

From Where I Sit . . .

Fall Gospel Meeting!!

In response to interest expressed by our deacons at the last meeting on Sunday afternoon, our elders decided Monday night to move ahead with plans for a Fall Gospel Meeting instead of waiting until 2003. Instead, they've set October 27-30, Sunday through Wednesday, as the dates. This is timed to match the Saturday, October 26 Fall Festival and Vacation Bible School Reunion we announced earlier this year as a planned follow-up to VBS. Ideally, parents and students will be at our building for several hours on Saturday renewing friendships, reviewing some great VBS lessons and songs, and then enjoying a festival of fun activities planned for the boys and girls in the multi-purpose room.

The next morning we'll kick off the Gospel Meeting with your minister as the speaker by way of introduction to the Scottsboro area. We're focusing on the theme "The Home As God Would Have It" at each service. We feel this will be an inviting series of lessons as most families are focused on ways of improving relations within their individual homes.

We'll be flooding the area with advertisements, and we'll enlist the help of the entire congregation to "wake the town and tell the people." Someone asked me recently if I believed the day of Gospel Meetings was gone. My answer then and now is that it all depends on how hard we work to make them a success. When we diligently get out there and recruit attendees, and when we faithfully work on getting the entire congregation committed to participate at each service, we can indeed have a dynamic Gospel Meeting. When we go, they come!

This meeting should set the tone for an all out effort on the part of Broad Street congregation to evangelize this community. Our renewed energies with the youth work along with a new focus on the Bible school, supported by a strong image in the community for benevolent relief are strong factors in church growth. The bottom line remains, however, that we must think "evangelism." Unless we have a passion for souls, not many "fish" are just going to jump into the boat.

It's hard to market a product we don't believe in and fail to use ourselves. It's time for every member of Broad Street to commit to being faithful and zealous in the work of the Lord. A number of members only come on rare occasions. A different number come more frequently but rarely make it for the second service on Sunday. Many do not make it to any of our Bible classes. Then there are those who we can depend on every time the door is open.

The apostle Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 4:2 "Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful." It's time we quit kidding ourselves. We are either for the Lord or we are an obstacle and thus work against the Lord. "He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad" (Matt. 12:30). "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon" (Matt. 6:24).

..... Terry Broome

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