

Gospel Power



“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation...” (Romans 1:16)

The Gospel Power is published in interest of New Testament Christianity and to enhance the work of the Anderson church.

**Anderson
church of Christ**
5900 Highway 207
Anderson, Alabama

Visit Us On The Web
Anderson-church.org

Men Priviledged To Serve:
Sunday, May 7th

Bible Classes

Song Leader
..... Brian Word
Bible Reading (Exo. 26:14-25)
..... Rodney McCrary
Prayer
..... Jimmy Glass

Morning Worship

Song Leader
..... Brian Word
Prayer
..... Larry White
Lord's Supper
Presiding Jerry Dickey
Assisting Andrew Gatlin
Serving Eric Butler
..... Kevin Chancellor
..... Trent Thornton
..... Ethan Presnell
Closing Prayer
..... James Word

Evening Worship

Song Leader
..... Mark McIntyre
Bible Reading (Exo. 26:26-37)
..... Ray Tucker
Prayer
..... Michael Clemmons
Lord's Supper
..... Jerry Dickey
..... Andrew Gatlin
Closing Prayer
..... Eddie J. Hammond

Volume XIII

May 7, 2006

No. 19

Are You Ready To Respond?

Mark McIntyre

In writing to the church at Colossae, Paul exhorts the Christians there to “Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned, as it were with salt, so that you may know how you should respond to each person” (Colossians 4:6). In connection with this thought, in the preceding verse, Paul also mentioned for them to make the most of their opportunities. In other words, we are to know what to say at the right time. This is a rare, but needful gift. When I think about this thought I am reminded of the apostle Peter. There are many occasions in which Peter said the right thing at the right time.

In Matthew chapter 16:13, Jesus asked his disciples “Who do people say that the Son of Man Is?” The text says that some say John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah or one of the prophets. Jesus then directs the question back to them and asks “But who do you say that I am?” Peter takes the opportunity to say the right thing at the right time. He answered “Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God.” Jesus wanted to know what his disciples believed about Him and Peter answered boldly and decisively.

Another occasion in Peter's life is found in John 6:67-68. In the beginning of chapter 6 Jesus feeds the 5,000 and then begins to teach them the cost of discipleship. Verse 60 says, “Many therefore of His disciples, when they heard this said, This is a difficult statement; who can listen to it?” Verse 66 says, “As a result of this (Jesus' teachings) many of His disciples withdrew and were not walking with Him anymore.” When the rubber hit the road and Jesus began teaching the people the cost of discipleship, many left. Seeing the same 5,000 people who had followed Him now leaving

had to be a discouraging sight for Jesus to see. He turned to the twelve and said “You do not want to go away also, do you?” Peter again takes this opportunity to say the right thing at the right time and said “Lord, to whom say we go? You have the words of eternal life.” How decisive, how bold! Peter was convinced that there was no other and that Jesus is the only one with the words of eternal life. That was the perfect response and the perfect time to Jesus’ question.

The last occasion that I want to share with you is found in Acts 5:29. This was very early in the history of the church when Peter and the apostles were spreading the gospel in Jerusalem. He and others were already been arrested once in Acts 4:3 and were threatened not to teach or speak in the name of Jesus anymore in Acts 4:18 but they kept on preaching the gospel. They were arrested again in Acts 5 and were brought before the Council and were questioned saying “We gave you strict orders not to continue teaching in this (Jesus’) name and behold you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and intent to bring this man’s blood upon us.” Peter could have been intimidated and could have very easily given in to their orders but he didn’t. He said the right thing at the right time. In verse 29, “But Peter and the apostles answered and said, We must obey God rather than men.” Peter states the principle that should govern all Christians. God comes first and obedience to his commands takes precedent over all other authorities.

May we learn from the apostle Peter and take advantage of each and every opportunity to teach and properly answer each person. Remember what Peter says in 1 Peter 3:15 “Always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence.”

**Remember Our Service
Tonight at 6:00.**

Simpler Times

David Posey

Sometimes, we may feel like our age is unlike any other, that people are vastly different today than 50, 60 or 70 years ago. Therefore, we may feel almost completely disconnected with the things and people in bygone days.

Without doubt, times have changed. We are much more affluent – the average household income in El Dorado Hills is well over \$90,000; we are far more educated, more literate, more traveled and more informed. Airplanes, cell phones and e-mail has made the world smaller. Computers have quickened the pace of just about everything we do and there seems to be no end to technological achievement and opportunity.

Pretty impressive, isn’t it? Yet, most people have seen how empty our lives become when we make career, prosperity and intellectual/professional achievement our main ambition. “Vanity, all is vanity,” said the Preacher in Ecclesiastes, and we know it’s true.

The things that really matter never change. Strong families, loving marriages, good friends, and a sound faith – these are the things that matter most. These are the things that give our lives purpose and value, regardless of what the NASDAQ does.

The news for some is that it has always been so. My mother started writing a journal in 1989 and made entries in it up to the time of her death in 1997. It deals mostly with her life from about 3 years old through high school, a period dating back 75 years. As I read the pages, I was struck with how little the important things have changed. Family, the church, friends: we all still value those most, just as mom did.

When we reflect on the things that have really changed, we realize what we have lost as a culture. My mom wrote about how she would

spend a 1930s summer day, sitting in a tree and enjoying the green leaves and smelling the blossoms. Today I imagine most kids – and their parents – are too busy playing soccer, going to band practice, or playing with their X-Box to take time to even think of such a mundane activity.

There is no question that the pace of our lives has quickened, and we are not better for it. We could all use some of that “tree time,” far away from TV or radio. Instead of sitting in front of computer screens and the Big Screen, we need more family time – with our own families and the family of God – eating homemade ice cream and making memories. Instead of putting in extra hours to try to “get ahead,” we need more of those bike rides with good friends, “even into the hills” where we just “talk and talk” (as another entry from my mother’s journal describes it). We need to slow down and, as the overused but under experienced expression goes, “smell the roses.”

It’s not my intention to glorify the “good old days.” The writer of Ecclesiastes says that those who do so are not wise (Ecclesiastes 7:10). And why should we glorify those days? What did they have that we cannot have? Nothing! We have the same opportunity to direct the pace and quality of our lives, just like mom’s folks did. These are the “good old days” twenty years from now. Slow down. Learn to say “no” to all those urgent things that distract you from the truly important. Make a radical change if you have to. Whatever you do, don’t miss the most precious moments of life.

-via *Folsom Point View*; Folsom, California



Remember Our Bible Class Periods

Sunday at 9:45 a.m.
Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

The Anderson church of Christ website at:

www.Anderson-church.org

On the Site You Will Find:

1. Information about the church at Anderson
2. The **Gospel Power** in .pdf format uploaded each Sunday.
3. Sermons preached at Anderson in Real Audio.

Please Visit Our Site Regularly.

News & Notes

THE SICK: *Helen Trousdale* went to be doctor this past week with her heart... *Mary Lovell* was able to be at Bible study following her recent gall bladder surgery ...*Henry Trousdale* is at home and not doing well at all... *Lou Ann Phillips* was sick and not able to be out last weekend, but was better and at Bible study Wednesday night ... *Larry Johnson* is at home and not able to be out ... Remember *Mark McIntyre's & Tammy Bryant's mother, Oakie Choe*, who has been diagnosed with cancer... *Freda McConnell's sister, Leta Zadigan*, is nearing the end of her treatments... *Myrtie Williams* is at home unable to be out... *Mattie Blanche Word* continues at home ...*Judy Williams' mother, Flossie Kazzaire*, continues in a nursing facility in Fayette ... *Tisha Thomas' grandmother, Nellie Hunter*, is in the Meadow Brook Nursing Home in Pulaski.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY: Today we will begin making pictures for our pictorial directory. *Claus Martel* will be taking the pictures

after services for the next week or so. Please get with Claus to get your picture made so we can complete this soon.

SPRING/SUMMER QUARTER: Last Sunday, we began our spring/summer quarter in Bible classes. We are studying “*The New Testament Church*” in the adult class and in the ladies class is studying a book entitled, “*She Hath Done What She Could*”. There are class for all the children from 6months old and up that studying the various periods of the Bible. If you are not attending our Bible classes, now would be a good time to start. I know that you would benefit spiritually from it.

OUT OF TOWN: *Glenda Phillips* is out of town for a wedding this week...**The Butlers:** *Aric and Andrea* are in Tennessee this weekend for a wedding...**The Chancellors:** *Kevin and Laurie* are visiting with Kevin’s parents today in Corinth, Mississippi...**The Roses:** *Rocky and Donna* are in Nashville this weekend.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *Jackson Heights church* in Columbia is beginning a meeting tomorow and it will continue through Friday with services at 7:00p.m. *Tony Mauck of Baytown, Texas* will be the speaker.

THE RECORD: *For the week of April 30th*

Sunday: Bible Classes 112
 Morning Worship 130
 Evening Worship 87

Wednesday: Bible Classes 96

Vacation Bible School

July 10-14 – 10:00 a.m.

Harold Comer, Speaking

Anderson church of Christ

Highway 207 South
Anderson, Alabama

Schedule of Services

Sunday
 Bible Classes 9:45 a.m.
 Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
 Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday
 Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

Elders
 Michael Clemmons (256) 247-0836
 Scottie Goode (931) 565-3391

Deacons
 Jimmy Glass (256) 247-0571
 Mark McIntyre (256) 233-1953
 Phil Pressnell (256) 232-8509
 Rocky Rose (256) 247-0011
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