

Make known His deeds thru
Christian witness.

OKLAHOMA 'RALLIES

For our Scripture lesson tonight, I want to read from the Amplified version of the Bible from Ephesians 4:11-16.

"Each one of us has been given a special gift...he appointed some to be apostles, others to be prophets, others to be evangelists, others to be pastors and teachers. He did this to prepare all God's people for the work of Christian service, to build up the body of Christ...By speaking the truth in a spirit of love, we must grow up in every way to Christ who is the head. Under his control all the different parts of the body fit together, and the whole body is held together by every joint with which it is provided. So when each separate part works as it should, the whole body grows and builds itself up through love" (Ephesians 4:11-16).

looking at the church of
In making an analysis of today's church, one might judge it from the size of the structure, from the efficient operation of a program, or from its organizational structure. But if we look closely at our text, we will be aware that Paul emphasizes that the church is made up of individuals--each with his own particular calling each with his own particular gift--to be consecrated and used in God's service.

I do not feel

~~I feel inadequate to stand before you and say that I have all the answers for the operation of the church in today's world. Yet, no matter about personal opinions, I believe God gives the answer in His Word. He does not leave His people without guidance. He provide His plan, His purpose, His pattern in the pages of His Holy Word. And, if we search the Scriptures, we will find the answer to every problem.~~

First of all, I believe we sometime substitute program for power & human reasoning for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
If I could point out one thing that may be lacking in many of our churches, it would be a lack of personal involvement--a lack of individuals using their gifts for Christ.

Jesus
Reynoso

Abel Valenzuela
Alberto Vazquez
Sis. Isabel Sis Belcher
Sis Maxine

The pastor assigned to the local church is often expected to carry on all ministries of the church, in addition to his pulpit responsibilities, he is expected to do all the visiting of the sick, the bereaved, those in trouble, as well as to visit all the members regularly and contact all the prospective members.

We minister to God thru prayer
We minister in the Church
or to the body by attitudes
each person has a ministry

It is my firm belief that Christ never intended this to be the operation of the church. Each of us have a gift to use for God, and if we activate those gifts and become personally involved in the total thrust of the church, something dynamic is bound to happen.

There are many buried gifts in every church. You may have a gift that has never been discovered. A gift you can find by the leadership of the H.S.

What is the aim of the church? Is it merely to provide a comfortable place in which to worship? A place for people to come and hear the gospel message? This is only a small part of its mission. Christ gave the great Commission--to go tell, go teach, go win a lost world to the Lord--to make disciples of all men. *Many individuals will not be reached if we wait for them to enter our church doors.*

What is a disciple? This word has a two-fold meaning. According to the Dictionary, a disciple is one who accepts and assists in spreading the doctrines of another.

So then we are to win the lost, but we don't stop there. We are also to train them to win others and to assist in spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Ministering to God by a pure life, a life of faith, trust, & praise. We talked last night about a total commitment & living where the Holy Spirit can fill & control our lives preparing us to work for Him

This is not the task of the minister alone. It is the responsibility of every individual who has accepted Christ as their Saviour.

We are each to become personally involved in this mission--even to such an extent that we go into the highways and hedges and compel the lost to come into the fold.

Some church members seem to feel they
~~You may ask, why should we get excited about it?~~
Haven't we hired a minister--a pastor to do all of this for us? We support him and give him a good salary. Why should we spend our limited free time in such an effort?

First you need to remember that you do not hire a minister. If he is the right kind of pastor, he is not a hireling. He is pastoring because he loves God and loves people. He is first of all God's servant. God has ordained that he receive his support from the tithes. And incidentally, the tithes are not yours--they belong to God and if you withhold them, you are robbing God.

Malachi 3:8
So then, you really haven't hired a minister, have you? He is serving God in his appointed place in God's will.

God wants you, personally to become involved in a ministry he has designed for you. He says, "Ye shall be witnesses unto me. Paul said we are His ambassadors. The Bible states that "He that winneth souls is wise and shall shine as the stars forever."

the of every believer,
If this is ~~my~~ task, you might say, then what is the Pastor's job? According to the Bible he is to be the shepherd of the flock, providing spiritual food and drink, caring for the lambs and the wounded, and seeking the strays. He is responsible to protect the sheep from the clutches of Satan. He will lead the flock. ^{of God}

1 Peter 5:2
He can give leadership in many ways--in personal preparation and on-the-job training, in door to door visitation, in ministry projects to hospitals, jails,

rest homes. But he is only one and his strength is limited. His ministry can be multiplied hundreds of times as each member becomes personally involved in reaching men for Christ. *You have an influence over people* You have an influence over that lost neighbor, your work associates, over those merchants who sell you commodities. You--whether man, woman, boy or girl--have friends that only you can reach *posts*

This reminds me of the song - You Bring
Christ doesn't ask that you convert the lost--only that you be His witness, that you tell what He has done for you. You do not have to be a Bible scholar to do this. You need only to have a vital, up-to-date experience with God, and a heart filled with love and compassion for the lost.

Who can be involved in such a ministry? You say you are shy and don't know what to say. The Holy Spirit will be right at your side to help you when you make the effort. In giving the Commission, Christ said, "Lo, I am with you always even until the end of the world."

To read the Book of Acts is to thrill with the aggressive quality of the early Christians. Not only did the apostles and disciples feel an urgency to spread the glorious message of the resurrection of Christ and the Pentecostal power, but the laymen took the cue and echoed the truth wherever they went.

Both men and women felt the fire burning on the altar of their hearts, and they went everywhere preaching the Word.

Stephen, the deacon, was not content alone to serve tables; as he fed the hungry widows and orphans, he lifted up his voice and preached Christ to men. On and on he preached until the flying stones stopped his burning lips and silenced his eloquent tongue.

Phillip, another deacon, went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ unto them. A mighty revival swept that city.

The 120 who spilled down out of the upper room that

morning of the 50th day after the Passover all had a story to tell, a testimony to give. They felt they must tell it or die.

It has always been so. When people catch fire with the enthusiasm and power of Pentecost, they must tell the old story ^{or} die. They are committed to a Cause.

What will bring a new Pentecostal outpouring in our own churches? The oneness of heart and soul evidenced by the 120 in the first chapter of Acts needs to be repeated in our local churches today. They were with one accord, continually praising and blessing God, when the Holy Spirit came and tongues of fire set on each of them, and they were filled with the Holy Ghost and spake with other tongues as the spirit gave utterance.

We find a new boldness to witness in these ~~baptized~~ ^{early} Christians. They were filled with their message, and people all around them were convinced of the reality of the gospel. Five thousand were added to the church that day, and a few days later three thousand more were added. Later references in Acts state that there were many added daily to the church, as the newly baptized Christians went everywhere preaching the word.

women
Throughout the New Testament, we see women in every walk of life working with and for the Lord: Eunice and Lois teaching the Scriptures to little Timothy in the home; Lydia, the seller of purple, beginning the first prayer meeting; Priscilla, along with her husband, Acquilla, were in the teaching ministry, expounding the Word more perfectly to Appollos; Dorcas ministering to the poor and needy; Phebe, serving as deaconess of the church. Many of Paul's helpers in the gospel were women. So we can be sure that women are not excluded in this gospel age, and there are many things that only a woman can do in the church.

But whoever you are--no matter what sex or age--God wants to use you. He wants you to feed on His Word, live in daily communion with Him, and keep

be filled with the

yourself surrendered to His will. In this way, He can and will use you. You will be His witness.

A true witness is not one who goes out occasionally with the express purpose of witnessing, and forgets about it the rest of the time. A true witness for Christ is one who lives in the light of the Commission--who is a witness in life, word, thought and deed 24 hours a day.

This is a person who can say, "For me to live is Christ...It is no longer I that live, but Christ liveth in me.

~~Intercultural Organization has adopted a strategy~~

In the enlightened age of our time, did you know that over one billion, four hundred million souls exist without knowledge of Christ or salvation, and that number is increasing daily with the population explosion.

omit

During the past decade, religions of the East have made such strides that this nation can no longer be called a Christian nation, for adherents to Christless religions outnumber the professed Christians.

Did you know that some scholars today are calling this the post-Christian era and saying that the church today is no longer relative in today's world. The birth rate today far exceeds the second birth rate so that the world is getting more pagan every day that passes.

the number of those being born again

These facts could not be a reality if every person who professes an experience with Christ were committed to the Cause. What Cause? The Cause for which Jesus died--the cause of bringing salvation to the lost, eternal life to the dying.

Intercultural

If our own people of the Pentecostal Holiness Church were fully committed, we would multiply with amazing rapidity in the homeland, and our missionaries would

pour into all parts of the world to carry the glorious gospel. There would be no shortage of funds, no shortage of workers, for every member would be a worker & contributor

If each of you were fully committed to this cause, many of you would not be sitting there in your seat, calmly enjoying this service with a smug feeling of having done your Christian duty for the Sabbath Day because you had attended church and paid your tithes.

No, some of you would be preaching the gospel. Others would be carrying the Word to the remote places of the world, and the rest of you would feel a compelling urgency to witness in some manner to everyone with whom you come in contact.

when you first became a Christian

If we could but envision the tragedy of our times; if we could see the dark days ahead; if we could realize how short is our day and how long eternity; if we could sense the nearness of the coming of Christ to catch away His bride; if we could see the encroachment of the terrible days of the Tribulation that are even now at the door, we would be moved out of our complacency to pray, to dedicate, to work, and to witness for Christ.

The hope of the world hinges on ^{this message} Christ. Can we be justified in our silence ^{to} while the great commission rings in our ears? Though spoken many years ago to only a few gathered as Christ went up into the clouds, the Commission still encircles the globe and embraces every person who has shared the light of the gospel.

No Christian, however ~~great or small~~, is exempted from the binding obligation of this duty. Each of us to fulfill God's will for our lives must in some way carry the message of the salvation we have received. This keeps a renewal of your own experience, fresh and new as ^{we} you seek to make disciples of others.

Can you see the perfect church? The pastors, evangelists, ~~teachers~~ all working toward preparing *each* the member to do Christian service. And each member dedicating their lives to promote the cause of Christ whether at home, on the street, on the job or in the classroom. Do you see a mighty multitude of Christians, working together, each bringing the one next to him

to know Christ?

*The body of Christ
in perfect coordination*

Oh, that God would grant to us this vision today. I sincerely believe this is the pattern God has laid out for the church to follow, and w-here this plan is followed, that church will be vibrant, dynamic, effective.

Will you be one to volunteer for Christ and be willing to say,

LORD, TAKE ME, CLEANSE ME, REVITALIZE ME, FILL ME ANEW WITH YOUR POWER AND ANOINTING, AND MAKE ME A SOULWINNER?

*WORKER IN YOUR
kingdom.*