churches grow and other churches fade away. Some factors we have no control over—but all members have a say in the area of evangelism. The purpose of this book is to stir us all to remember that we have been saved from our sins through the gospel, and that it is now our privilege to “Go and do likewise” for our family, friends, and neighbors who do not know the Lord.

May we all be inspired by the various chapters in this book to open our eyes to the many opportunities around us to let our little light shine brightly for the glory of God through the salvation of souls!



Woody, Thomas W, “The need for personal workers” Preface to, “This is my story: Sharing the Gospel” 2008, edited by Barry C. Poyner

Chariton

Meeting times: Sundays: 10:00 a.m. (no evening services)
Location: 15th & Roland, Chariton, Iowa
For information call: Albert Schreck (641) 535-2381 or Brian Schreck (641) 535-2931

- Our services were cancelled on two Lord’s days in January—Sun 13th and Sun 20th due to the unusually cold weather.



February Birthdays

- None

February Anniversaries

- None

Dean Avenue

Meeting times: Sundays: 9:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m.
Last Sunday of the month: A social after morning services meeting back at 1 pm instead of 6 pm.
Location: 2907 Dean Ave., Des Moines, Iowa / P.O. Box 57398, Pleasant Hill, IA 50327
For information call: John McNeece (515) 263-9428

- Debbie Wilkins, Shirley McNeece, Glenn Meacham and Earl Allen have been sick.
- Risa and Skip Schamel have spent time in Florida.
- Roberta Milinsky is on a sightseeing trip to Guatemala.
- Visitors: Tom Warren; Preston and Paxon Boozell; Bill, Bryan, Max and Tally Charlier.



February Birthdays

- ★ 05 Earl Allen
- ★ 08 Johnie McNeece
- ★ 16 Bill McNeece
- ★ 25 Frances Hawthorne

February Anniversaries

- None

Fairview

Meeting times: Sundays: 10:00 a.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m.
Location: 1001 S. 22nd St, Clarinda, Iowa 51632
For information call: Richard Negley (712)542-3728 or Marvin Negley (712)542-2792

- **We express our sympathy to the Elsie Negley family in the loss of their mother.** Memorial services were held January 19th at the Ritchie Funeral Home and were conducted by John Lee. They were fortunate to have a good majority of her family home for the services even with the inclement weather.

- Neil McCoy continues to improve after having back surgery in December.
- We have several recovering from the flu.



February Birthdays None in Feb

February Anniversaries None in Feb

Martensdale

Meeting Times: Sundays: 10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m.
1st & 3rd Sundays of the month: Basket dinner after morning service meeting back at 1 pm instead of 6 pm.
Location: 10985 44th Lane, Prole, Iowa (1.5 miles east of Martensdale, IA on Hwy. 92)
For information call: Duane Proudfit (515) 961-4470 or Mike Penick (515) 681-0279

- Mary Proudfit has been having some intestinal problems. She is having tests done to try to figure out the problem.
- Wendy Hounsom traveled to the cancer center in Chicago for surgery. She is home recovering.
- Ayden Twaddel placed his membership with us. The congregation happily received him.
- With the doctors' ok, Fred Bown is now able to put full weight on his leg again and is quickly getting back to speed!
- Tanner & Tiffany visited Missouri in January.

- Visitors this month were Amelia Rogers; Jordan Bown; and Drew & Anna Smith.



February Birthdays

- 18 - Tiffany George

February Anniversaries

- 9 - Allen & Teresa Bown (1985)
- 20 - Bill & Wendy Hounsom (1996)

EVENT

- Meeting with Wade Stanley the weekend of February, Sat 23rd and Sun 24th .

Pleasant Hill

Meeting Times: Sundays: 9:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m.
Every Sunday: Potluck with afternoon service (Every Sunday – Dec 2 thru Feb 24)
Location: 5091 E. University, Pleasant Hill, Iowa
Website: pleasanthillchurchofchrist.org
For information call: Lowell Hermon (515) 989-0727, Mike Warner (515) 967-4529

- **Congratulations to Nick Hermon and Kayley Zimmerman.** Nick asked Kayley to be his wife in Colorado while visiting with her family.
- **It was good to see Dave Ingle back at church** after having both knees replaced 9 days apart. He is making progress and recovering.
- Carson and Sophia George were both very sick with the flu.
- Randy Ingle has been sick. Nico Felice has also had the flu.
- Marje Turnquist was out east to a niece's wedding.
- Ginger Hermon had a second surgery and is doing much better.

- Jason and Theresa Brady vacationed in Arizona.
- Sam Needham and family were visiting with Alex Needham family.
- Larry Brady had a prostate freeze on the 23rd and is doing well.
- Wanda Burkman has had an infection.
- Ellie Wood was sick.
- Steve Brady had a meniscus procedure done.
- Marje Turnquist is visiting daughter Amy and family in Florida for a few weeks.
- Mike and Shirley Warner are vacationing in Florida.

THANK YOU to the many who brought food, sent flowers and prayer's during the time Bob was in hospital and since the time of his passing. Everything was very much appreciated. ~ The Flack Family



February Birthdays

- ★ 5 Max Flickenger
- ★ 12 Jake Brand
- ★ 23 Marje Turnquist
- ★ 6 Marc Hermon
- ★ 14 Audra Needham
- ★ 24 Sharon Mineart

February Anniversaries

- None in Feb

Vandalia

Meeting Times: Sundays: 9:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 7:30 p.m.
Location: 2.5 miles east of Runnells, Iowa on F70, then 1 mile north on 131st St.
Website: vandaliacoc.com
For information call: Greg Ingle (515) 994-2824 or Charles Ingle (515) 966-2537

- We enjoyed our annual New Years' Eve party, with several guests joining this event.
- Bobbi Duckstein is having therapy due to a torn bicep tendon.
- We had a weekend series of interesting and educational lessons on the book of Revelation, with Rick Sparks leading.



February Birthdays

- ★ 8 Melda Ingle
- ★ 14 Rachael Henle
- ★ 20 James Dowdy
- ★ 26 Amy Ingle
- ★ 27 Shelby Green
- ★ 9 Bruce Fiorentin
- ★ 16 Derek Ingle
- ★ 21 Laura Dowdy
- ★ 27 Bobbi Duckstein
- ★ 28 Briana Heartsill

February Anniversaries

- ★ 17 Brett & Lori Cole

Today is the day!



God's ways are always good!

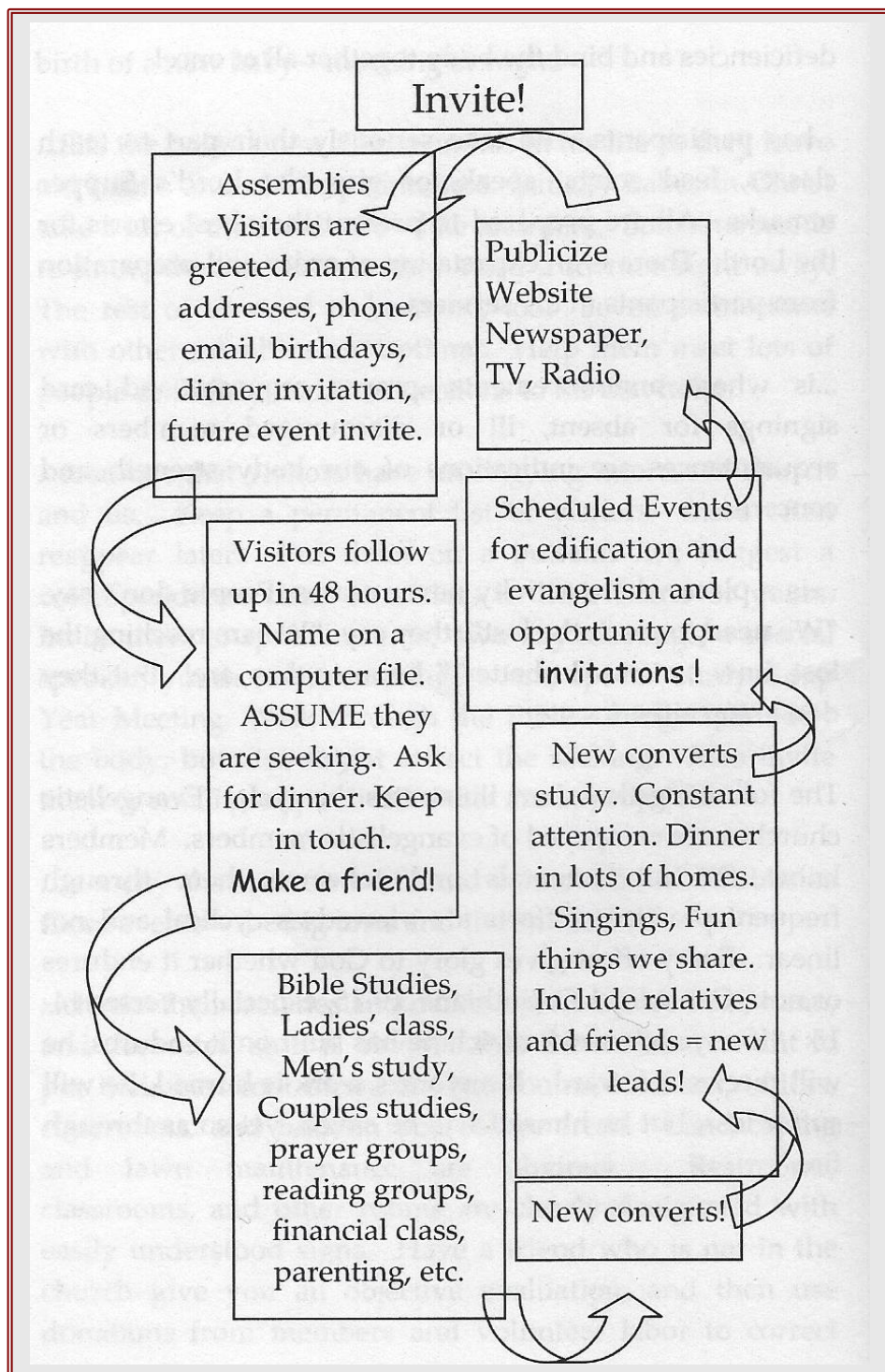


The Cycle of Life

“Evangelistic churches are composed of evangelistic members. An evangelistic church is a church constantly aware of its need to share the gospel and save souls. It makes the authority of the scriptures its priority. Members help ‘fill the holes’ a new Christian experiences in their life as they forsake old habits and old acquaintances. The efforts of an evangelistic church are viewed as cyclical, not linear. Every effort gives glory to God whether it endures or not.”

Source:

Green, Dan and Gaylene, “This is my story: Sharing the Gospel”
 “An Evangelistic Church”, Chapter 5
 2008, edited by Barry C. Poyner, Kirksville, Missouri



Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.



~ 1 Corinthians 3