

NEWS

Beverly Amerson had cataract surgery on her other eye last Wednesday and that went very well—**Relda Marshall** received a very good report from her doctor at M.D. Anderson. She was told that she had a 90% chance that her cancer would not return—**Bob Arnold** also received a very good report as a result of his visit with his doctor in Dallas—**William White** is still recovering from his back surgery. The staples in his incisions were removed this past week, but the incisions continue to be very tender and sensitive—**Judy Hinson** is doing much better and is happy to be past her chemo (continued on page 3)

ELDERS:

Bob Arnold 563-2977
Leon Goff 572-6809
Kendall Johnson 572-9306

DEACONS:

Ron Burns 577-9978
Ricky Davis 572-9428
Ken Ferguson 572-4135
Pat Marshall 572-9347

SERVICES:

Sunday

Bible Study 9:45 AM
Worship 10:30 AM
Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Ladies Class 10:00 AM
Bible Study 7:00 PM

PREACHERS:

Jared Rogers 717-3788
Leon Goff 572-6809

ASSIGNMENTS FOR:

April 5, 2015

Serving The Lord's Supper

Sunday Morning

Scripture: Willie Don Davis

Alec Capel Zach Willeford
Stephen Hall Chris Stone

Sunday Evening

Alec Capel Zach Willeford

PRAYERS

Sun. AM—Leon Goff (Opening)

—**Luke Arnold (Closing)**

PM—Jerry Wildman (Opening)

—**Andrew Arnold (Closing)**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.M.—Paul Chapman

P.M.—Pat Marshall

(call Pat Marshall if unable to serve)

Think It Over—If you were to die today...Where would you spend eternity? To all who love God, and to those who do not, but should, to all who are weary and heavy laden; to all who are lonely and sad; to all who sin and need a Savior, and to whosoever will come a hearty welcome is extended.

Southside
Church of Christ
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Southside Church of Christ

Bulletin

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Misconception: Evangelism is for the "Chosen Few"

By *Berry Kercheville*

I hear it all the time, "*There are some Christians that are really good at evangelism, but I'm not one of them. I'm terrible at it, It just isn't my gift.*"

If you believe you fit into that category (as most of us do), I would like you to rethink how you have evaluated yourself. First, what do you mean by "evangelism?" Most people think of evangelism as the ability to talk to a stranger about the Lord or teach a lesson to an unbeliever. But evangelism involves far more basic abilities other than the ability to talk to strangers or effectively teach a series of lessons to a non-Christian.

The following are seven ways most Christians can promote the work of saving souls without needing superior talent to do so:

1. Be Hospitable. When Jesus called Matthew from his tax office, he immediately planned a dinner party with all his tax collector friends and invited Jesus to join the party (Luke 5:27-32). Matthew may not have yet been able to teach his friends, but he knew Jesus could. Making deeper connections with people around us by inviting them to our homes for a meal, creates opportunities that we would not otherwise have had.

2. Be Aware of Your Surroundings. When you leave your house, be conscious of the people around you. When Jesus saw the multitudes, "he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd" (Matt. 9:36). Too often, we go mindlessly about our business without considering the dying world around us. Compassion

demands that we see others as Jesus saw them. Awareness allows us to see opportunities and stirs us to pray. Jesus taught the woman at the well outside of Sychar while the apostles went into the city to buy food. But the disciples made no connections in the city. Jesus gave the admonition, "Lift up your eyes, the fields are white unto harvest." We also need to open our eyes.

3. Have a Conversation. Don't think about how you might direct the conversation to spiritual things, just have a conversation. Be friendly; break the ice; ask questions. Ask about how their day is going Ask about their family. If possible, ask about their interests - to what do they give their time and energy? Answers to these questions *may* open a door. Hopefully, something in the conversation would allow you to mention your interests. You can say something like, "*I love the Bible study I'm in right now. I'm learning so much. It is really helping me.*" Isn't that similar to how Jesus opened a conversation with the woman at the well (John 4)?

4. Make a New Friend. As Christians we already have all the friends we need in the church. In fact, we may have so many social appointments with other Christians that we have no time to bring someone else into our circle. This a grave error and common for most Christians. But if you will make a new friend, the chances of that friend coming to Christ go

up dramatically. To make a new friend, have one goal: make some kind of connection every week, even if it is just a phone call. Friends connect; friends do things together.

5. Connect your New Friend to Your Friends in the Church. Evangelism is always easiest when you have help. Widening the circle of connections is also helpful for your new friend. He or she will feel genuinely cared for and included. When you have social appointments with fellow Christians, invite your friend. It just takes a little thoughtfulness. It is the way love is communicated.

6. Create a 6-8 Week Bible Study in Your Home. Pick a time when you know your friend will be available. You can even tell your friend that you are planning the study with a few others and ask what would be a good time for him or her. Do not plan the class to be *directed* at your friend; simply plan a study like James, First Peter, or Ephesians and ask your friend to join it. Invite at least one Christian with whom you have confidence to teach with gentleness and compassion. Make sure your fellow Christians in the class have a similar compassion.

7. Pray, pray, pray. Pray for courage. Pray for opportunities. Pray for your friend. God gives the increase. Do not be discouraged just because some do not respond to the gospel. There are others who will. Besides, it was important for

those who did not respond to hear the gospel message. Everyone deserves a chance. Keep connecting and keep praying.

You see, evangelism is not reserved for the chosen few with extraordinary talent. It is something we all can do. It is something we all must do. Eternity is at stake, and there is nothing in the world more valuable than a person's soul.

—*Focus Online*

Our Spring Meeting

Kris Emerson from Beaumont, TX will be the speaker in our spring meeting **April 19-24, 2015**. Kris is another outstanding young preacher. He works with the Dowlen Road church of Christ in Beaumont along with Max Dawson and Benjamin Lee. Let's all be making our plans to be in every service and praying for the success of the meeting.

One of the things involved in personal evangelism is inviting people to come and hear the preaching of the gospel. This is something we all can do. Let's invite our relatives, friends, work associates and anyone we have the opportunity to. Let's give them a friendly and cordial invitation to hear Kris preach.

Ladies Day CDs

If you would like CDs of the Ladies Day lessons sign up on the list on the table in the foyer.

Gospel Meeting

Shane Carrington is the speaker in a meeting this week **March 29 through April 3** at the Reel Road church in **Longview**, weeknight services at **7:00 PM**.

Monthly Ladies Class

Will meet this coming Thursday, April 2, at 6:00 PM at Jennifer Arnold's house. All ladies are invited and encouraged to attend.

The Rogers are Back

Jared was in a meeting Sunday through Wednesday of this past week at the Southside church in Jacksonville, TX. Stacy and Maisy have been in Wichita, KS visiting family. It is good to welcome them back home. And Jared will be preaching both times today.

News (continued from back page)
treatments and able to be back in our services. We are happy to have her—**Yvonne White** has been sick with a fever this past week—**Phyllis Welch**, Phil Brown's sister, had surgery this past week and she is doing well—Remember **Kris Ferguson, Jr., Relda Marshall, Pat Brown, Dorothy and Charles Kyle, Deborah Brown, Tammy Willeford, and Judy Hinson**—Remember our **Shut-ins: Clayton Bellamy, Loyd Clark, Shirley Ferguson, Lenelle Latimer, Maurine Lee, Irma May, and Lelda Thompson**.