

Pray For The Sick And Afflicted:

Sherrie Williams
Delores Hendrickson
Ken and Sherrie Roosa's son-in-law (colon cancer)
Dean Cook
Shirley Cook's brother Bill, his wife Doris and their son Dale
Randy Murray (Cindy Murray's husband)
Ernest Brown (Evelyn Murphy's father)
Jimmy Lindsey's friend at the group home
Zachary Baxter (Susie Burdsall's grandson, deployed in the U.S. Navy)
Edwin Parnell (Mike Parnell's brother, cancer)

Pray For Our Shut-ins:

Goldie Gilbert, Al and Gertrude Reynolds

Pray For The Mission Work That We Support:

John Grubb (mission work in Asia)
Charles DiPalma (mission work in Australia and New Zealand)
Northwest Florida School of Biblical Studies

Pray For Our Upcoming Events:

Monthly Pitch-in Dinner – Our next monthly pitch-in dinner will be Sunday, September 1st, immediately following the morning services. Following the pitch-in we will reconvene at 1:00 PM for an afternoon service then dismiss for the day.

Men's Business Meeting – The next men's business meeting will be held September 1st, immediately following the pitch-in dinner.

September Fish Fry – Our annual fish fry will be held on Saturday, September 28th at the Martinsville Jimmy Nash City Park, shelter house No. 5, at 5:00 PM.

Fall Gospel Meeting – Our fall gospel meeting will be held November 8 – 10 with brother Sidney White. Additional details will follow. Please begin to pray for our meeting.

Jesse Riddle New Address and Phone No.

We pray for health and happiness for brother Jesse Riddle who has begun his next venture in life. Jesse will be living with his son Dane and daughter-in-law Beth in Dresden, TN. Jesse's contact information is as follows:

530 Woodruff Rd. Dresden, TN 38225

Tel. (731) 364-0060 (note: This is Dane and Beth's home number. Jesse intends to get a new cell phone at a later date. When he gets it, we will share it with everyone.)

God's Plan For Our Salvation:

1. **Hearing** the word of God (Romans 10:17; Acts 16:32).
2. **Believing** what is taught (Mark 16:16; Hebrews 11:6).
3. **Repentance** (Acts 2:38; Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30).
4. **Confession** (Romans 10:9, 10; Acts 8:37).
5. **Baptism** (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; I Peter 3:21; Romans 6:3,4).
6. After the above five steps, **Faithful Christian Living** (I Peter 2:11, 12; Revelation 2:10).

August 25, 2019

MORGAN STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

**540 E. Morgan Street
Martinsville, IN 46151
(765) 342-6027**



Schedule of Services:

Sunday

Bible Study – 9:30 AM

Worship – 10:30 AM and 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Study – 7:00 PM

Thursday

Ladies Bible Study – 11:00 AM (March – October)

Radio Program:

“Preparing For Eternity”

Sunday Mornings 8:00 AM, WCBK 102.3 FM

Website:

www.morganstreetchurchofchrist.org

Gospel Preacher – Bob Hawkins

SEEKING THE LOST

Ronnie Whitemore

In one of the clearest passages of the Bible that explains Jesus' mission on this earth, Jesus said, *"For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost"* (Luke 19:10). Before His ascension into heaven, Jesus charged His apostles, saying, *"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned"* (Mark 16:15-16).

The first place in which they would preach the Gospel of Christ was Jerusalem (Luke 24:46-47). After the "good news of salvation" was preached in this great city, the apostles and disciples preached in Judea, Samaria and the rest of the world (Acts 1:8; 8:12; Col. 1:23).

The charge that Jesus issued nearly 2,000 years ago did not end with the apostles or the Christians of the first century. Jesus' challenge has been issued to every Christian in every generation. In Matthew's account of the unlimited commission, Jesus told His apostles, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: *Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you:* and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen" (Matt. 28:19-20). The apostle Paul wrote to Timothy, *"And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also"* (2 Tim. 2:2). Therefore, it is the duty of every Christian to "seek and save the lost."

By making an acrostic out of the word, L-O-S-T, we can learn some valuable points that will encourage and admonish us to accept and fulfill this great command of the Lord.

LOVE

The first letter of the word, "LOST," is "L" which is also the first letter of the word, "LOVE." If God's people are going to "seek and save the lost," then they must have love and concern for the souls of others. The apostle John revealed our true motive for loving God. He wrote, *"We love him, because he first loved us"* (1 John 4:19). The heavenly Father demonstrated His love by designing a plan of redemption that included the sending of His only begotten Son into the world (John 3:16). Jesus demonstrated His great love by being a willing sacrifice upon the cruel cross of Calvary (Heb. 12:2).

It is much easier to love someone that reciprocates that love (Matt. 5:46-48). However, Jesus died on the cross for sinners, even His enemies (Rom. 5:8-9)! When we reach the understanding that every man possesses a soul and that soul is valuable, yea priceless (Matt. 16:26), then we will be motivated by LOVE for the souls of men and women to "seek and save the lost."

OPTIMISM

The second letter of the word "LOST," is the letter "O" which is the first letter of the word, "OPTIMISM." Perhaps one reason God's people fail to "seek and save the lost" is that they lack this ingredient. Skepticism and pessimism are much more common characteristics in this world. Everyone and everything are under some kind of suspicion. Based upon the actions of this world, certainly wisdom dictates that precaution be exercised. Yet, however wicked this world may be, there is always HOPE that someone will obey the Gospel. It appears that Ananias was very skeptical of preaching the Gospel to Saul of Tarsus, yet Saul obeyed when he heard the Gospel!

Dear reader, have you figured out a formula by which you can automatically know who will obey the Gospel and who will not? We are sometimes surprised and also ashamed when people that are the vilest (in our judgment) obey the Gospel. The only secure way of pricking the conscience of the honest and sincere is to "preach the gospel to every creature."

We must remember that as proclaimers of the Gospel, it is our charge to "TEACH and PREACH." Conversion is left to the sinner and the power of the Gospel. The Lord did not challenge His people to "convert the world." He charged them to "preach the gospel." God will give the increase (1 Cor. 3:6; Isa. 55:11).

SIN

The third letter of the word, "LOST" is "S" which is also the first letter of the word, "SIN." Could it be that many brethren hesitate in teaching the Gospel to others because they are not thoroughly convinced of the destructive power of sin? Evidence is overwhelming that this may be the case. When brethren turn to a "social gospel" which is a gospel of another kind (Gal. 1:6-9) and believe that "relationships save rather than the gospel," then they are denying the power of the Gospel to overcome sin (2 Tim. 3:5). The popular doctrine of "Universalism" teaches that God will save everyone regardless of his conduct and behavior. People who believe this devilish doctrine deny the destructive power of sin (Rom. 3:10,23; 6:23; James 1:13-15; Rev. 21:8). When we realize the harm that sin does to the soul, then we will also recognize the urgency of "seeking and saving the lost."

TEACH

The fourth letter of the word, "LOST," is the letter "T" which is also the first letter of the word, "TEACH." Men cannot be saved from their sins unless they are taught the Gospel (John 6:44-45). Jesus' life was filled with action and teaching (Acts 1:1). God's redemptive plan is no longer a mystery. It has been revealed through the inspired word of God (1 Cor. 2:9-13). But men must be taught (Rom. 10:13-17). Brethren usually are hesitant about teaching others; however, every Christian has the ability to tell others what to do to be saved. It is simply a matter of rehearsing what he/she did to save their own soul in light of the Scriptures.

May each of us do his or her part in reaching the lost with the soul-saving message of the Gospel.