

# Glad Tidings

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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## Evangelism: A Way of Life

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People struggle with dieting. They lose weight and gain it back. They feel like a yo-yo; up and down, and down and up. Some see the solution in not dieting, when you deprive yourself of certain foods for a period of time, but by incorporating sensible choices of food. Making a lifestyle change in our eating habits, we will probably achieve more success.

Often, people become evangelistic for only a short period of time. We begin, a program of visitation and personal work. Then, the intensity languishes, and the work soon slows to a crawl. Could we be suffering from “yo-yo- evangelism: up and down – hot and cold? Maybe we need to take a hint from those in the field of health and nutrition, by viewing evangelism as a way of life, instead of a momentary focus.

Evangelism is certainly appealing to the mind of the godly. By definition, it involves God’s “good news.” The message that saves individuals from sin and death, infusing them with a lively hope for heaven is worthy nutrition for a healthy mind. We actually have the opportunity to help people come to know the way of eternal happiness. Making it happen by actually seeking the lost

and teaching them keeps us from a -“*knowing to do good, but doing it not*” -sin. We are actually living the life that Jesus patterned: *seeking and saving the lost (Luke 19:10).*

Evangelism as a way of life mirrors the life of Jesus, and keeps us always near the heart of God. God does not wish that “...*any should perish, but that all should come to repentance*” (2 Peter 3:9). He desires “*all men to be saved, and come to the knowledge of the truth (I Timothy 2:4).*” The evangelistic lifestyle is not fired up for a few weeks, allowing these thoughts to only fade. His burning desire for the lost to be saved continues to the present hour, and is the constant driving force behind making evangelism a way of life.

Evangelism spreads beyond the walls of the building when it becomes a way of life among the church’s members. When Christians are at work, school, home, or play, they are looking for the opportunity to introduce people to the good news of Christ. “*Furthering the gospel*” is a daily goal (Philippians 1:5). A new acquaintance is offered a warm invitation to attend the worship services where the saving Word is preached. This week, our Gospel meeting affords the evangelistic minded a great opportunity. We probably have

already let others know that Joe Price will be preaching the Gospel throughout this week. The printed topics of each of his lessons are in their possession. This week we can follow up and encourage the ones whom we have invited to join you on a certain night. We can also continue during the week to invite others to attend and hear the lessons yet to be preached.

The Christian is always ready to offer a Scriptural answer to all inquirers, while being alert to opportunities to set up a home Bible study to help others know the whole counsel of God (I Peter 3:15, Acts 5:42, 20:20, 27). “Buying up opportunities” should characterize our daily walk (Colossians 4:5, Ephesians 5:15). Spiritual alertness creates evangelistic opportunities beyond the church building’s four walls.

Making evangelism a daily focus, the kingdom of our Lord has a greater opportunity to grow by “*making disciples*” (Matthew 28:18-20), instead of merely “*transforming disciples.*” Growing the Kingdom with new converts adds new souls energized to share the good news with others. With more workers making evangelism a “constant” in their daily walk, we will find ourselves “*increasing daily*” (Acts 16:5).