

Church of Christ Deer Park Weekly Newsletter



MINISTRY CHOICES AND EVANGELISM

C. Philip Slate

(Continued From Last Week)

3. *Selective Memory.* This has been going on a long time. Peter mentioned that the people of his day who held that “all things have continued as they were from the beginning of creation” held to that view because “they deliberately ignore” (some translations have “forget”) what happened in the day of Noah (2 Pet. 3:4-5). Because of the capacity to forget messages and evidence, Peter “reminded” his readers no less than three times (2 Pet. 3:1-2).

4. *Selective Perception.* People can twist messages to make them conform to what they already believe. This has been done by even physical scientists for many centuries. That is one reason scientific revolutions come slowly. Even scientists are slow to accept views contrary to what they believe. It takes time to build up a reservoir of tension before action is taken.

The acts of avoidance are not evil within themselves. Some of us would like to be able to forget some things! There is just too much “stuff” to hear and read; we can’t handle all of it. In the case of non-Christians, it is important to make ministry decisions by which they can perceive the importance of taking Jesus Christ seriously. Meanwhile, it can be a sobering thing to pull together several members of your congregation and list by name the people you *know* to have been exposed to the gospel message during the past year—sermon, class, Bible correspondence course, reading a tract, personal study, etc. Of course, we do not know when someone picks up a tract, tunes in to a television or radio broadcast, overhears a Christian conversation, or checks out a church website. When that is done it would be their initiative. What has your congregation done that has resulted in people’s being exposed to the good news? I have had students who preach to do it, and it is usually a disappointing discovery.

Happily, various researchers over the past two decades, and longer, indicate that the bridge most unbelievers cross to become Christians is a bridge constructed by family and friends at a more personal level. Here are a few things that people can do for people they already know in various settings:

- . Invite them to an event of interest where they can meet some of your wholesome friends.
- . Invite them to your Sunday morning Bible class and introduce them to your friends.
- . Invite them to go on a “church trip.” In many congregations, groups will take trips together to see a play, hear a concert, see a display for flowering trees or flowers, go to a zoo—just wholesome events Christians enjoy doing together. It will be good for your non-Christian friends to meet wholesome and joyous people. These are acts of “cultivation” by which your non-Christian friends may be more inclined to hear the message when they see your fellow-Christians are not kooks!
- . Enroll someone in a Bible correspondence course, either paper or electronic.
- . Following a specific kind of conversation, give a person a well-selected tract or offer to forward to them a digital article you have found useful.
- . Cultivate a relationship with someone by having lunch or coffee from time to time. Pray for wisdom to know when to take the relationship another step, such as, “Would you be willing for us to talk about that sometime?” Then you can prepare what you want to say.

Most of the research books and articles I have read over the past half century indicate that non-Christians are predominately won through the efforts of family members or valued friends. Isn’t there a message in that? Doesn’t that say something about the kind of ministry decisions that need to be made? Avoid the gimmicks! Some thoughtless efforts remind me of Martin Marty’s metaphor of “moving the deck chairs around on the Titanic!” Gimmicks do not evangelize. In addition to Bible content classes, is it not appropriate to provide training on how to make disciples? After all, isn’t that what Jesus said to do (Matt. 28:18-20)? Is it not wise to provide training to equip people to do what Jesus said to do? There is good material available on how to make disciples for Jesus. Make good ministry choices.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- ◆ Christmas Baskets—to be delivered 12/13/22
- ◆ Arms of Hope—Christmas Tree Ornament Project-Deadline 12/11/22
- ◆ Life Line Screening—1/19/23-We have 4 Free Certificates

PRAYER CORNER

PRAYER NEEDS & REQUESTS: Our Country; Our National Leaders be guided by God; The whole world as we battle COVID-19; George & Karen Revez, friends of Dale Guillory; Susan Williams had wrist surgery 10/11th & will be in a cast 8 weeks; Gerald Starns is continuing with the trial; Jared Robertson, friend of Scott Burke, recovering from brain surgery & rehab to regain left side strength; Norma McBride, friend of Peggy Burke, will be returning home 11/18 after 6 months in Hospital & Rehab; Erin Burke as she travels with her work, Joe Skinner, friend of Gerald, who had just recently had a knee replacement fell down stairs and had multiple leg injuries, after surgery in NJ is back home in TX & Rehab; Ronnie Hock, Rebecca Holifield's brother-in-law, has HCC liver cancer stage four; Robert Gordon, Sanoma's cousin; is doing better in new rehab facility; Reagan, Gerald Starns' 3 yr old granddaughter (her little finger tips are blue); Gerald's niece, Lisa Fowler, that was recently baptized, has 2 aneurysms; Johnny Salas; Tommy Frasier (38 yrs old) acquaintance of the Holifield's, has an inoperable brain tumor-he is undergoing chemo/radiation; The people of Ukraine; Hillary Harrison (Tim Culp's cousin is on wait list for double lung transplant); Janet Skinner, Noreen Rock, Karen Green, Martha Hayes, Steve & Kathy Franz, (friends of Gerald Starns); for the Men at the Wheelhouse, for success as they work thru their individual programs; Inmates of our Prison Ministry who have asked for our prayers. We have responded to 170 inmate requests for Bibles & Study Material this year; Be rich toward God, Delight yourself in the Lord, Jesus said, "Do you love me?"; Earnestly seek our God!, Come, great is the Lord and most worthy of our praise, Be an Andrew & Bring Someone to Jesus, Share the Gospel of Jesus, Answer the Lord's Invitation-"Come", Remember God is in Control



Pick your Stars off the Giving Tree and fill out. Have Star & Gift Cards to Church Office **by 12/11** Wal Mart, Belk, Academy, Visa, etc. (Please hand Gift Cards to Peggy or use Drop Box by Desk)

CONTINUAL PRAYER: Adair Family; Eileen Adair; Kristen Adair; Tammy Adair, Auguste Family; Bob Bailey (friend Sonoma O'Bannon) is home with rehab; Gene Barton; Gerald Barton; Justin Bills (Carolyn Carpenter friend); Donna Bomfalk (Erin Burke friend); Kris (Flanagan) Bowman; Gina Branstetter; Carole Broyles; Whitney Brummett; Jimmy Burke, Patsy Camp; Michael Conn; Danny Culp (Tim Culp's father); Pat & Karon Flanagan; Louise Friday; Edna Earl Goodman; Deavyn Gordon; Dale Guillory; Nalin Hayter; Leslie Hoffman; Randy and Cathy Imel (Justin Imel's parents); Pat Jackson & Norma McBride (friends of Peggy Burke); Kevin Koctar; Bernice Reed; Brandon Reed; Kenny Reed; Robert Reed; Mike Reed; Mike Ritter; Bobby Rowan; Cindy Russell (Gina Branstetter friend); Curtis Salter; Andrew Shirley (Scott and Erin's Son-in-law); Stephen and Mary Ann Smith; Jim and Linda Thomason; Karl Vinson; Sheri and Bruce Williams (Dale Guillory's Sister); Susan Williams; Cathy York

Please remember these who have been diagnosed with cancer:

Lori Bailey; Becky Bice; Richard Cardenas (Bernice Reed son-in-law); Debbie Clark (Sonoma O'Bannon cousin); Lisa Cunningham (Erin Burke friend); Joe D'Vries who has lung cancer (father-in-law of Gerald Starns' daughter); Tom McCulley (Bradley Burke's Great Grandfather); Travis Irwin (friend J & P Burke); Brenda Rowan (Peggy Burke sister-in-law); Gerald Starns; Jess Williams (Nancy Barton son-in-law).

6 VERSES TO PRAY OVER YOUR KIDS

S	Self Control	I Peter 5:8
C	Courage	Joshua 1:9
H	Help From The Holy Spirit	John 14:26
O	Opportunities To Do Good	Galatians 6:10
O	Overcome Evil	Romans 12:21
L	Love God & Others	Matthew 22:37-39



Family News & Activities



THE WHEELHOUSE

COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVANGELISM

Wheelhouse Meal is the
last Saturday of each month.

Next Scheduled: TBD

Come be a part of this special fellowship.



Brian & Rebeca Holifield 11/17



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Brian Holifield	5
David Camp	9
Randy Force	14
Carole Broyles	16
Kay Riggs	28



Annual Christmas Baskets

We will be preparing 8 baskets this year:
2 for men, 5 for women and 1 for man & woman

Could you bake some cookies?

Could you put a Christmas Card in the basket?

How about some fruit?

If you would like to participate,
please have your contributions in by

Tuesday,
December 13th



Rice
Canned Chicken
Spam

How do I become a Christian?

Hear the Word: Matt 7:24-28, John 14:15, Romans 10:17

Believe the Word: John 3:16, John 20:31, Hebrews 11:6

Repent of your sins: Luke 13:3-9, 15:7, Acts 2:37-38, 17:30

Confess Jesus to others: Matt 10:32-33, Romans 10:9-10

Be Baptized in the name of Jesus for salvation:

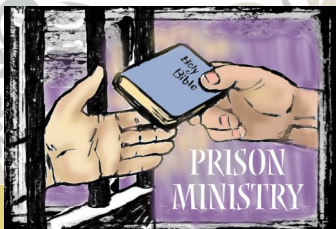
Mark 16:16, Romans 6:3-5, 1 Peter 3:21

Live Faithfully: 1 John 1:7, Revelation 2:10



PRISON MINISTRY

Join in the Work!



We now have 170 Inmate Students. They all need encouragement letters from the church. We need World Bible School Bibles (\$5.00 ea) to send them. We have form letters or you can write your own. We have a few that only speak/read Spanish. There are specific guidelines we have to utilize in corresponding with the inmates. Let David Camp know and he will get you involved.

Let's read our Bible
everyday in 2022!

Weekly Bible Reading

Nov 13—Nov 19

Sunday 13	am	Ezekiel 4-6
	pm	Hebrews 10:1-23
Monday 14	am	Ezekiel 7-9
	pm	Hebrews 10:24-39
Tuesday 15	am	Ezekiel 10-12
	pm	Hebrews 11:1-19
Wednesday 16	am	Ezekiel 13-15
	pm	Hebrews 11:20-40
Thursday 17	pm	Ezekiel 16
	pm	Hebrews 12
Friday 18	am	Ezekiel 17-19
	pm	Hebrews 13
Saturday 19	am	Ezekiel 20-21
	pm	James 1



Through the Bible in a year



Church of Christ Deer Park
617 Avon Street
Deer Park, TX 77536

Church Of Christ
Deer Park
Invites you to join us in Worship!

We are located at:
617 Avon
Deer Park, TX

Phone: 281-479-1010
E-mail: [dpchurch.office@
sbcglobal.net](mailto:dpchurch.office@sbcglobal.net)
Web Site: www.dpcofc.org
Facebook Page: Church of
Christ Deer Park, Texas



Meet With Us

Sunday Morning

Coffee & Donut Fellowship	9:00am
Bible Class	9:30am
Morning Worship	10:30am

Children's Bible Hour offered for
3yrs to 3rd grade during Morning Worship.

Wednesday Evening

Bible Class 6:30PM

Service this Week:

November 13, 2022

Coffee & Donut Fellowship 9:00am
Bible Class 9:30am
Worship 10:30am

Song Leader: **Tim Culp**

Scripture Reading & Prayer:
Luke 23:39-43

Prayers & Thoughts for the Lord's Supper:

Sermon: Saved Like the Criminal on the Cross
Dr. Justin Imel

Closing Payer:
Jimmy Burke

Greeter **Tammy Adair**
Communion Prep: **Patsy Camp**
Livestreaming: **R.J. Imel**

Stay tuned to our One Call Now Messages,
Email Messages, Everything happening on
Facebook Page:

Church of Christ Deer Park, Texas
& our Web Site: dpcofc.org



6:30pm

REMEMBER WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY: I am blessed to be with brethren. I am blessed to serve. I am blessed to learn from others. I am blessed to hear the Word of Life. I am blessed to remember what's important. I am blessed to recharge my spirit. I am blessed to correct my life. We look forward to seeing you Wednesday!