

The Bulletin

Meeks St. Church of Christ

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October 17, 2021

“Gospel Meeting Days”

By Brian Meade

One of the many things we missed in the wake of this Coronavirus pandemic was our annual Gospel meetings. Like a lot of the things that changed in 2020, we reluctantly had to cancel meetings that were scheduled for last year.

But things have improved enough to allow us to be back in the building for worship, and now Gospel meetings have started to come back. Life is not completely normal by any stretch, but manageable enough to move forward.

Many churches are having meetings, and our meeting with Billy Randolph starts today. We certainly are thankful for the time and effort that he will be expending in presenting God’s word to us this week.

So with this in mind, let’s look at some of the benefits of Gospel meetings.

1. Gospel Meetings Are a Time To Invite Friends, Neighbors, and Relatives To Hear The Gospel Preached.

Before the Gospel meeting begins, we give special emphasis to inviting others to join us in our efforts to evangelize the world (Mark 16:15-16; Matthew 28:19-20). This means we want our friends who may attend in other places and may never be exposed to the truth to come and hear it presented to them in a bold, yet loving way (Ephesians 4:15; Ephesians 6:19-20). It reminds us of what Cornelius did in inviting *“his relatives and close friends.”* (Acts 10:24)

We will often invite everyone in the community we can to come and hear the word of truth spoken and God’s plan for saving man expounded. Some may even have been taught to believe in false doctrines of Calvinism, faith only, premillennialism, or institutionalism. We invite them with the hope that they will be convinced of the truth and leave error. That’s why we do what we do to reach them (Romans 1:15-17), because the gospel saves!

2. We Invite Faithful Christians In Other Congregations To Come And Support The Truth.

Besides all our efforts to reach and teach the lost, we also see it as a time to have fellowship and support in the gospel (Philippians 1:3-5). Pauls speaks of the church as the support of the truth in 1 Timothy 3:15, *“but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.”*

When we attend other meetings in the area and other Christians come to our meetings, it shows a united support for truth. It is helpful for visitors to see us “holding up the hands” of faithful gospel preachers in what they proclaim. When like-minded brethren come and demonstrate the love for sinners and solidarity for God’s word, it can do much good.

It is also a benefit to see and greet brethren who we may not see on a weekly basis in our own assembly. Although we are separated by distance, each of us are doing the work God has given us to do (Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:2; 1 Thessalonians 1:1). Christians from other congregations can also strengthen and encourage us in doing right (Rom. 1:12; 1 Cor. 16:18; 1Thessalonians 3:2). We need these interactions from time to time.

3. We Also Get To Hear Someone Different For A Needed Change In Preachers.

This is generally one of the favorite parts of a Gospel meeting. I believe everyone likes some change in our weekly assemblies in regard to the preaching. I, myself like the difference from our normal routine and look

forward to having someone different in the pulpit. It is not very often that I get to be in the pew with my family, listening to other capable men preaching the truth.

Sometimes a fresh face and different style of preaching can be good for us as a congregation. I look forward to taking notes, following in my Bible, and being a good listener for a change. Don't get me wrong, I really love the work that I do, and will be looking forward to getting back up to preach. But sometimes, change can be good.

May we all at Meeks Street come and do our part in support of the gospel!



Philippians 2:12 (NKJB)

“Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

“Negotiable Morals”

By Terry Wayne Benton

Do we, mere humans, get to negotiate with each other what morals, standards of right and wrong, should be? Can we negotiate changes over time? If so, the people of Sodom and Gomorrah were treated wrong. They negotiated their standard and their negotiations brought them to the conclusion that their sexual preferences were their agreed standard. Read Genesis 19. Should all the people of all the ages since that time apologize to them? We once abhorred such evil, and now we cheer such moral choices in our own time.

If morals are negotiable, God was wrong. But God is pure and holy! He is never sinful and wrong! Therefore, God was right and Sodomites were wrong then and now. Morals are not negotiable. God calls all men to repentance! (Acts 17:30-31).

The man at Corinth who had his father's wife (I Corinthians 5:1ff) was wrong then, and all fornication is wrong now (I Corinthians 7:1-3; 6:8-10). Morals are not negotiable! Sex before and without marriage is still immoral. That is not negotiable! (Hebrews 13:4). Living together without marriage is setting up for fornication. Morals are not negotiable!

Drinking alcohol for the pleasure of calming the nerves also compromises sobriety in moral judgment. Sobriety is not negotiable. You don't see how close to the line you can play. That is not sober thinking. Sober thinking is to see danger zones and avoid them. Why? Because morals are not negotiable!

Morals are like guardrails, put up to avoid getting too close to danger and death, and that includes the dangers of spiritual death that sin can cause. Morals are like guardrails. They protect us. Defy them and ignore them and you pay a price. Morals are like railing around a high deck. They protect people from falling to their death. Discard them and you will certainly venture into places you did not anticipate. The rails are in place for your protection. They are good and right. They are not mere suggestions!

God gave us good laws. If our moral standards are not God's standards, then like the Sodomites, we make them up to our own destruction. God's standards are not negotiable! If standards are negotiable, then there are no real standards at all. No one should be held accountable for anything. If anyone is held accountable for anything, then the standard must be a non-negotiable standard from a higher authority than ourselves. That truth is not negotiable!



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Meeks Street Church of Christ https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgiXJxZC1oraOugO9qIfBtw?view_as=subscriber

And Our Facebook Page.

For sermon videos, articles, and announcements.

News and Notes: Sick and recovering: Tim Harris Sr, Tim Harris Jr, Chad Harris, June Lawson (Lisa Busby's Mom), Debbie Keplinger, Janis Johnson, Daniel Holloway, Betty Hurst, Peggy Harville (cancer), Clois and Estell Wright, Linda Hunt, David Taylor, Randy Beaty, Sam Johnson, Sherry Doles, Mrs. Jennie Daniel (Dan and Lynlie's neighbor), Anna Hearn, Randy Ferrell, J F Dancer, & Earl Mitchell.

Those Who Serve:

Sunday Morning 9:00 A.M. Service:

Opening Prayer:	Tim Harris Jr.
Preaching:	Billy Randolph
Sermon #1:	<i>"Trusting God"</i>
<u>Auditorium Bible Class: 9:35am:</u>	Billy Randolph
	<i>"A Chosen People"</i>

Sunday Morning 10:30 A.M. Service:

Announcements:	Doug George
Opening Prayer & Scripture Reading:	Brian Meade
	<i>1 Peter 1:6-9</i>
Song Leader:	Jerry Kennemur
Lord's Supper:	Fred Johnson
Assisting:	— —
Preaching:	Billy Randolph
Sermon #2:	<i>"God Is So Good"</i>
Closing Prayer:	Tim Harris Jr.

Wednesday Evening: 7:00 P.M.

October 20th

Announcements:	Brian Meade
Gospel Meeting:	Billy Randolph
Song Leader:	Dan Cottrell
Closing Prayer:	Brian Meade