

Evangelistically Speaking

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*Please join us in prayer
for the following items:*

- Pray for the churches in Cluj-Napoca and Sibiu, Romania as they go through periods of transition.
- Ask God to open doors of opportunity for them as they labor in those places.

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From Ted's Pen

"Praise the Lord! Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who delights greatly in His commandments. His descendants will be mighty on earth; the generation of the upright will be blessed. Wealth and riches will be in his house, and his righteousness endures forever." *Psalms 112:1-3*

"Thank You, Father, for blessing us with the freedom and opportunity to hear, believe, and obey Your word. Thank You, Father, for the benefits and blessings that belong to Your children. Grant us strength to share the gospel with others that they may also be blessed with your salvation. In Jesus' Name, Amen."

The Caney church of Christ near Yellville, Arkansas invited me to preach in a gospel meeting on April 3-6 and it was a great joy to do so. There have been several baptisms there in the last few months and a good number of new Christians are now worshipping there. This congregation is located in a very beautiful part of our country and one could spend several days just enjoying the evidence of God's power in creation. The church itself is beautiful, as well, with folks who love the Lord and serve Him faithfully.

On April 10 we enjoyed the day with the church at Higden, Arkansas, supporters of our work since the beginning

of this ministry. They have an unusual meeting schedule which several other congregations are employing, it seems.

They meet for Bible study at 9:30 followed by their worship service at 10:30. They break for enough time for lunch and then assemble at 1:15 for another period of worship. Some of them bring lunch with them and others go to a nearby restaurant or go home and then return for the afternoon service. Following that afternoon service we came home and rested for about 45 minutes and then drove to North Little Rock to meet with and give a report to the Levy congregation about our work for 2010. Of course, we always enjoy being with our brethren at Levy with whom we have been associated for almost 45 years. They certainly are a blessing to our lives.

We finished our schedule for the month with the Southside congregation at Cabot, Arkansas on April 17. I was scheduled to preach in a lectureship at Formosa, Arkansas on April 24, but asked to be released from that commitment because of illness.

HEALTH

As most of you know I have been struggling with some health issues since February 7. I have had many tests and



each time we would think that the problem was resolved, but the problem remained. I kept telling myself that I needed to see our ENT specialist, but each time we called it was not possible to see him for some time, so I would go to someone else. Finally, we got an appointment to see him on April 10.

From my description of the problem he told us what he thought the problem was and upon examining me he found that I had an enlarged and infected saliva gland which he believed was causing the severe pain in the throat and chest. He gave me medicine for it, but indicated that he thought that surgery would be required. Very suddenly on April 10 the pain returned and he scheduled surgery for April 18.

I thought that I would get this done and be on my way in the next couple of days, but I learned that it was not that simple. He told me that it would be three to five days before I felt much better and he sure was right about that.

(Continued on Page 2)

From Ted's Pen (Continued)

I am thankful for Dr. J. Doug Stroud and his knowledge and experience and I hope that finally the problem has been discovered and corrected. We are praying fervently that this problem will not return and we ask for your prayers for that as well.

MAY SCHEDULE

Our May schedule begins May 1-4 with a gospel meeting with the church in Marietta, Oklahoma. Lord willing, almost all of the rest of the month I will be in Cluj, Romania. My flight is a bit more complicated. I had already made my reservations from here to Bucharest when I called Tarom Airlines to make my reservations with

them on to Cluj. It was then that I learned that the airport in Cluj will be closed for five days during the time of my arrival in Bucharest. So, I am forced to find another way to get on to Cluj.

Brother Claudiu is going to pick me up in Bucharest at 2:15 upon my arrival there and take me to Sibiu where I will spend the night. We will arrive in Sibiu at about 9:00 PM. On Saturday, he will take me on to Cluj which is another two-hour drive. So, my trip over there is going to take much more time than normal.

I am looking forward to arriving there and getting a lot of work done. I am taking as

many supplies as possible for the children's classes and we will also be preparing for the VBS and the arrival of some others to help in our work this summer. It will be a very busy time, but I am anxious to get there.

Please pray for our work in Romania, not only at Cluj, but in the entire country. So much good is being done and still there is so much to do. The work in the districts of Arges and Dolj, where Brother Harvey Starling leads the work, continues to make good progress and for that we are thankful.

May God bless every effort for good and may Satan never

gain an advantage over the new Christians. There are so many, many problems and it is hard for many of them to remain faithful and our prayers will surely help.

May God bless all of you who help our work and we pray for your interest in evangelism to grow stronger each day.

- Ted

SCHEDULE

MAY 1-4
Gospel Meeting—Marietta, Oklahoma

REST OF THE MONTH
Cluj, Romania

WEBSITES AND INFORMATION

Evangelistically Speaking Online:
<http://www.evangelisticallyspeaking.net>

Cluj-Napoca Church of Christ:
<http://www.bisericaluihristoscluj.com>

Levy Church of Christ:
<http://www.levychurch.com>

Vilonia Church of Christ:
<http://www.viloniachurch.org>

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FISHING—NOT CATCHING

Matthew 4:18-20

I have not been fishing more than a half dozen times in my life, so I am surely not a Bill Dance or a Larry Nixon, each of whom is a world champion fisherman. I do have a lot of friends who fish a lot and I have talked with them considerably about fishing and have learned several things. First, it is wonderful to enjoy the fruit of their labors or pleasures I guess, when they give us a fine mess of fish. I didn't have to do a thing to get them and yet I enjoyed them greatly. Second, probably the most helpful thing that I have learned is that persistence is a vital key in fishing. I have often asked, "Did you catch anything today only to hear them say, "No, they weren't biting today." That made me wonder one time, "Why do they fish when they don't catch anything?" I realize that is why it is called "fishing" and not "catching." There are simply times when the fish are not interested and there will be no catch.

I have noticed something about fishing. It requires more than I realized. There must be planning. No one ever just accidentally goes fishing. One must DESIRE and PLAN to go fishing. One needs to have good bait and know which bait is best for the kind of fish they are fishing for. Fish are a bit choosy about what they put in their mouths it seems, and the bait that may appeal to one fish may not appeal to another.

A fisherman must have some equipment even if it's just a cane pole, a hook, and a red worm. One must expend some effort to go fishing. One doesn't just go sit on the bank of a creek or sit in a boat and the fish come and jump into his or her lap. You have to get up and go fishing if you expect to catch fish.

A good helping of patience and persistence is required for those days when the fish are not biting. When the day comes that nothing is caught, it can be discouraging; but a good fisherman does not quit fishing. A good healthy appetite for fish comes in handy or one is not likely to do much fishing. The feeling of achievement that comes with catching fish is enjoyed immensely.

Do you know where I am going with this? Yep, you got it!

Have you noticed that the Lord has told us to be FISHERS of men and not CATCHERS of men? It took me a long time to discover that vital truth. I was measuring everything by the CATCH and assuming that I was a failure or a success depending upon the catch that I made or didn't make. But, that isn't true. I am to be a fisherman and God will attend to the catching according to His will and not mine.

This causes me to ask myself some very thoughtful questions.

Do I plan to be a fisher of men? Do I have a desire to be a fisher of men? Am I equipping myself to be a fisherman of men with a study of the scripture? Do I know what kind of bait to use when fishing for men? Do I know where a person stands in his or her relationship with God? Do I know something about the level of knowledge of the scripture? Am I willing to expend some effort to go fishing for souls?

It may not be convenient and it may even interrupt something else which we like to do, but fishing for men may mean the difference in being saved and being lost to some soul including our own. The Lord commanded us to, "GO." Lost souls are not likely to come to us, but we must go to them.

Do I have a persistent spirit and not give up when at first I do not succeed? I will not covert every person that I study with or even get everyone that I approach for a study to study with me. But, if I will not quit, I will find fish that are available for the catch.

Is my appetite for fishing for souls as keen as my appetite for my daily bread? When I see a person whom I know is not in Christ, do I see the potential for fishing for that soul? Have I ever known the joy that comes when the catch is made? There is nothing on this earth that compares with that feeling of joy.

Will you consider these things and concentrate on becoming a fisherman for the souls of men? I know that most of us are concerned about the catch and I am one of those. However, I know this one thing: We cannot catch if we do not fish! Remember, if you are not fishing, you are not following.

- Ted Knight

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