



WindSong NOTES

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Formerly Sixth and Izard

SERVING THE GREATER LITTLE ROCK AREA



Volume 4

July 7, 2006

Number 7



Being Yourself and Being Evangelistic Part 9

Bobby B. Boaldin

As we continue our series on evangelism, month number nine brings us to part three of **Peter's Confrontational Approach**. You may recall that in the previous two months we considered the two important lessons to learn. First, we examined the necessity of communicating God's word in a way that can be understood by those being addressed. Second, we studied the need for communicating God's word in a way that is relevant to the situation of the hearers. This month, I would like to direct your attention to the content of Peter's message when he confronted his hearers with the gospel.

The apostle begins by quoting the prophet Joel, a source which his audience would consider authoritative. This is an important lesson to learn from Peter's approach. Every person or group of people we are trying to reach with the gospel has someone that they respect and consider authoritative; a person who has influenced them or whose credentials, in the prospect's mind, are unimpeachable. For some, the credible source will be the word of God. For others, it may be a relative, friend or teacher. The idea is to find a source that the prospect respects and use that source in reasoning about the gospel. An excellent example of one using an extra-biblical source is Paul quoting pagan poets in his message on Mars Hill.

The next step in this approach is to steer the conversation toward a discussion about Christ. Peter seamlessly makes the transition from Joel to Jesus. Notice, Peter does not begin his message with the Good News. Instead, he starts with the bad news. He said, "You, with the help of wicked

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WindSong Patriotic Cafe

Hosted by
Our Teens



America! America! God shed his grace on thee and crown



thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!



SEX-INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE

According to my newspaper, “The divine Trinity—‘Father, Son and Holy Spirit’—could also be known as ‘Mother, Child and Womb’ or ‘Rock, Redeemer, Friend’ at some Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) services under an action Monday (June 19, 2006) by the church’s national assembly.”

“Delegates to the meeting voted to ‘receive’ a policy paper on sex-inclusive language for the Trinity, a step short of approving it. The vote means that church officials can propose experimental liturgies with alternative phrasing for the Trinity, but congregations won’t be required to use them.”

The rationale behind such a decision? To seek “fresh ways to speak of the mystery of the triune God” to “expand the church’s vocabulary of praise and wonder.”

In my years of reading the Bible I have never seen God referred to as “Mother” in the scriptures, nor the Holy Spirit called “Womb.” (Isaiah 9:6 does refer to the Son as “a child”).

Talk about sex-inclusive language gone to seed!

My reaction is much like that of a certain evil spirit of whom I read in Acts 19. Some exorcists saw Paul performing extraordinary miracles and undertook to pronounce the name of the Lord Jesus whom Paul preaches over those who had evil spirits. The evil spirit replied, “*Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?*”

The Father, Son and Holy Spirit I know! But “Mother, Child and Womb?” Who are you?

**JOHN GIPSON
WINDSONG CHURCH OF CHRIST**



God Provides

Bill McDonough

Six hundred thirty-eight rice growing families reside in the **Commune of Thom Nop Thom, Cambodia**. Each year they till the fields by hand with a few collectively owned oxen. About one out of every three years they get enough rain to produce a small rice crop, which they are dependent on for survival. Because there are congregations of the Lord's church that care about the people in this commune, some of the farmers benefit from the rice cooperative we started two years ago. Many of their children are also being fed by our Nutritional Feeding Program that sends a truck to their villages three days a week. However, many of those families never have enough to eat even in good years.

Ten years ago, a United Nations funded survey team drew the plans for an irrigation canal that, if completed, would provide water to eighty percent of these families. However, there has never been money to fund a three mile long canal with water gates. We, you and Partners In Progress, accepted the challenge to raise one hundred ten dollars per family to dig this canal. A committee to govern the canal was formed. That committee will be responsible to see that the canal is maintained.



Two months ago today the digging began, and next week the canal will be completed. Four hundred and sixteen of the families in this commune will now have water to raise rice every year and no longer will they suffer from starvation because **God Cares and uses us to do His will**.



Wrestling with Daddy

Joe Chesser

If you really desire something, it will almost always be in the forefront of your mind (I'm specifically thinking in terms of relationships here). After spending two weeks with their grandparents in Missouri, I picked up Max and Alex on Thursday. I was able to spend three days with the boys before Max and I headed off for a week at Camp Caudle. While they thoroughly enjoyed spending time with family in Missouri, the boys naturally missed seeing their parents while they were away. From the moment we arrived home, Alex had one desire; he wanted to wrestle with daddy. "Daddy, can we wrestle?" was his constant question. So we'd spend a few minutes scuffling on the floor. Two hours later though, I'd hear him ask again, "Daddy, can we wrestle?" I'll bet we spent two hours over the course of those days doing nothing but wrestling and scuffling on the floor.

There had been a void in his life for a couple of weeks, and he felt its absence. There was no satisfying this desire with one token scuffling match in the living room. Is that the level of our desire for God? Do we find our desire for a relationship with God satisfied after a token Sunday morning worship service? A quick encounter and we've had our fill? Or do we long for more? Are our thoughts constantly on "wrestling with daddy" or do other desires take precedence? David longed for a relationship with God that he likened to a deer's thirst for water (Psalm 42:1). I figure if your relationship with God is important to you, you find you just can't get enough.

Being Yourself and Being Evangelistic, Part 9—from Page 1

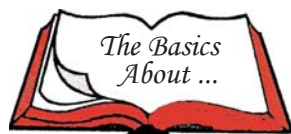
men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross." This is an evangelistic tactic that we must grasp. I am convinced that more people do not accept and obey the Good News because they do not understand the bad news. Many people do not understand that it is our sin that separates us from God, it is our sin that has offended God's holiness, and it is our sin that literally nailed Jesus to the cross. It is an accurate understanding of the bad news that makes the Good News good. If we are going to be successful in applying Peter's approach, this is a step that we cannot overlook. The prospect must know **where** he stands with God and **why** he stands in such a perilous place.

The final step in Peter's approach is to offer the means of salvation. When his audience fully comprehended the bad news they were ready for a remedy, "Brothers, what shall we do?" The response to their question offered them cleansing from their sins **and** communion with God. "Change the way you think and be immersed for the forgiveness of your sins and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." As a result of this approach, three thousand souls were saved that day.

Peter's approach was and is effective, but it is not for everyone. To make it work, we must communicate the relevance of God's word in a way that is understandable. We must appeal to that which the prospect considers authoritative, steer the conversation to Jesus, make plain the nature of the bad news, and then confront the prospect with the good news of forgiveness that comes from God. By conscientiously applying Peter's approach, the Lord will add to our number those who are being saved.

Join us for these three series of study:

Sunday 10 a.m.

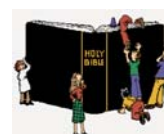


Sunday 5:30 p.m.



Learning to Be Leaders

Wednesday 6:30 p.m.



Why Believe in Jesus?
A Textual Study of the Gospel of John

BULLETIN BOARD

OUR JUNE RECORD

Average Attendance.....210
Average Contribution.....\$9,620
A. A. McLean Estate.....\$2,815.31
Building Campaign Funds...\$1,005,837

Membership.....**Linda Overbey**

With Sympathy To...

Lynette and Clif Gilliam on the death of her brother, **Bobby Harden**, on May 30, in Antioch, TN.

Kim and Andy Milam on the death of her uncle, **Horace George**, on June 1, in Marvell, AR.

Carol and David Chesser on the death of her aunt, **Ruby Smith**, on June 9, in Benton, AR.

Deanna Rogers on the death of her grandmother, **Pauline Rollins**, on June 12, in England, AR.

Cathy Moore on the death of her friend, **Nancy Raney**, on Thursday, June 15.

Lynette and Clif Gilliam on the death of her sister, **Peggy Crenshaw**, on June 19, in Atlanta, TX.

Marcia and Dale Tucker on the death of her sister, **Dona Germond**, on June 20, in Athol, MA.

Bud and Reba Lawrence on the death of his sister, **Beatrice Holt**, on June 23, Stuttgart, AR.

Jane and Bill Hefley on the death of her mother, **Ruby Sutherlin**, on July 1. The funeral will be at the Westside Church of Christ in Searcy, AR, on Tuesday, July 11.



GREETINGS
FROM THE
"SLIP 'N SLIDE"
AT
CAMP CAUDLE!

CONNECTIONS

Linda Overbey placed membership on Sunday, June 4. If you have not had a chance to meet Linda, please do so and welcome her into our WindSong family.

Tony Fowler was scheduled to leave on a mission trip to Belarus on Thursday, July 6. Please remember Tony and the congregation in Belarus in your prayers.

Congratulations to **Hannah Boaldin** who was named Most Outstanding Player on June 21, in the high school softball All-Star game at LadyBack Yard in Fayetteville. She started and later finished the All-Star game, earning a save after the East rallied with four seventh-inning runs in a 4-1 victory.

Stephanie Goertzen had the highest score in the state in the most recent CPA exam. Congratulations, Stephanie.

Congratulations to **Nicole Messer** who passed her NCLEX (Nursing Boards) on Thursday, June 22. Nicole is now a licensed Registered Nurse.

Shirley Ussery retired this year from Pulaski County Special Schools and Pine Forest Elementary, where she has worked for fifteen years. Congratulations, Shirley.

"Thank You" to our teens and all of the parents who helped with the **Patriotic Cafe** following classes on Wednesday evening, June 28. The coffee and desserts were delicious and the decorations were beautiful. We all appreciate the hard work that went into making this time of fellowship so special.

"Thank You" to **Sara Jouett** and all those who have helped, and are helping her with the landscaping around our new building. Rarely a week, sometimes a day, goes by that Sara and her helpers are not at the building supervising landscaping contractors, weeding, watering, etc. We benefit from, and greatly appreciate all your time and hard work!

Jay and Danna Gentry have asked for help with their girls' cottage at Southern Christian Home. The cottage has nothing in the way of entertainment for the girls, and not much in the way of furniture or wall decorations. Games for teenage girls and age appropriate movies, etc. would be highly appreciated. The five girls range in age from middle school through high school. Donations are tax deductible. If you can help, please contact **Don** or **Diane Johnson**.