

## Some Not-So-New Ways to Share Christ

We understand the responsibility and importance of sharing Christ with those around us, but we often struggle with how to go about it. We worry that we won't have all the answers. We worry that we will offend someone and maybe even damage a relationship. We worry that we will fail at bringing them to Christ. While all of these fears need to be dealt with and overcome, I believe that one of our greatest hindrances in sharing the gospel with others is in not knowing how to broach the subject. When an opportunity presents itself, how do we begin a dialogue with someone about Christ, the church, or their faith and salvation? While the answers to this question are many and dependent upon the situation, let me suggest a few simple possibilities:

**Just Ask.** Sometimes, the simplest thing to do is just come right out and ask: "How is your relationship with God?" "Would you mind if I told you about my faith?" "Would you consider coming to worship and Bible study with me?" The circumstances may not always be right for these questions, but as our acquaintances see our Christian lives, they are sometimes curious about our faith, want to know more about it, and would welcome the conversation that a direct question could begin.

**Tell Your Story.** It is interesting that, as Paul was given the opportunity to testify before both Agrippa and Festus, he told them about Jesus by telling his story. We all have a story, whether it be about our own conversion to Christ, struggles that we have endured, or experiences of our lives. Some may be more interesting or sordid than others, but we all have something to share with others that can illustrate and illuminate the beautiful gospel of Christ. There are times when the circumstances of a person's life will open the door for you to share your story with them and, through that story, share Christ.

**Share God's Word.** One of the amazing things about God's Word is how relevant it is to the daily circumstances of our lives. Whenever someone is discouraged, struggling with something, or asks you for advice on a situation, there is, more than likely, a Biblical passage or concept that could be interjected into the conversation. That incidental mention of Scripture might just peak the interest of someone and lead to a much more important conversation about spiritual things.

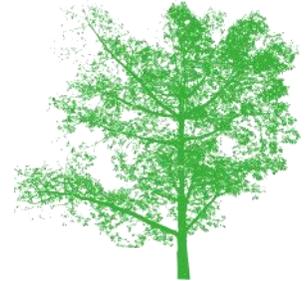
There are many other things that could be added, but hopefully these will give you some food for thought. And remember: the important thing is not how we share the gospel but THAT we share the gospel.

*Rusty*

## To Our Guests

We are so pleased and honored that you have chosen to visit with us today! Chase Park is a wonderful Christian family, devoted to serving God through our lives and work. We are excited to share our love for Christ with others and we are thankful to have the opportunity to meet you and to have you join us for worship.

As we worship together today, our desire is to worship God according to the New Testament pattern and in a way that is pleasing and acceptable to Him. It is also our prayer that our time together is uplifting to those who are here including you, our guest. If you have any questions about anything that you see or hear today, please ask us. We would love to speak with you about those things and help you in any way that we can.



### Chase Park Church of Christ

#### Ministers

Rusty Hills ..... Pulpit

Andrew Lamica..... Youth Minister

#### Elders

John Denney

Curtis Hill

Sam Kachelman

Dennis Lawson

Greg Parker

Barry Todd

#### Missionaries

Jaime Mendoza .... Chalco, Mexico

Liborio Encarnacion. Ecatepec, Mexico

Slava Savkovsky ..... Ukraine

Barton Kizer..... Peru

Dewayne Tapscott..... Southwest

## Lamifications—*Andrew Lamica*

Being a parent is one of the greatest blessings we can enjoy while on this earth. The love between a parent and child is one that cannot be explained with words or seen in a simple action. Parents show the love they have for their children in a variety of ways which are too many to list.

While parents are raising their children they will make countless sacrifices. The sacrifices we make for our children are not always huge but they are indeed sacrifices and important. Spending quality time with our kids is not always easy, with job responsibilities, school responsibilities, and extra curricular activities. The quality time we will spend with our kids will have a lasting impact and provide memories they will treasure for the rest of their lives.

When we think of quality time with our kids, our minds likely go to a special vacation, a ballfield, the lake, or another extra-curricular activity. Those things are all great! I always enjoy time away with my children and I hope you do as well.

There is no greater way to spend quality time with your children than spending it studying the word of God. Think about how many things we teach our kids over the length of their lives. When they are little, we teach them how to talk, walk, and ride a bike. As they get older, we teach them how to be a good friend, treat others with kindness and respect, and how to drive a vehicle. One of our many jobs as parents is to teach and we ought to take that job responsibility seriously.

A careful study of Deuteronomy 6 will help us to understand just how

important it is to spend time with our children diving into the word of God.

If our children are to become Christians, it will not happen on accident. We must put the time in at home to encourage them to love the Lord and desire a relationship with Him that will last a lifetime. If we were to do an evaluation of how we spend our time each day, I am positive there are adjustments that could, and should be made to ensure that our families are spending time growing together spiritually.

It is my prayer that today your family will start a new routine (if you are not already doing so) and spend time together each day in a study of God's word!

## Evangelism Made Personal

### Building Courage To Tell Others About Christ (Overcoming the Fear of Rejection)

As we discuss a few more aspects of our involvement in personal evangelism, please continue to pray for those on your list and our visitors. We will soon return to our lists of individuals. For now, let's consider Mike Copeland's thoughts regarding our courage to share the gospel.

After lack of motivation, a major reason why more people do not engage in personal evangelism is the fear of rejection. The fear of being turned down, laughed at, or looked upon by others as "religious fanatics," has hindered many Christians in their efforts to tell others about Christ.

How does one overcome the fear of rejection? In this lesson I would like to share several thoughts that have been helpful to me, the first being...**TRY TO PLEASE GOD, NOT MAN.**

We should keep in mind the words of the apostle Paul, who in **Gal. 1:10** wrote: "**For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a servant of Christ.**"

If we are serious in our desire to be the servants of Christ, then we must make sure it is God we are trying to please, and not man. This is not to suggest that we give no thought as to how to be more pleasing in our demeanor or presentation of the gospel, but it does mean that we should be more concerned about what God thinks, rather than what people may think.

Next, **PRAY FOR BOLDNESS.** Paul was one who wrote about his own fears when it came to sharing the gospel with others (**1 Cor. 2:1-3**). But he believed in the power of prayer to provide boldness and solicited the prayers of others as well in this regard (**Eph. 6:18-19**). In this he was not alone, for when Peter and John had been threatened, they returned to their company and together prayed for boldness, and the Lord answered their prayer (**Acts 4:29-31**)!

So as we prepare ourselves to engage in personal evangelism, if we find ourselves lacking courage, then let our preparation include diligent prayer for boldness. Even as you walk up to the door, or approach someone you plan to invite to services or to offer a Bible study, say a short prayer asking God to give you the boldness necessary to say what you have planned to say.

**Your Elders**

## *News Of Interest*

### Sick

#### Regency Rehab

**Morris Bridges**

**Mary Bradford**

### Home

**Sarah Irwin**

### Sympathy

We express sympathy to **Mac Landman** and family in the death of his father, George Landman.

### Bridal Shower

Everyone is invited to a Come-And-Go Bridal Shower honoring **Stephanie Earles** and **Adam Goode**, today, 1:30—3:30 p.m., fellowship hall/dining room. They are registered at Bed Bath & Beyond, Williams-Sonoma, Pottery Barn, and Target.

### Financial Peace Class

Tuesday nights, 6:00 p.m., starting September 12. Cost: \$95.00. There is a sign-up sheet at the Hospitality Desk. For more information, please contact **Ken McGee**, 256-552-2309.

### Pantry Item

Canned white meat chicken.

## *Today and Upcoming at Chase Park*

### Family Care

Teams **D** and **F** will meet today for potluck lunch, dining room. Team **D** Leaders: **Ray Brown**, **Michael Sims**; Team **F** Leaders: **Justin Gransky**, **Joel Heady**, **Greg McCreless**, **Jared Olbricht**.

Teams **G** and **I** will meet Sunday, August 20, for potluck lunch, dining room. Team **G** Leaders: **Bill Zlatovich**, **Mike Emerson**, **Robb Walker**; Team **I** Leaders: **John Adams**, **Brian Peacock**, **Tom Pond**.

### Regency Retirement Services

Today: 1:30 p.m.

Speaker: **Curtis Hill**

Song Leader: **Michael Sims**

### Hospital Visitation

Team **#2 (Emerson)**, please pick up your assignments following evening worship.

### Balance Class

Tues., Aug. 15; Thurs., Aug. 17; 1:30 p.m.

### Super Seniors

Wednesday, August 16. Will have potluck lunch.

### Regency Retirement Village Singing

Thursday, August 17, 6:00 p.m.



## **Potluck Lunch**

**Postcards Available  
 At Hospitality Desk**

# Questions from the Master Teacher

## 2017 Midweek Summer Series

August 16

**“Whom Do You Seek?”**

**John 18:4**

*A question about our search for faith*

Guest Speaker:  
**Chad Ramsey**



Gloster Street Church of Christ  
Tupelo, Mississippi

Jesus asked this question of those who had come to the Garden of Gethsemane in search of Him. As was often the case, He asked the question, not because He didn't know the answer, but in order to cause them to examine their own hearts and motives. Who were they looking for? Jesus, the man—A heretic, false teacher, and blasphemer? Or, in their heart of hearts, did they understand that they were looking for Jesus, the Son of God and promised Messiah? And if they were looking for Jesus, the Son of God, what was their motive? Were they looking to accept Him, worship Him, and follow Him, or were they looking to destroy Him for their own selfish purposes? In our world today, there are many people searching for a Savior, but who or what are they truly looking for? Someone to bless them with physical abundance? Someone to rescue them from the consequences of their own choices? Or are they seeking One to be their spiritual Savior and Lord of their life? What about you? Whom do you seek? I hope that you will be here this Wednesday as Chad Ramsey leads us in an examination of this question and its application to our lives.

### Statistics

**Sunday, August 6, 2017**

AM Worship .....	436
Month Average .....	436
Bible Class .....	372
PM Worship .....	223
Wed., Aug. 9 Bible Classes .....	274
Regency Ret. Worship .....	40
Offering .....	\$20,589.35
Budget .....	\$18,000
Average '17 .....	\$17,930
Under Budget for year .....	-\$2,232
<b>Building Fund .....</b>	<b>\$150.00</b>

### Services

*Sunday*

Worship..... 9:00 a.m.  
Bible Class ..... 10:15 a.m.  
Worship..... 5:00 p.m.

*Wednesday*

Super Seniors ..... 10:00 a.m.  
Bible Class ..... 6:30 p.m.

**Web Site Home Bible Studies**

<https://www.epcofc.org/home-bible-studies>

**(Lesson 1 Link)**

**The Bible—God's Holy Word**

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