

View

February 11, 2007

This Week's Agenda

The Lord's Day

9:30 AM: Singing, Prayer, Lord's Supper, Sermon: David Posey

5 PM – Singing, Lord's Supper, Sermon

Classes Offered This Week

Today at 5:30

Auditorium: Outlining Your Bible

Room 11-12: Revelation – Seven Churches of Asia

Tuesday at 7 PM

John's Gospel: Next Class – February 13th

Wednesday

10:00 AM – OT History - 10 AM at the building.

7:30 PM – Classes for all ages 18 months and up.

Auditorium – Galatians

Room 11-12: The First Century Church

News & Prayer Concerns

"First of all, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men..."

Prayer Concerns

Sharon Jones has been having a very rough time of it this last week. As was announced, she is in the Kaiser Hospital at Roseville (ICU). She has been having a problem with a leaky stent and an infection. They have moved the stent from her arm to her left clavicle. Please keep her in your prayers.

Others to include in your petitions to our Father: Carl and Arlene Hanson, Hank and Cathy Wilson, Sara Clark, Ken Dickey (Steve's older brother), Herman Ward, Frances Kaler, Becky Woolpert (former member) and Beverly Henderson (Pamela Ludlow's mother); those who are expecting: Julie Agee, Aimee Cain, Candee Dickey, and Amber Karlsson; men serving in foreign fields: Steven Sabath (Arletta's son), Brandon Folkert (the Terrys' nephew) and Danny Boyer.

Group Meetings

Next round of meetings to begin in March. Check with the Deacon in charge of your group.

Daily Bible Reading Plan Available

You can acquire the 5-day per week reading plan by visiting our website at www.folsomchurch.com.

Vacation Bible School

We have set the date for this year's VBS: June 25-29.

Please make your plans accordingly.

Out of Town

The Woodside family is in Reno this morning but hope to return for the PM services. Ben's grandmother is gravely ill and they don't think she will last the weekend. Please keep them in your prayers.

State of the Church

Tonight in lieu of the invitation talk the elders will be presenting to the membership their annual State of the Church presentation.



**Read your Bible
each day, and
spread the word!**

Preachers we support

John Scholtz - South Africa, Zimbabwe

Robert Nichols - Japan

Barney Mejia - Nicaragua

Dale Pennock - Vermont

Gary Stouffer - Vista, CA

Jim Lee - Englewood, Ohio

Jeff Carr - Mandeville, LA

Armando C. Pastor - Sto. Domingo & Dumabel

Pepe G. Ando - Davao City

Amado M. Estoy - Iriga City

Ecclesiastes C. Licayan - Monkayo

Abe S. Aguete - Pagudpud

Rex M. Bayaca - Laoag City

James Amangan - Bangued

Quirino Tien - Cuyayan Valley

Rosilito F. Nardo in Koronadal City.

Johnny Buguis in General Santos City.

Ready Or Not...

Bubba Garner

One of the things that made Jesus the “Master Teacher” was His use of the everyday things of life in His sermons, parables, and conversations. He identified with His hearers by speaking about the common activities of the common man. But the moral of His message was always extraordinary. When He told the Parable of the Ten Virgins in Matthew 25:1-13, Jesus used for the basis of His lesson a Jewish custom practiced in most marriage ceremonies. It was their tradition for the groom to go to the house of his future father-in-law to claim his bride. Upon entering the house, the wedding feast and other rituals commenced. Maidens, or virgins, who were friends of the bride and groom outside waited for his arrival so they could escort him to the feast. Let us not forget that parables generally have one truth to teach, one moral of the story. When we try to allegorize every detail, as one scholar has identified 15 different meanings and symbolic representations in this story, we prove only to cover up the primary lesson. Jesus’ main point is found in verse 13: “Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour.”

This parable was spoken just three days before Jesus’ execution. He knew that time was of the essence. He knew that He was preaching to people who were not even prepared for His first arrival. How would they be ready for His second coming?

Spiritual readiness cannot be borrowed. Such is an individual responsibility. Ten virgins are listed; five were wise, five were foolish. The foolish virgins were so called because they thought they could borrow oil from the wise maidens when their lamps started to go out. They didn’t realize that it was their own obligation to be prepared at all times for the bridegroom’s arrival.

Judgment is personal. There will be no extra credit because you were a member of some prominent family or listed on the roll of some church. A lot of people seem to think it’s going to be like a group project in school— one or two do all the work and everyone else get’s a free ride. But Paul said, “We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad” (2 Cor. 5:10). Preparation is not something that is automatically transferred from person to person. You have to do it yourself. While it is good for us to draw from the faith of our fathers, if we never make it our own, we can never be His own.

Procrastination often proves costly. The foolish virgins made *some* preparations. They took their lamps, they stood at their posts and did not abandon them when the bridegroom delayed in coming. But though they lit their lamps, they made no provisions for keeping them lit. And when the bridegroom finally came, they were away making the preparations that should have already been prepared. “Those who were ready went in with him” (25:10). The others waited and waited and waited to get ready. And they waited too long.

While procrastination in secular things gets you behind, putting off spiritual things can get you lost. We’re used to being able to do things at the last minute, barely finishing before the deadline. But there has been no such announcement for the judgment day. In the parable previous to this one, Jesus said, “For this reason you be ready too; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think He will” (Matt. 24:44). He will come like a thief in the night, at a time least expected. When He does, time for preparation will have passed. Things you’ve been putting off will be put off forever.

Lost opportunities are seldom found again. “The door was shut” (25:10). When Melissa and I went to see *Phantom of the Opera* a few years ago, I noticed a phrase on the ticket that is not written on baseball or movie tickets. “No late seating.” We’re not used to that. Neither were the foolish virgins. They pounded on the door, but the bridegroom himself answered, “I do not know you” (25:12), meaning, “I have no favorable knowledge of you.” Don’t you know he was disappointed in them? Was this event not important enough to them that they would have made every opportunity to be prepared?

The door is open now, but the time will come when it must be shut. It will be closed on all chances and possibilities. If you miss this one, you can’t get it back. If you’re late, you won’t get in. And we know what happens to those whom the Lord does not know.

Remember the moral of this story: “Be on the alert, for you do not know the day nor the hour.” Ready or not, Jesus is coming. Don’t miss Him for the world.

Reach Out and Touch Someone

Dee Bowman

It may well be that the besetting sin of modern day discipleship is its failure to procreate itself. Speed has been so aggrandized in our society that it has become necessary that whatever we do we must do in a hurry. We seem to be possessed with a determination to succeed more than to be spiritually inclined and equip ourselves for eternity, so we tend to put off thing that don’t pertain to our quests. One of those things is reaching out and touching someone.

I have a theory. It may not be right, or it may be a bit simplistic, but it’s worth considering anyway. I don’t think anybody will go to heaven by himself: he will go with someone or he will take someone with him.

Discipleship does not depend on some kind of human machinery for its procreation. It depends on the disciples themselves. “And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also” (2 Tim. 2:2). That process is so simple. But where is it being used? How sad, because it works. If every person in the congregation decided to convert just one soul to Christ in the coming year, this

church would have 600 members in twelve month's time. Will that not work? The problem is not that the plan won't work; the problem is we won't work the plan.

What is necessary to get at the business of making known the gospel to those who come under your influence? I suggest just four.

Concern. When Jesus saw the multitudes, "he was moved with compassion" (Matt. 9:36). We emphasize his feeling of "compassion," but fail to consider that the compassion *moved* Him. It took Him from unconcern to concern, from indifference to distress. It is that movement of compassion that caused Him to die for the sins of the world. "God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son" is a statement of His concern for the lost souls of men. The gospel is the power to save (Rom. 1:16) and that power is retarded only to the extent that it is not used. How about you? Are you actually concerned for the lost souls around you? Are you actually *moved* by what you see? If you are not, why not? I hardly see how one can call himself a Christian and not be moved by the number of lost souls he sees every day.

Boldness. One of the Devil's most effective tools in retarding efforts to convert people is diffidence, a lack of confidence. It takes courage to try and teach someone. You run a kind of risk. You are apt to fail a lot of the time, and knowing that makes it more difficult to make the effort. But make the effort we must. Jesus failed. In fact, he failed most of the time. But some will come, some will be interested, and even if you just snatch one soul from the fires of Hell you have done well. "Be not weary in your well doing," said Paul (Gal. 6:10), "for in due season ye shall reap if ye faint not." If we would just keep that in mind our mission would be an easier one, our work more diligent, our successes more often.

A willingness to be inconvenienced. We are wedded to convenience in this society. We don't want anyone or anything to invade our comfort zone. That proclivity to be comfortable has thwarted many an effort at converting someone to Christ. We make flimsy excuses, give faulty "reasons" why teaching someone gets in the way of our plans. What that says, most of the time, is that our plans are out of order, our priorities ill arranged. You have to want to convert someone before you will do it.

Faith. We don't have enough confidence in the gospel. Is it or is it not *power* of God to salvation? If it is, then why don't we treat it as such? If you suddenly came across the cure for cancer, would you let anybody know about it? Would you treat it nonchalantly? Certainly not! You would want everybody to be delivered from the malady. You hold in your hand the power to save men from a malady much greater and more dangerous than cancer. You have in the gospel; it can save men from their sin. How can you put much confidence in it to save your own soul if you don't have confidence enough in it to recommend it for the salvation of the souls of others?

It's time we got busy about evangelism. It's time got to the business of making the gospel work in the places where we live and work every day. How long has it been since *you* talked with someone about his soul? Well, that's too long.

CLEANING HOUSE FOR 2007

Last Week I threw out WORRYING,
It was getting old and in the way.
It kept me from being me,
I couldn't do things my way.

I threw out those inhibitions,
They were just crowding me out.
Made room for my New Growth,
Got rid of my old dreams and doubts.

I threw out a book on MY PAST
(didn't have time to read it anyway).
Replaced it with New Goals,
Started reading it today.

I threw out childhood toys
(remember how I treasured them so)?
Got me a NEW PHILOSOPHY too,
Threw out the one from long ago.

Bought in some new books too,
Called I CAN, I WILL, and I MUST.
Threw out I might, I think and I ought.
WOW, You should've seen the dust.

I ran across an OLD FRIEND,
Haven't seen him in a while.
I believe his name is GOD,
Yes, I really like His style.

He helped me to do some cleaning
And added some thing's Himself.
Like PRAYER, HOPE and FAITH,
Yes I placed them right on the shelf.

I picked up this special thing
And placed it at the front door.
I FOUND IT - its called PEACE.
Nothing gets me down anymore.

Yes, I've got my house looking nice.
Looks good around the place.
For things like Worry and Trouble
There just isn't any place.

It's good to do a little house cleaning,
Get rid of the old things on the shelf.

It sure makes things brighter,
Maybe you should TRY IT YOURSELF.

~Author Unknown~

Contributed by Allison Horak

Calendar for the Folsom Point church of Christ

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 The Lord's Day Assembly 9:30 AM & 5 PM	5	6	7 OT History Class: 10AM 7:30 PM Bible Classes	8	9	10
11 The Lord's Day Assembly 9:30 AM & 5 PM	12	13 7 PM In-Home Bible Study	14 OT History Class: 10 AM 7:30 PM Bible Classes	15	16	17
18 The Lord's Day Assembly 9:30 AM & 5 PM	19	20 7 PM In-Home Bible Study	21 OT History Class: 10AM 7:30 PM Bible Classes	22	23	24
25 The Lord's Day Assembly 9:30 AM & 5 PM	26	27 7 PM In-Home Bible Study	28 OT History Class: 10AM 7:30 PM Bible Classes			

Mark Your Calendar

Tonight, State of the Church Presentation by the elders

June 25-29, Vacation Bible School

The View contains news and articles of interest to the members of the Folsom Point church of Christ. Announcing an activity or event does not necessarily imply that we financially sponsor the event or that the elders specifically endorse every component of that event, since it may not fall under the direct oversight of the elders. The church's work and the elders' oversight is limited by Scripture. We will not announce events that are primarily social in nature. However, we do want to publicize and encourage those activities that provide an opportunity to be built up in the faith and provide an opportunity for you to be a more involved and active member of the body at Folsom Point.

ABOUT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST AT FOLSOM

We are a church of Christ patterned after the New Testament example of local churches. We believe in the authoritative word of God and will provide you with a Bible answer for everything we do in our doctrine and practice. We exalt Jesus Christ and seek to glorify Him, not ourselves (Ephesians 3:21). Therefore, our efforts are directed toward promoting commitment to Christ, not to any man or institution (I Corinthians 2:5).

Our assemblies are simple. We sing without use of an instrument (see Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16; we will be happy to show you why we use no instrument, if you desire further study on this issue). We pray (I Timothy 2:1), partake of the Lord's Supper each first day of the week (I Corinthians 11:23-29; Acts 20:7) and teach from God's word. All preaching comes from the Bible.

The financial support of this congregation comes entirely from the free-will offerings of its members made on the first day of the week (I Corinthians 16:1-2; II Corinthians 8:1-5; 9:6-7). We never solicit funds from non-members. Contributions are used for the spiritual growth of this church and for the support of a few men in other areas, such as the Philippines, who are preaching the gospel. We do not use money collected here for social programs or the support of any human institution. We believe the church itself can do all the work God has given it to do. And we aim to do *only* the work God has given it to do – teach the gospel, build up the members, and help needy Christians. All other "good work" is the responsibility of individual Christians (Titus 2:11-14; James 1:27; Galatians 6:9-10).

We offer personal Bible studies at your convenience. We are here to help you with your spiritual needs: please favor us with a request for a Bible study or correspondence course that you can complete at your pace.