# Why Are We Not Converting The World?

Matthew 9:35-38

#### God's People Have Responsibility Teach The Gospel To The Lost

Great Commission

#### Mark 16:15-16

15 And he said unto them, <u>Go ye</u> into all the world, and preach the gospel to the whole creation.

16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that disbelieveth shall be damned.

#### God's People Have Responsibility Teach The Gospel To The Lost

Church is Pillar & Ground of Truth

#### 1 Timothy 3:15

15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how men ought to behave themselves in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

#### God's People Have Responsibility Teach The Gospel To The Lost

Early Disciples Spread the Word

#### Acts 8:4

4 They therefore that were scattered abroad <u>went about</u> preaching the word.

#### Acts 11:19-20

19 They therefore that were scattered abroad upon the tribulation that arose about Stephen travelled as far as Phoenicia, and Cyprus, and Antioch, speaking the word to none save only the Jews.

20 But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they were come to Antioch, spake unto the Greeks also, preaching the Lord Jesus.

## God's People Have Responsibility Teach The Gospel To The Lost

- Great Commission
- · Church is Pillar & Ground of Truth
- · Early Disciples Spread the Word

We Ought To Be Working To Convert The World!

#### **Ways We Can Reach The World**

Gospel Meeting
Computer Classes
Home Bible Studies
Tracts & Tapes, CD's
Special Series
Bring Others to Regular Services

# Why Are We Not Converting The World?

Preaching The Gospel

#### World Is Not Interested In The Gospel

#### Why such little interest?

- Cares of the world (Luke 8:14; Philippians 2:21)
- Gospel demands changes love darkness (John 3:19)
- False sense of security (Jeremiah 6:14; 8:11)
- Not popular (Matthew 7:13-14; John 1:11-12; 6:66)

#### World Is Not Interested In The Gospel

#### Our job - not to convert, but teach

- Command is to teach (Mark 16:15)
- Even if don't listen done our job (Ezekiel 3:16-21)
- Jesus taught many turned away (John 1:11-12)
- Crowds rejected the apostles (Acts 13:45; 17:32)

#### World Is Not Interested In The Gospel

#### The "unlikely" just may listen & obey

- Religious/Gentile Cornelius (Acts 10)
- Non-Religious Simon (Acts 8:9-13)
- Worldly Corinthians (Acts 18:8; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11)
- Ignorant Jews (Acts 2:23; 3:17)
- Persecutor Saul (Acts 8:3; 9:1-2;
   1 Timothy 1:15; Acts 22:12-16)
- Politician Jailor (Acts 16:25-33)

#### Don't View The World As Lost

#### World is lost in sin

- All men are sinners (Romans 3:9, 23)
- Sin separates from God (Isaiah 59:1-2)
- If die in sin hell fire (Romans 6:23; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10)
- Reason Jesus came to earth (Luke 19:10)

Anyone who has not obeyed the gospel is lost!

#### **Don't View The World As Lost**

#### World is lost in sin

#### How we view people of the world

- Good people
- Believe different than we do (Galatians 1:6-9)
- Focus on friendship, likeable, good moral qualities
- Little or no attention to the fact they are LOST!

May be because our focus is on the here and now!

#### Don't View The World As Lost

#### Motivated to greater evangelism

- If viewed the people from spiritual condition (Ephesians 2:1-2)
- If view them without hope (Ephesians 2:12)
- If view them on road to eternal separation from God (Revelation 21:8)

#### **Message Preached Is Not Redemption**

#### <u>Gospel Message – Redemption /</u> Salvation

- Power unto salvation (Romans 1:16-17)
- How we are saved (1 Corinthians 15:1-4)
- Peter's sermon salvation from sin (Acts 2)
- Paul's sermon on Mars Hill salvation (Acts 17:22-31)

#### Message Preached Is Not Redemption

#### <u>Gospel Message – Redemption /</u> Salvation

- Peter's sermon to Gentiles (Acts 10:34-48)
- Paul's Sermon in Antioch on 1<sup>st</sup> Journey (Acts 13:16-41)
- Books like Romans, Galatians, Ephesians, Colossians, etc. have themes about salvation.

#### **Message Preached Is Not Redemption**

#### **Gospel Demands Change of Life**

- Repentance (Acts 2:38; 17:30-31)
- Stop & cease sin (Romans 6)
- Give up old religion (1 Thessalonians 1:9)
- Start doing things to serve God (Acts 26:17-20)

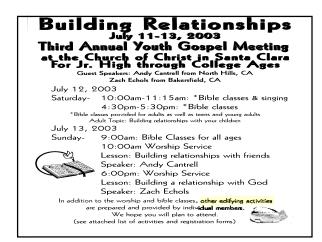
#### Message Preached Is Not Redemption

#### Message Has Shifted - Social

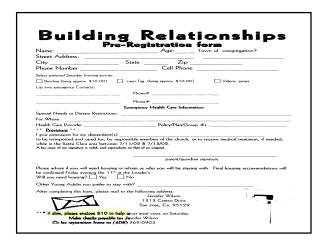
- More on relationships
- How to be a better person
- "Feel Good," "motivational" preaching
- Topics: Depression, Coping, Aging, Relationships, etc.

#### The Social Gospel:

Church Kitchen
Fellowship Hall
Ball Teams
Recreation Programs
Day Care Centers/ Preschools
Gimmicks To Draw Crowds
Etc...



Building Relationships
Fellowship Activities
July 1 1, 2003 Friday, 6:30-9:30pm:
Meet at Bob and Bonnie Loader's Rec. Room
4230 Erie Ct. Santa Clara, CA. 95054 (Maps attached)
for Final Registration, Games, Singing, Housing Information
and Drop-off.
***Pre-registration is preferred- please be sure to mail in your
forms early.
July 12, 2003 Saturday (maps will be provided)
11:30am: Central Park in Senta Clara (Arbor area) on Kiely
Blvd. for BB-Cl games, sports, etc.
6:00pm: Pizza & Pipes
Sat Evening: Select on pre-registration form your preference
of three activities (Laser tag, Bowling, or games/videos)
July 13, 2003 Sunday
11:30am: Homestead Park for Potluck lunch and more
activities
7:00pm: Parent Pick-up there evening services  While these proceedings of posteriors are postered, they have
While these more tions activities are optioned, they have been planned by individual members for further fellowship. It is their hope that all teens and young adults will plan to attact.
For Additional Information Call Steve Wilson: (408) 257-1634



# NOTE: Social activities, recreation, and benevolence were never offered in NT days as the means by which to get people to become Christians. THE GOSPEL IS GOD'S DRAWING POWER BY WHICH TO CALL MEN. (2 Thessalonians 2:14; Romans 1:16)

**The Social Gospel** 

Are these things worthy of the blood of Jesus Christ? cf. Ephesians 5:25; Acts 20:28

## The "social gospel" is "another gospel." cf. Galatians 1:8-9

The gospel of Christ is to save the soul for eternity ... The social gospel calls for the improvement of social conditions for the here and now.

The gospel of Christ treats the disease while the social gospel treats only the symptoms. The gospel of Christ seeks to convert people to Christ; the later simply to a better & more pleasant way of life.

#### The "social gospel" is "another gospel." cf. Galatians 1:8-9

The gospel of Christ seeks to make society better by making Christians while the social gospel seeks to make Christians through social adjustments.

For example, educators are urged to combat social diseases, unwed motherhood, and other related problems by teaching and making arrangements for "safe sex," whereas the gospel of Christ simply says "Flee fornication."

#### The "social gospel" is "another gospel". cf. Galatians 1:8-9

The standard of authority for each is also different.

- For the gospel of Christ, it is the Scripture, the wisdom of God;
- For the social gospel it is human wisdom (cf. James 3:13-17; 1 Corinthians 1:20-25)

#### **Content To "Keep House"**

#### What is meant by "keeping house"?

- Assemble, worship do little more
- Maintain "status quo"
- Thinking: We have a church place to worship – so we meet Sunday & Wednesday do nothing more.

#### **Content To "Keep House"**

#### Why are we content?

- Think our mission to merely show up at worship
- View church as a religious club

#### **Content To "Keep House"**

#### A Church that didn't keep house

Church at Antioch in Syria

Acts 13-14 First evangelistic tour of Paul Acts 15-18 Second evangelistic tour of Paul Acts 18-21 Third evangelistic tour of Paul

#### **Fear Of Offending & Alienating Others**

#### Fear of offending

- Gospel will offend (Matthew 10:34ff; Acts 13:45-48)
- Gospel is distinctive & narrow (1 John 4:1, 6)
- Gospel convicts world of sin (John 16:8; Acts 2:37)

#### Fear Of Offending & Alienating Others

#### Fear of offending

- Fear of making folks mad upsetting them
  - Uncomfortable when bringing a friend and sermon deals with ...
  - Afraid to "turn them off" or they will dislike us

#### **Fear Of Offending & Alienating Others**

#### Fear of Alienating a friend

- Gospel sometimes will alienate people (Matthew 10:34ff)
- If try to convert friend or family could cause a strain
- So, deem it not worth the risk (cf. Luke 16:28)

### Why We Are Not Converting The World

**World Is Not Interested In The Gospel** 

**Don't View The World As Lost** 

Message Preached Is Not Redemption

Content To "Keep House"

Fear Of Offending & Alienating Others

#### What Can We Do?

Become more evangelistic

Try to reach family, friends with gospel

Use Bible materials

Set up Home Bible Studies

Bring someone to a Gospel Meeting

Bring someone to a special class or service

Talk to others about Bible questions