

Evangelistically Speaking

Mission Evangelism

A Ministry Directed by the Elders of the Levy Church of Christ

EVANGELISTICALLY
SPEAKING

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From Ted's Pen

"Make a joyful shout to the Lord, all you lands! Serve the Lord with gladness; Come before His presence with singing. Know that the Lord, He is God; It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; We are His people and the sheep of His pasture." The words of another song that we sing declare, "What a mighty God we serve." It is true indeed that we serve a mighty God and that His power is available to us through His word and our prayers. We must use that power to spread the gospel to the entire world.

On March 6 we began the 19th year of our Central Arkansas Area Wide Fellowship. I do not believe that you will find an area anywhere that has developed a closer relationship among the congregations than here in Central Arkansas. Congregations support meetings, Vacation Bible schools, youth meetings, ladies days, and special lecture series better than any area where I have worked. This monthly fellowship has provided motivation for this relationship and it has really meant a lot to the Lord's church in this area for 18 years.

On March 11 I was privileged to be with the congregation at Formosa, Arkansas to report on our work for the past year and preach at the morning worship service. I found this congregation to be growing in numbers and a sweet spirit among the Christians growing as well. Brother Jimmy Duncan has been working with them for the past few years and is doing a good work.

It was a great pleasure to work with the Caney church of Christ near Yellville, Arkansas in a meeting March 18-23. Brother Jeff Crawford has been preaching at Caney for about 12 years. We had wonderful crowds with brethren from several area congregations supporting the meeting by their attendance all week. The church there has a wonderful history. I was told about meetings conducted by Brother Rue Porter and others in years gone by.

There was a time during which they had a piano and when certain preachers came they would insist that the piano be covered with a sheet and others would allow it to be used. Finally, they dispensed with it altogether.

Brother Rue Porter and Brother Burton Barber had a debate there regarding the instrumental music question and one night when Brother Porter was unable to speak, he invited Brother Joe Blue to come and take his place. While there we were treated to a wonderful float trip down the beautiful Buffalo River by our good friends Danny Joe and Nikki Dillard who own Dillard's Ozark Outfitters.

The Buffalo River is one of our national treasures and I appreciate even more now the good work that our government does in preserving it's beauty for future generations. When you are in the Buffalo River area you would enjoy worshipping at Caney, which is about 5 miles north off Highway 14.

On March 25 we enjoyed being with the Colony church of Christ near Bee Branch, Arkansas. Every fourth Sunday of the year the Colony congregation has a guest preacher who comes in for all the services that day. Following the morning services they have a potluck lunch followed by a

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From Ted's Pen (Continued)

period of great singing and then the afternoon worship service. Brother Joe Spaulding and his wife Donna have been working with the Colony church for some time and what a great difference they have made in the work there.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Our schedule for April is very heavy and we are anxious to get started. April 1-4 I will preach in a series of meetings with the Harding Street congregation at Morrilton, Arkansas. April 6-8 we will work with the congregation at Mars Hill in the Second Annual Evangelistically Speaking Lectureship. The theme will be, "Building a Soul Winning Church." This should be a great lectureship. On April 10 the area wide fellowship will be hosted by the Downtown congregation at Morrilton. On April 15 I will be preaching at Levy and it will be wonderful to be at home for that day. Barbara will speak at the Ladies Day at Mars Hill on April 21 and then we will leave in the afternoon for Harrison, Arkansas where I will preach in a gospel meeting April 22-25. We will leave again on April 28 for a meeting at Gainesville, Missouri where I will preach April 29-May 2.

ROMANIA REPORT

Brother Harvey Starling returned from a month of work in Romania on March 28. Two precious souls were baptized in each city - Pitesti and Craiova. In addition to the one on one studies, Harvey

conducted many meetings with the local Christians in each place to encourage them as well as having special meetings with the ladies, teachers, the men who oversee the benevolent work, and many other areas of concern to our work there. We are very proud of all of those who help us in our work there and we are especially proud of those local Romanian Christians who remain faithful and strong under some very difficult circumstances. We hope that you will please continue to pray for them.

BARBARA'S HEALTH

On March 27 Barbara returned to University of Arkansas Medical Center in Little Rock for examinations and the doctor was very pleased with the results. Also, her recent tests and examinations here in Conway were very good. Isn't God good? We are so thankful for the great progress that My Lady has made and continues to make in her recovery.

Who Is Commanded to Go Where?

By Ted Knight

I recently read the following statement recently from author Howard Hendricks: "I can't find a verse of Scripture that commands a lost person to go to church; I know many Scriptures that commands believers to go into a lost world." I wish that I had said that!

The Bible is full of Scriptures telling Christians that it is our duty to take the Gospel to the

world that is lost in sin. We cannot deny it! This is our duty! This is why Christians exist! We are not here to entertain folk! We are here to take the Gospel to the lost. We are earthen vessels and our duty is to bear the good news of Jesus to those who are without God and without hope. No one is excluded. The Gospel is for all!

We cannot rest because we have built a building and sent out some invitations to our community with the hope that they will come to our services. We must go and get them! Go outside the camp! Bring in the sheaves! They aren't commanded to come, but we are commanded to go!

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you."

- Matthew 28:19,20

Be Kind

By Dalton Key

I've heard that kindness is a hard thing to give away - it just keeps coming back! Yet this truth notwithstanding, common courtesy, like common sense, is not all that common. Most of us are much more enthusiastic with receiving kindness than with extending it - especially toward those who disagree with us. I don't have to agree with you. I don't have to approve of the things you do, the positions you hold, or the associations you choose to pursue. But I do have a divine obligation to be kind. Where have we gotten the warped idea that difference in thinking permits discourtesy

in speech and conduct? Such reasoning was certainly not learned from the Lord.

Christ was the walking epitome of "truth in love." Though he never compromised his convictions, though he often found himself philosophically and doctrinally at odds with his critics, he was kind.

Christ never refused to speak to someone he disagreed with. Christ listened. He always waited to hear the question before giving his answer. He didn't get into shouting matches with his enemies. He never started or spread ugly rumors about others, even those who were actively working him harm. He never attempted to silence his critics by means of mean-spirited remarks, unfounded accusations, or demeaning fits of sarcasm.

We would all do well to follow his example. To be right, doctrinally, is imperative: to be right in our dealings with others is of equal importance. Being long on scriptural argument gives no license for being short on scriptural attitude.

"When someone wrongs you, do not repay with another wrong. Plan honorable things among all people. If possible, as far as you are able, live in peace with all people. Beloved, do not take revenge, but give way to wrath, for it is written, 'Justice is mine; I will repay,' says the Lord. If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink, because you will heap burning coals upon his head when you do this. Be not overcome with evil, but overcome evil with goodness." (Romans 12:17-21, McCord).

May we determine to become more like Christ, "speaking the truth in love" (Ephesians 4:15).

Let's be kind.

UPCOMING PLANS

APRIL 1-4

Gospel Meeting
Harding Street
Morrilton, Arkansas

APRIL 6-8

2nd Annual “Evangelistically Speaking” Lectureships
Mars Hill
Vilonia, Arkansas

APRIL 10

Central Arkansas Christian Fellowship
Plummerville, Arkansas

APRIL 15

Preaching at Levy
North Little Rock, Arkansas

APRIL 21

Barbara / Ladies Day
Mars Hill
Vilonia, Arkansas

APRIL 22-25

Gospel Meeting
Harrison, Arkansas

APRIL 29-May 2

Gospel Meeting
Gainesville, Missouri

April 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Meeting Harding St.— Morrilton, Arkansas	2 Meeting Harding St.— Morrilton, Arkansas	3 Meeting Harding St.— Morrilton, Arkansas	4 Meeting Harding St.— Morrilton, Arkansas	5	6 Evangelism Lecture Series, Mars Hill— Vilonia, AR	7 Evangelism Lecture Series, Mars Hill— Vilonia, AR
8 Evangelism Lecture Series, Mars Hill— Vilonia, AR	9	10 Area-Wide Fellowship, Plummerville, Arkansas	11	12	13	14
15 Levy— North Little Rock, Arkansas	16	17	18	19	20	21 Barbara at Ladies Day, Mars Hill— Vilonia, AR
22 Meeting Harrison, Arkansas	23 Meeting Harrison, Arkansas	24 Meeting Harrison, Arkansas	25 Meeting Harrison, Arkansas	26	27	28
29 Meeting Gainesville, Missouri	30 Meeting Gainesville, Missouri	May 1 Meeting Gainesville, Missouri	May 2 Meeting Gainesville, Missouri			

A Lesson Learned While Standing in Line *by Marty Knight*

I've recently had the opportunity to study Matthew 18 and the teachings of Jesus concerning our relationships with one another. I can think of few things that would help today's church any more than the principles taught in these verses.

Jesus begins this lesson with an illustration of the spirit that we are to have with one another. He says, "Unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven."

What a wonderful analogy! Nothing is more innocent than a small child. And few things are as infuriating as seeing a small child mistreated.

How many of the problems that exist within the church today would disappear if we dared to practice the principles that Jesus teaches here?

I recently learned something while standing in line in a restaurant waiting to pay. It was a long line and the cashier was slow when, suddenly, someone walked up behind me and "goosed" me—as the old saying goes. Now as I get older I try to overlook things that make me mad, but I don't know if I'll ever get over that making me mad. I just don't like for someone to do that to me! I wheeled around prepared to, at the least, give someone a dirty look or perhaps tell them not to do that again. When I turned around there stood this innocent little girl of about 3 years old looking up and grinning at me.

As the father of two girls, my heart just melted. All thoughts of being upset immediately left my mind and I smiled at the little girl and her embarrassed mother. Regardless of my initial reaction, I just couldn't be mad at that child. She certainly meant me no harm!

I hope you understand the points I'm trying to make. First, we should have no more ill-intent toward our brethren than that little girl had toward me. We're family! Let's treat each other as such! Second, let's stop and think before we respond. If I had responded in a way that scared that child (and that could have easily happened), I would have been heartbroken. When we're dealing with brethren, let's respond in that same way. Be patient. Smile. And treat them as if they were a little child.

“Unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”

- Matthew 18:3,4

GIFTS OF MEMORIAL AND HONOR

One of the ways that you can help our work is by sending in a contribution in memory or in honor of those whom you love. We have received the following memorials in recent weeks.

In Honor of

Dessie Flora Martin Knight

On the occasion of her 89th Birthday on April 12.
What a great Mom she has been as well as a great
Christian, Wife, Grandmother, Great-Grandmother,
and Friend to many people.

Congratulations, Mom!

IF YOU CAN ASSIST THE
KNIGHTS IN THEIR WORK
FOR THE LORD, PLEASE
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