

How To Have A Good Gospel Meeting

Acts 10:19-33

Introduction:

- A. Purpose of our gospel meetings not always as clear as could be.
 - 1. Not merely a semi-annual custom.
 - 2. Not merely a public relations event. (cf. Mt. 6:1; Gal. 1:10).
- B. Purpose of our gospel meeting should be fourfold:
 - 1. To preach to the lost world. (Mt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:16)
 - 2. To seek to restore lost brethren. (Gal. 6:1; Jas. 5:19,20).
 - 3. To teach faithful Christians. (Heb. 2:1-3; 2 Tim. 2:2-5).
 - 4. To discharge our responsibility. (Acts 20:20,26,27).
- C. Story of Cornelius makes some *suggestions* for a good gospel meeting.

Discussion:

- I. We Should Arrange For Good Gospel Preaching. (vv. 17-19,33; cf. Acts 11:14)**
 - A. This does not mean to most “dynamic” speaker possible. (2 Cor. 10:10)
 - 1. Too much attention of entertaining “delivery”, not enough the message delivered.
 - 2. Too much emphasis on “manner”, too little on “matter” (cf. 2 Cor. 11:6).
 - B. This does mean to arrange to have the gospel preached. (Rom. 1:15,16; 1 Cor. 1:21)
 - 1. Preached in its purity. (Gal. 1:6-9).
 - 2. Preached in its plainness. (cf. 1 Cor. 14:5-9).
 - 3. Preached with love (Eph. 4:15)
- II. We Should Seek To Magnify God Rather Than Man. (vv. 25,26,46).**
 - A. Too much focus on personalities in meetings — degrees, accomplishments, etc.
 - 1. Power of gospel message does not depend on fleshly accomplishments. (Acts 4:13).
 - 2. Power of gospel message does not depend on how well we know or like speaker.
 - 3. Power of gospel message is churches real strength, not fleshly strength. (2 Cor. 4:7; 1 Cor. 2:3).
 - B. Too much focus on impressing community with *us* rather than the Lord.
 - 1. We like to point to our facility, our physical growth, our people.
 - 2. We like to the advantages of becoming one of *us* rather than added to Lord.
- III. We Should Especially Pray For The Meeting. (v. 31).**
 - A. That the speaker speak as “he ought to speak” - rather than apologize for his boldness. (Eph. 6:10).
 - B. That the word will have free course - rather than hindered. (2 Thess. 3:1).
 - C. For the welfare of those who preach and the lost. (2 Thess. 3:2; Rom. 10:1-4).
- IV. We Should Try To Provide A Good Audience. (vv. 24,27).**
 - A. Is it important enough for you to attend?
 - B. Is it important enough for you to want others to attend.
 - C. Do you try to make people think that you really want them to attend?

Conclusion:

- A. A good meeting requires *extra* effort on our part.
- B. A good meeting requires *combined* effort on our part.