

# The Bulletin

## Meeks St. Church of Christ

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October 15, 2017

### How to Approach the Lost #2

By Brian Meade

In our last two articles, we identified the five classes of lost people in an effort to understand the reasons why they were comfortable in their lost condition. We now want to turn our efforts to evangelizing the lost....specifically, how do we approach each class with the gospel? What do we need to focus on with each type?

#### IV. Those in Religious Error.

##### 1. Convince Them They Are In Error.

One of the hardest tasks the Lord calls us to do is to convince someone of their error from the truth (2 Timothy 2:17-18).

It is made difficult because they are certain of their saved condition already, and see no need to change. But they need to! (Proverbs 14:12)

When there are departures from the truth of God's word— they cannot be *ignored*, *swept under the rug*, or *compromised with* (2 John 9-11; Galatians 2:3-5) — but rather they must be dealt with as a serious offense against God.

This is why Bible studies are so important and needful! They help us to learn all we can— for the purpose of showing people in the Bible where they have gone wrong.

##### 2. That Error Makes Them Lost.

Error on the plan of salvation, the church, traditions of men, and worship to God— all make one's service to God meaningless & vain “And in vain they worship Me, teaching *as* doctrines the commandments of men.” Matthew 15:9) They need to know that they cannot stay on their current path of error and still be saved (2 Peter 2:1-3; Titus 1:9-13).

##### 3. Convert Them To The Truth.

It certainly is possible and desirable to convert someone from error to the truth (James 5:19-20; Titus 1:13).

We must be convinced that those in false religion need to come to the knowledge of the truth (Romans 10:1-3; I Timothy 2:4).

#### V. Christians Who Fall Away.

##### 1. Remind them of their lost condition.

*“Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back,<sup>20</sup> let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.”* (James 5:19-20)

James pictures for us the scene of a Christian who wanders from the truth and is in need of conversion back to the truth. It is also said of the person who turns him back, *“from the error of his way”*— *“saves a soul from death.”*

If we are ever going to restore those who fall away from faithfulness, we must remind them of their lost condition before God. They need to know they cannot remain on their current path (of death) and be saved.

### **2. Remind them that sin is not worth it.**

Christians who fall away, also need to be reminded that there is no sin pleasurable enough to lose his soul for (Hebrews 11:24-26; Matthew 16:26). There is no way that the temporary nature of sin’s pleasure ever makes it rational to give up eternal life with God!

### **3. Exhort them to come back to God.**

Finally, we exhort them to come back to God and the faithfulness they had in His service. It is truly where they need to be..... Home with the Father—just like the prodigal son! (Luke 15:17-32)

# GOSPEL MEETING

**Meeks Street Church  
of Christ**

**With Billy Randolph**

**October 15<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>**

**7:00 P.M. Nightly**

## **All Spiritual Blessings**

By Jim Walsh

*“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.”* (Ephesians 1:3)

A passage which deals with the blessing we receive from God, is found in the first chapter of Ephesians. Let’s consider what this passage teaches.

1) First, let’s consider what the term “Blessed” means. The first “Blessed” in this verse is the Greek word, *eulogetos*, and it means to praise. Vine’s Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament words says this form of the word is ONLY used of God. The second form of “Blessed”, is the Greek word, *eulogeo*, and it means to speak well, to provide blessings, honor. Our English word, “Eulogy” (to speak well), comes from this word.

2) Secondly, this verse reminds us of the law of sowing and reaping. If we are the type of people who praise God, in all sincerity and honor, then we can expect that He will respond in kind. Paul wrote to the Galatians about this, when he said: *“...whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”* (Galatians 6:7) It is strange that so many think they can live as they please, and even disrespect God, but still believe that He will reward them! We cannot sow evil and expect to reap good blessing from God! When we give our lives over to sin, we are actually under a curse, rather than being blessed (Rom. 2:8-9).

3) Finally, we note the place of these spiritual blessings: *“In Christ.”* Those who are in fellowship with God, are found only in Christ Jesus (see I John 1:7). His blessings are not OUTSIDE of Christ. We praise and honor God with our obedience to Jesus Christ when we obey His gospel. And in turn, God promises to shower us with eternal blessings, which are found only in Christ!

**News and Notes:** sick and recovering: Tim Harris Sr, Tim Harris Jr, Chad Harris, Betty Hurst, Janis Johnson, Steve Switcher, Delain Doles, Billy Mac Fredrick, Gail Armstrong, Nicky Curtis, and preacher Elmo Wilson is in Cornerstone Rehab in Corinth. (Room B13).

**Those Who Serve**

**Sunday Morning 9:00 A.M. Service:**

**Opening Prayer:** Sam Johnson  
**Preaching:** Billy Randolph  
**Sermon:** *"The Lamb of God"*

**Auditorium Bible Class: 9:35am**

**Sunday Morning 10:30 A.M. Service:** Billy Randolph  
*"Adding the Graces"*

**Announcements:** Paul Busby

**Lord's Table:** Fred Johnson  
**Assisting:** Chris Callahan & Dan Cottrell

**Opening Prayer & Scripture Reading:** Russell Briggs

**Song Leader:** Dan Cottrell  
**Preaching:** Billy Randolph  
**Sermon:** *"Overcoming Discouragement"*

**Closing Prayer:** Paul Johnson

**Wednesday Evening: 7:00 P.M.**

**October 18<sup>th</sup>:**

**Auditorium Bible Class:** Billy Randolph  
**Invitation:** (Gospel Meeting)  
**Song Leader:** Paul Busby  
**Closing Prayer:** Tony Whittemore