

The Power of Evangelism

The Lord's church has been given a work to do. That work is to evangelize the world. Jesus commanded the apostles to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature (Mark 16:15-16). The Gospel is the good news that Jesus died on the cross for the sins of the world, that He was buried and that He was resurrected from the grave, so that man might be saved and have the hope of eternal life. Christ said that it was the **facts** of that Gospel—the **facts** of that good news—that were to be taken to all the world. He also said that the **commands** of the Gospel were to be **preached** and **obeyed** if man was to be saved.

Individual Christians exist in a city or village, and throughout the world, wherever the Gospel has been preached and there are those who were willing to obey it. With the conversion of two or more, a local congregation is established and begins to function. In addition to meeting each first day of the week to worship, its main work is to evangelize, to preach the Gospel to those in that area, and as it grows in knowledge and numbers, it is to reach out to the whole area in an effort to establish other congregations.

A Christian, or a group of Christians, that make up a local congregation, should never be satisfied to just meet on the first day of the week to worship. Worship is very important, as well as living the daily Christian life, but each Christian, and the local congregation itself, should be very much aware of the need to take the Gospel to their family members, to friends, to those with whom they work and to people in general.

When the church is busy taking the Gospel to others, then it is happy, has a mission, has plans and goals to reach the lost, and as a result, the congregation will grow both spiritually and numerically.

Are you a Christian? If so, what are you doing? Are you teaching God's Word to those around you? Have you converted anyone? What are your plans for the future?

As a member of the Lord's church, a member of a local congregation, what is that congregation doing? What efforts is it making to take the Gospel to others? Is the church growing? Is it establishing other congregations in the area around where you live? What plans does it have for the future?

May God help us to do more to take the Gospel to the world. This is the hope of mankind. This is your hope and my hope.

By J.C. Choate