

THE IMPORTANCE OF PERSONAL CONVERSATION

It is easy for us to overlook the important role that personal conversation has in the conversion of the world. We look in **Acts 2**, on the day of Pentecost, when 3,000 people were baptized in Christ after one sermon and it makes us desire those days to come back. Many times we even wonder what it is that we are doing wrong that is not bringing forth that same response, but we are forgetting that was not the normal thing taking place as the church grew. We must never overlook how often lives were changed when Jesus and the apostles had one-on-one conversations with others. The world will always be saved by the preaching of the gospel, but most of that teaching involves private studies with others.

Take Jesus' examples. He met and changed the lives of so many people, but think of that fact and how often He personally talked with others. It is quite possible that He changed more lives by having personal contact with others than even in His public teaching. In **John 3**, we are introduced to a man named Nicodemus. Now, Nicodemus had obviously heard of Jesus before and that is why he came to visit Jesus at night. However, the change that Jesus desired of Nicodemus came about because of their personal conversation. When Jesus said in **John 3:5** "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God." Nicodemus was being taught about a new birth that involved water and the Holy Spirit. It is easy for us to forget that the first person to hear of the importance of baptism was a man who came to Jesus at night and in secret. Not only did Nicodemus hear of baptism but he also was the first to hear one of the most powerful, life changing, statements ever made. That God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son. (**John 3:16**) Personal contacts are so important.

After all, the change in the life of Zacchaeus didn't come when Jesus spoke to him in the top of a sycamore tree. Instead, it came when Jesus went to his house and talked to him. There are so many who were changed by sitting around the kitchen table with Jesus. It was personal conversations like these that changed Mary, Martha, Lazarus, and Matthew along with countless others, from Pharisees to lepers. But it wasn't simply the kitchen table that these personal conversations took place. In **Luke 17:11-19**, we read of ten lepers who met Jesus. They were cleansed, but only one returned to

thank Jesus. That one man was a Samaritan. As he glorified God, Jesus talked to him about his faith and its place in salvation. We often overlook that it is usually in private teaching that one learns the true meaning of faith.

Jesus had individual conversations with Andrew and Peter (**John 1:41**); with Philip and Nathanael (**John 1:43, 45**); with John the Baptist about baptizing Jesus (**Matt. 3:14-15**); with the Samaritan woman at the well (**John 4:7**); with the woman taken in adultery (**John 8:4-11**); with the crippled man healed beside the pool, and Jesus later sought him out to teach him (**John 5:13-14**); and so many more!

After Jesus' death, resurrection, and ascension, His apostles carried out these personal conversations as well. It was Philip who studied with the Ethiopian Eunuch in **Acts 8:26-40**. It was Ananias who met Saul, in **Acts 9**, and by restoring his sight and explaining why the Lord appeared to him and how Saul would be a witness to many of Christ, baptized Saul in Christ and began Saul's journey as an apostle. Peter met with Cornelius, in **Acts 10**, and converted him along with his household. These are just some of the personal conversations that led to conversions. We see Lydia and her household converted (**Acts 16:15**); we see the Philippian jailer and his household converted (**Acts 16:33-34**); we see Crispus and his household converted (**Acts 18:8**). So many were saved through personal conversations.

What do we need to learn from this? It is very simple, private conversations often change the lives of others. I encourage you, this week and upcoming weeks, to pray that God will use you to privately talk to those around you and hopefully, through His Word, change their lives. Is there any week better than this week to begin doing this? Now, you might be wondering, how was it that Jesus was able to prepare His apostles for such a task as personal evangelism? He told them to, "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 that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (**Matthew 28:19-20**) Not only did Jesus tell them what to do and what to teach, He also told them that He would be with them through it all. That same promise is given to us as well. What will you do for Jesus today? Imagine the conversations and relationships you will gain through the sharing of the Gospel. **Andrew Spivey**

COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES

Sunday Read – 1 Kings 3
Wednesday Read – 1 Kings 4

BIBLE STUDY



Questions for last week's reading of

1 Kings 1 & 2.

1. Why do you think Adonijah acted like he did?
2. Why did Nathan come to speak with Bathsheba?
3. When Solomon was to be anointed king, why was it important for him to ride on David's mule?
4. How did Barzillai's family help David?
5. Why was Abiathar's priesthood taken away?

SYMPATHY

To the family of **Cathy Henderson** who passed on March 30th. Funeral service were held on April 9th in Hendersonville.

To the family of **James Oldham** on the passing of his brother, **Curry Oldham**. Funeral services were held on April 8th in Gallatin.

THANK YOU NOTES

(Thank you notes are posted on the bulletin board in the stairway leading to the classrooms)

Dearest Church Family, a heartfelt thanks for your gifts of love during my dad's passing. Nothing soothes a weary soul like the written word and kind sentiments & prayers of like-minded Christians. Sincere appreciation for all you do to exemplify our Jesus, making dark days just a bit brighter. In Christian Love,
Susan Jennings

We would like to thank the church for the beautiful plant sent to us in the death of Myrlen's sister.

Myrlen & Faye Britt

Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord and He shall lift you up.
James 4:10

ORDER OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

April 10, 2022

9:00 AM

BIBLE STUDY

(Classes for Nursery – High School upstairs)

Song.....Ben Hutson
Opening Prayer.....Jim Cherry
Auditorium Lesson.....Philip Norwood

10:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....David Thompson
Song Leader.....Ben Hutson
Opening Prayer.....Jerry Watson
Sermon.....Philip Norwood
Lord's Supper.....Rick Gallagher
Closing Prayer.....Allyn Hosman

5:00 PM SERVICE

Welcome.....David Thompson
Song Leader.....Ben Hutson
Opening Prayer.....Tim Cummins
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper.....Ken Veale
Closing Prayer.....Brent Smith

WEDNESDAY

April 13, 2022

7:00 PM

Welcome.....David Thompson
Song Leader.....Ben Hutson
Opening Prayer.....Tim Strickland
Lesson.....Andrew Spivey
Closing Prayer.....Matt Ellis

Visitor's Desk Volunteer.....Sherry Perry

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE CALL

Alex Sherrill.....615-289-9935
Church Office.....615-452-3431

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study 9:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
 Sunday Evening Worship 5:00 p.m. - Wednesday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.

SICK LIST

Bill Johnson continues chemo and radiation treatments. **Terry Jennings** is taking chemo treatments. **Archie and Karen Wallace** are doing better. **Evelyn Harris** continues recovering from a knee replacement. **Wanda Seals** will continue therapy for her back. **Bob & Wanda Gregory** are both having health issues. **Ronald Milliken** husband of Helen Milliken, continues cancer treatments. **Steven Simmons** son of Charles and Fay Simmons continues to recover from back surgery. **Vycki Puckett**, daughter of Jack & Anita Cato, had a hip replacement done on March 21st. **Ty Tyler**, son of Ann Tyler, continues with serious health issues. **Craig Sweeney**, son of Doris Sweeney, continues cancer treatments. **John Arnold**, father of Brenda Veale is homebound and dealing with serious health issues.



PRAYER LIST

Shelby Ross; Sandi Jones; Ricky Cantrell; Maxine Cothron; Gerald Miles, The Waters of Gallatin, 555 E. Bledsoe Drive, Room 100; **Frances Catron; Jean Deaton; Wade & Wanda Kennedy** parents of Diana Stephenson; **Ricky Cross**, friend of Betty Buttrey; **Ida Lou Sherrill**, mother of Alex Sherrill; **Wayne Holt; Lawrence Redding**, son-in-law of Betty Melcher; **Taylor Lackford**, niece of Brenda Veale; **Dustin Lackford**, nephew of Brenda Veale; **Janice Haskins**, sister of Jim Cherry; **Larry Conley**, friend of Wanda Proctor; **John Gregory**, brother of Bob Gregory; **Harold Cole**, friend of Lena Baggett; **Bobbie Carter**, sister of Janice Johnson; **Betty Billingsley**, sister of Wanda Proctor; **Walter Wooten**, brother of Wanda Sherrill.

SHUT-INS

Marilee Frederick, Gallatin Rehab, Room 309A; **Joyce Savage**, NHC Place Sumner, room 107; **Jane Hughes**, 126 Seabury Dr., Greenville, SC 29615; **Melba Hill; Penny Campbell**, The Village of Bellevue, Room 417, 8118 B Sawyer Brown Road, Nashville, TN 37221; **Dorothy Sullivan**, Front Porch Senior Living 115 Sunset Pl. Portland TN, 37148.

We depend on families and friends to help us update this list. Please notify us of any changes

OUR RECORD THIS WEEK

Bible Study.....	93
Morning Worship.....	145
Sunday Evening.....	84
Wednesday Evening.....	93
Contributions.....	\$8,353.00
Youth Group Account.....	\$5,712.00

Elders

Tony Butler.....	615-452-0560
Jim Cherry.....	615-479-2149
David Johnson.....	615-300-9084
Alex Sherrill.....	615-289-9935
David Thompson.....	615-598-6621
Jerry Watson.....	615-461-8137

Deacons

Carl Newby Brent Smith
 Ken Veale Adam Williamson



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ANDREW SPIVEY, Pulpit and Family Minister
 TIM STRICKLAND, Associate Minister