



WindSong NOTES

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Formerly Sixth and Izard

SERVING THE GREATER LITTLE ROCK AREA

Volume 4

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Number 2



Being Yourself and Being Evangelistic Part 4

Bobby B. Boaldin

Month number four in our series on evangelism brings us to the Book of Acts where the Apostle Paul is reasoning with the philosophers of Athens. Here we will examine what Randy Becton called, “Paul’s Intellectual Approach to Evangelism.” But before we dive into analyzing what Paul did and how one today may do the same, it is important to remember the premise behind this series of articles. People with different personalities and backgrounds can (and probably should) be evangelistic in different ways. Rather than trying to fit into the mold of how someone else conducts evangelism, we should, instead, be ourselves.

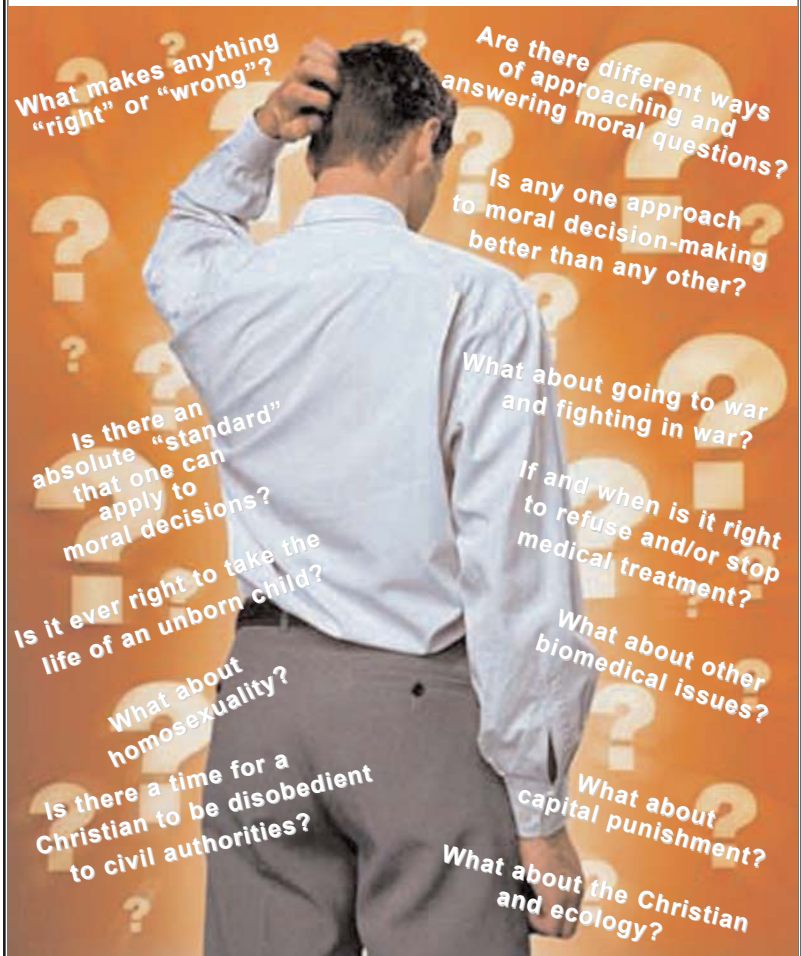
While examining Paul’s Intellectual Approach, one should consider a number of things. **First**, Paul is speaking to a group of people who are well-educated and well-read in many different areas of philosophy and religion. They are accustomed to thinking “out-of-the-box” and are eager to learn and hear new things. **Second**, the apostle is brought by this group of Stoic and Epicurean philosophers to a place called the Areopagus in order to hear this “new teaching.” The Areopagus is the location where the supreme court of Athens often met. It is a formal atmosphere where those who were accused of crimes defended themselves in a public forum. **Third**, Paul is up to the task. His education, background, experience, and inspiration are brought to bear in one of the most articulate explanations and defenses, of who God is and what he has done, ever recorded. **Fourth**, as articulate and brilliant as Paul was, not everyone who heard him became believers. Verse thirty-four reads, “A few men became followers of Paul and believed.”

How can Paul’s Intellectual Approach be applied today? **First**, one must put oneself in a position to be

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Determining Right and Wrong in the 21st Century

A Study of Christian Ethics



Beginning in mid-February on Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m., you are invited to join Bobby Boaldin and the adult auditorium class as we examine ethical questions that confront Christians in the 21st Century.

Ol' Diz

Dizzy Dean, famous pitcher of the St. Louis Cardinals, was no shrinking violet. He divided his autobiography into four parts:

Part One: "Who's the Greatest Pitcher in the World?"

Part Two: "Who's Got the Greatest Throwin' Arm in the World?" ("Not Countin' Days It Was Sore and How It Got That Way.")

Part Three: "Who's the Greatest Hitter in the World?" ("When He Wants to Be.")

Part Four: "Who's the Greatest Pitcher-Runner in the World?" ("Not Countin' Days I was Tired.")

Maybe Ol' Diz believed the adage, "He that tooteth not his own horn, the same shall not be tooted." He certainly took his time on the season when he and his brother Paul won forty-nine games between them for the Cards, and then went on to mow down the Detroit Tigers single—or double-handed in the World Series.

Dizzy was quite a pitcher—no doubt about it. But even allowing for the spoofing he might have been doing to please the crowd, one gets the feeling that humility was not his strong suit.

Ol' Diz was funny. But the Bible constantly warns about the danger of pride in our lives. It reveals for us the humility of Christ in regard to both God and man, and urges us to follow His example.

The apostle Peter sounds a note which should be heard by every Christian, "*Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for 'God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.' Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that in due time he may exalt you*" (1 Peter 5:5-6).

The true road to glory is labeled "humility," not "pride."

JOHN GIPSON
WindSong Church of Christ



Tsunami/ Earthquake Relief

Bill McDonough

Tremendous Success in Indonesia—When the Tsunami hit the island of Nias, Indonesia, three hundred people lost their lives, and villages suffered much material loss. However when two months later a massive earthquake tipped the island nearly four feet, raising one side and lowering the other, every town and village suffered major damage and more than eighteen hundred people died. Many houses sank into the sea when the island tipped, raising the tide on one side of the island and leaving beach front homes two hundred yards from the beach on the other side. Seldom in modern history has such a natural phenomenon occurred and one must see it to believe it. An island seventy-five miles long by twenty-five miles wide tipped like a soup bowl falling from the table, landing on it's side.

Thirty three of our brethren's forty-seven church buildings suffered damage and more than twelve hundred denominational church buildings were damaged. Most schools were destroyed or severely damaged and the majority of the homes of the seven hundred thousand residents were either gone, destroyed beyond repair, or severely damaged.

Providing immediate humanitarian relief (food, water, and medicine) was the easy task, but as an Indonesian governmental representative told me last week, **"A year later the work is just barely underway."** Basic infrastructures, of water, sewage, roads, and communications are still not repaired. School children are attending classes in condemned, sometimes dangerous, buildings or tents as they wait for their school buildings to be repaired or rebuilt.

Missionary **Dennis Cady** and the local Christians have done a marvelous job. People across the Island told me when I was there last week, that the churches of Christ had helped the people in practical ways as much or more than any other organization. **Our brethren have built fifteen elementary schools**

Continued from column 1

and a high school office building, putting an estimated two thousand children back in classes. Each school was also provided with new furniture and the children received new uniforms, which are required to attend school.



Above: A school damaged in the Tsunami and subsequent earthquake.

Below: The same school, rebuilt by Dennis Cady and the local Christians.



Our brethren have rebuilt thirty-three church buildings, started ten new congregations and baptized more than eight hundred people in the last year as an indirect result of their relief efforts. A congregation was started in the capitol city, where there had never been one, and it is thriving. Village church leaders are now coming together, twelve at a time, for a ten day seminar to increase their Bible knowledge and ability to communicate the gospel.

Your contributions made this possible. Through Partners In Progress you and others have provided more than ninety percent of the \$300,000 that has been used to make this happen. We have committed to continue to help as they build more village schools and plant more congregations. **You know He must Care!**

Being Yourself and Being Evangelistic, Part 4—from Page 1

presented with an opportunity to reason with others about the Gospel. Acts 17:17 reads, *"So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there."* Paul made himself, his willingness to study, and openness to debate, known to those with whom he came in contact. The Intellectual Approach requires someone who is comfortable having religious discussions in public. This person must be accustomed to articulating their position to others and capable of defending their beliefs in an open forum. Being able to think on one's feet is essential. This brings us to a **second** important quality of the person who should use this method. To execute this approach effectively, one must be well-studied, grounded and unshakably convicted in their beliefs. This type of evangelism is not for the person who has some doubts concerning their theology. It is also not for the novice or beginning believer. This type of evangelistic approach is ideally suited for one trained in rhetoric, critical thinking, or logic.

Two cautions should be mentioned. **First**, when using this evangelistic approach it is extremely important to remember the goal: to reason with someone about your religious beliefs in order to bring them to Christ. One must not allow anything to cloud reasoning, especially being overcome by emotion. When conducting this kind of evangelism, it is vital to remain rational, reasonable, and cool-headed. **Second**, one must allow arguments (in the rhetorical sense) to stand or fall based on the logic of the position. It is important to avoid appearing sarcastic or condescending. Sometimes the weight of reason itself makes others think that the arguer is being unsympathetic or arrogant. Go out of the way to appear poised, patient, and kind. The key: project the air of a learner who is seeking to better understand truth and not one who is trying to make another look inferior or stupid. If you succeed in applying these principles, perhaps it can be said of your efforts, as it was of the Apostle Paul, *"A few became followers and believed."*

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BULLETIN BOARD

OUR JANUARY RECORD

Average Attendance..... 215
Average Contribution.....\$8,991
Building Campaign Funds....\$988,762

Baptisms:

Veronica Groom
Micah and Debbie Hall

Memberships:

Dennis and Rita Milam
Jason & Julie Priest
Bryan and Laura Vanwinkle

With Sympathy To...

Don and Julie Pharis on the death of his step-father, **Rex Ruch**, on Friday, January 6.

Margaret and R. J. Henderson on the death of her sister, **Maud Alice Tackett**, on Sunday, January 8.

The family of **Dr. Jere Guin**, who died on Sunday, January 15. There was a memorial service at WindSong on January 18.

The family of **Ewell Wilson Word, Gene Word's brother**, who died on Saturday, January 14.

Beth Nelsen on the death of her brother, **Paul Bowlby**, on Sunday, January 22.

David and Kami Wallace on the death of his mother, **Vivian Wallace**, on Tuesday, January 24.

The family of **Helene Shepherd** who died on Thursday, January 26.

Lonnie and Katy Warren on the death of his father, **Leon Warren**, on Monday, January 30.

THANK YOU

Thank you for the many prayers and acts of kindness and thoughtfulness throughout the year. You'll never know how much this means to someone who is shut in as myself. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. **Flossie Baker**

WindSong Church of Christ, I just wanted to take this opportunity to extend a heartfelt thank you for your act of kindness. The faculty and staff of Oak Grove Elementary truly enjoyed the lunch that was provided on Friday, December 16. Once again, thank you! **Yolanda Thomas**, Principal

Dear **Ann (Sarmiento)**, I can't tell you how much the care and support from your church members has meant to RCA (Recovery Centers of Arkansas) through the years. Your love and concern are truly a blessing! Sincerely, **Carole Baxter**, M.S., Executive Director

Thank you for the cards, the poinsettia and visit from **Ann Sarmiento** at Christmas time, and for all your good wishes for **Pat (Branch)**. We appreciate your remembering her and the family. **Marnette Ragon** and family

Thank you for the basket arrangement you sent to honor the life of our precious sister, aunt, and friend. We greatly appreciate John's words honoring the "spunky" lady we love. The food you provided was both generous and delicious. Many thanks, **Brenda Chrane**, the family of **Maud Alice Tackett**

Dear Fellow Christians, We want to thank each of you for the beautiful flowers and the delicious sandwich tray. You have been so faithful the last 5 1/2 years to pray and call about **Forrest**. He really appreciated all your visits, cards, etc. Thanks again for your thoughtfulness. **Otho Jean, Mike and Britney, the Marlar family**

CONNECTIONS

We rejoice in the baptism of **Veronica Groom** on January 25, and **Micah** and **Debbie Hall** on January, 29. Micah and Debbie have two daughters, **Ally** and **Madelyn**.

We also want to extend a big welcome to the three new families who placed membership in January: **Dennis and Rita Milam; Bryan and Laura Vanwinkle** and their two daughters, **Caylen** and **Kristin**; and **Jason and Julie Priest** and their three children, **Kennedy, Zachary, and Dyllan**.

Tim Hall, Frank and Thelma Hall's son, has returned home from Iraq to Ft. Stewart, Georgia.

Congratulations to **Rachel, Rebecca, and Hannah Boaldin** who all three received scholarships to play fastpitch softball for Seminole State College.

Nathan Groom recently passed testing and is now a black belt in Tae Kwon Do. Great job, Nathan.

Daniel Agin and **Natalie Groom** performed with the All-Region Band on January 21.

Natalie Groom was selected as 1st chair clarinet in All-Region competition for the 3rd consecutive year. She is also a member of the Academy Youth Orchestra and participated in a side-by-side concert with the Arkansas Symphony on January 28.

Hurricane Relief Effort Continues: Over Spring Break (around March 25—31), a group from our congregation is planning to return to the Gulf Coast to continue with clean up work. If you want to be a part of this ministry, please see **Joe Chesser**.