

CHASE PARK MESSENGER

A Case Study In Conversion

The New Testament is full of examples of the wonderful change that can take place in a person's life when they come to know and trust in Jesus as their Savior and Lord. While the circumstances of those conversions might vary, there are certain basic elements that are always present and necessary for true conversion to take place. Consider this example:

In Luke 19:1-10 we find the conversion story of a man named Zacchaeus. Notice the four elements that came together to produce conversion:

- **A willing and interested hearer.** Zacchaeus demonstrates a great desire to see and know Jesus and is elated at the opportunity to spend time in His presence and to learn from Him.
- **A willing and caring teacher.** Jesus took notice of Zacchaeus, recognized his need and interest, and gave His time and priority to meeting Zacchaeus' spiritual needs.
- **Teaching of the truth.** Though this element is not explicitly stated, it is certainly implied. Jesus spent the day with Zacchaeus at his home. Knowing the character and mission of Jesus, one can hardly suppose that He would not have spent that time teaching Zacchaeus about salvation. Zacchaeus' extreme response to Jesus is also evidence of his being taught and convicted of his sinfulness.
- **A repentant heart and life.** Zacchaeus' actions in response to Jesus demonstrate that his spiritual salvation was far more important to him than his earthly wealth and show a strong desire and commitment to ridding his life of his sinful attitudes and behaviors.

As we strive to live for Jesus and share Him with others today, we must understand that these same four elements continue to be necessary for conversion. May God help us to be willing and caring teachers who are looking for opportunities to share the gospel with willing and interested hearers.

Rusty

Welcome, Guests

We are honored that you have chosen to visit with us today! Our time of worship together on the Lord's Day is one of the highlights of each week and we are thrilled to be able to share this special time with you.

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



Ministers

Rusty Hills Pulpit
Pat Cowden Evangelism
Andrew Lamica Youth

Elders

John Denney Dennis Lawson
Curtis Hill Greg Parker
Sam Kachelman Barry Todd

Missionaries

Jaime Mendoza Chalco, Mexico
Liborio Encarnacion. Ecatepec, Mexico
Slava Savkovsky Ukraine
Barton Kizer Peru
Isai Cuamba Ensenada, Mexico
Dewayne Tapscott Southwest

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cpcofc.org

2018 THEME:

I AM THE CHURCH



Lamifications—*Andrew Lamica*

A good name and reputation is important. It is important in the business world, in the communities in which we live, and in the church. The reason a good name holds so much value for Christians is because of who we represent, Christ.

As Christians, we are the earthly representations of Jesus to a lost and dying world. It is true that we cannot represent Christ perfectly (Romans 3:23), but that should always be our aim. It has been said that “the best sermon ever preached, is a life well lived.” There is a lot of truth in that sentiment! Talk is cheap and the market is hot! The world around us notices if our words and the lifestyle we lead do not match up.

If someone ever had to tell others about you, would they have to use a lot of words? Would those closest to you have to choose their words

carefully when discussing who you are as to not tarnish your reputation, because there are two parts of your life which contradict each other? If asked about your reputation, what would those who know you best say?

In writing to the church at Thessalonica, Paul had some really amazing things to say about the Christians there. One of the great things Paul tells the Thessalonian church is how they “received the word in much affliction” (1 Thessalonians 1:6). The brethren there were apparently under some serious persecution due to the gospel but continued to hold on to that precious faith found within.

Even more remarkable (in my opinion) is when Paul speaks of the reputation of that beautiful church in Thessalonica! Paul tells that their

faith “has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything” (1 Thessalonians 1:8). What an amazing testament to the brethren there! The faith of the brothers and sisters in Christ was so evident, so apparent that Paul had no need to point it out to those in that community! Those who were in that area knew how the brethren of Thessalonica had “turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God...” Beautiful reputation!

What about us? What about us as individuals? What about us as the collective body that makes up the Chase Park congregation. Do we have need to justify our reputation with words or does our FAITH speak so loudly that words are not needed?

Outreach—*Pat Cowden*

Once again we were greeted with wonderful news last week when we heard that Miss Betty Cotton was baptized into Christ. She has been studying with John Denney and Jimmy Strong. We rejoice as do the angels and our God in heaven that she is redeemed and now walking with Christ as our sister.

We take encouragement, and rightly so, when tender hearts and the pure gospel come together resulting in God giving the increase! The fields truly are white to harvest (John 4:35) and we will be blessed when we take up the challenge to share our faith with others and become coworkers with God (2 Corinthians 6:1).

How can we rightly say that the fields are white to harvest in Huntsville? We can say that because Jesus told His disciples to lift up our eyes and look. That implies that the harvest is within eyesight. Either Jesus meant that just for the disciples (not likely) or He

meant it until the end of time (more likely). Does this mean that there are as many people searching for the truth in Huntsville, Alabama, as there are in Mumbai, India? Probably not, but what it does mean is that there are some here and we need to be trying to find them.

Last week’s article included some fundamental things we need to be adding to our faith: spending time together, developing relationships by sharing our faith, prayer, preparation, persistence, and patience. In addition to that, we need to meditate and pray about what we think our role should be initially in the local evangelistic efforts of Chase Park.

As we have spoken about, not everyone will have the same function. Not everyone will be sitting down and having a study (at least at first, maybe later) with a person across the table from them with an open Bible. Am I capable of holding a study? If so,

great! If not, do I want to learn how to hold a study? If so, great and let me know! Am I capable of assisting in a study? If so, great! Am I interested in learning how to assist in a study? If so, great and let me know! Am I able to initiate a conversation with someone about spiritual matters? If so, great and just do it! If you do not know how but want to, great and let me know.

There is room for everyone in this plan. God wants us all to be involved. The elders want us all to be involved. What better reasons could there be to get involved than to submit to our elders godly plans, render obedience to God’s will, and to help someone enter into eternity prepared?

Remember, I love you in the Lord and want to go to heaven with you.

News Of Interest

Sick

Regency Healthcare/Rehab
Mark Henry

HealthSouth Rehab

Jerry Smelser (brief visits)

Home

Martha Norris, Bert Edwards, Ginny Pryor, Judy Deck.

Sympathy

We express sympathy to **Bobby Hall** and **Rhonda Rosenblum** in the death of their mother and grandmother, respectively, Esther Hall.

Congratulations

To Jimmy Strong and Betty Cotton who were married Tuesday, January 30, here at the building.

Balance Class

Tues., Feb 6; Thurs., Feb 8; 1:30 p.m.

Church offices Closed

Monday, February 19, in observance of President's Day.

Pantry Item

Canned Soups

Today and Upcoming at Chase Park

Family Care Meeting

Teams E and J meet today for potluck lunch. E Leaders: **Corder, Maples, Williams**; J Leader: **Cothren**. Teams F and I meet Sunday, February 11. F Leaders: **Gransky, Heady, McCreless, Olbricht**; I Leaders: **Adams, Peacock, Pond**.

Regency Retirement Service

Today: 1:30 p.m.
Speaker: **Gregg Crabtree**
Song Leader: **Jerry Wilhoite**

Hospital Visitation

Team #1 (**Atchley**), please pick up your assignments after p.m. service.

Super Seniors

Wednesday, February 7. Cooks will prepare lunch.

Worship Participants

SUNDAY AM February 11, 2018	
READING	Tommy Christopher
F PRAYER.....	Bill Brothers
LS PRAYER.....	Ben Boggess
C PRAYER.....	Andrew Corder

SUNDAY PM February 11, 2018	
READING	Zeke Burton
F PRAYER.....	John Denney
C PRAYER.....	Hollis Todd

February 2018 Birthdays

1	Billy Brothers Rhonda Atchley	16	Jared Brumlow Ron McCall
2	Sheila Emperley Garrett Williams Flavil Nichols	17	Carolyn Atnip
	Britney Gransky	18	Leigh Anne Walker
4	Judy Deck	19	Ruth Ray
5	Bennie Jacks Faye Baran Zita McCall	20	Regina Brothers Lindsey Schneider
6	Dianne Maddox	21	Martha Row Cathy Peacock Sarah Cowden
8	Kitty Denny Bob Williams	22	Nancy Stockton
11	Tracy Stiegler	23	Dylan Herndon
12	Lynn Crawford Isaiah McCreless	24	Pat Steele
13	Marcia Lindstrom	27	Bobby Rosenblum Dennis Huggins
15	Janet Baker	28	Molly Davidson Martha Norris

TEACHING ROCKET

Workshop for Teachers and Students of God's Word

Sunday, February 11th

- Session 1: The Goals of an Education Program**
- Session 2: Preparing and Delivering A Lesson**
- Session 3: Keys To Better Bible Study**
- Session 4: Classroom Dynamics**
- Session 5: The Teacher's Spiritual Life**

Presenter:

Michael Whitworth
Author, Teacher, Publisher
Owner of Start 2 Finish Books




*Session 1 will take place during a combined adult Bible class.
 All other sessions will be held throughout the afternoon.
 A light lunch and refreshments will be provided.*

Focus For
JANUARY - FEBRUARY

I Am A Child of God

I AM THE CHURCH



Chase Park
 CHURCH of CHRIST

Statistics

Sunday, January 28, 2018

AM Worship	366
Month Average	354
Bible Class	318
PM Worship	NC
Wed., Jan. 31 Bible Classes	225
Regency Ret. Worship	36
Offering	\$17,286,45
Budget	\$18,000
Average '18	\$17,490
Under Budget for year	-\$2,041
Building Fund	\$122.00

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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