

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....”
John 1:40-42a


A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a

MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK



Alan & Sabrina Davis | New York City, USA

PRAISE - I had a chance to meet and spend time with a young man named Alvin recently. He had been working as a drug dealer and made over \$10K in a single day (according to him). He asked about salvation and received God's free gift of salvation. He recently moved due to an illness. Please pray as he begins his walk with Jesus.

PRAY - NYC has always been a very shaky place to live and conduct ministry. Since the virus, it has become much more difficult. It is the most expensive city in the country and has more unemployed people than anywhere in the country. Please pray for us as we minister in this difficult place.

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Declare The Gospel By Loving

I am often asked the question, “Why are believers not declaring the gospel?” My firm belief, pastoral experience, and observation is that “believers do not declare the gospel if they do not delight in God.”

As we all know, people will talk about what they find most interesting or exciting. If you really like sports, cooking, children, etc., you will talk to others about those things or about the relationships that matter the most to you. As Peter and John replied (Acts 4:20), “For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.” People will talk about the relationship that they are the most passionate about or delight in. Webster defines delight as “to take great pleasure.” As the Psalmist wrote, “Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart.” There are many Christians who are not declaring the gospel because they simply do not delight in God. We cannot proclaim Christ is above all if we do not worship and love Him above all things. Deuteronomy 30:19b-20a states: “Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the LORD your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the LORD is your life...” As it has been said, Christ cannot be praised above all if He is not prized above all.

I really grew in my delight with God when I began to realize how great His love is for me. Several years ago I was playing golf with my five year old at our neighborhood golf course. When we got to the fourth hole, I hit an amazingly great shot onto the green (miracles still happen). After the shot, my son yelled out to me, “Great shot Dad! Now it is my turn!” He then took off and ran to his golf ball and began to hit his next shot. I picked up my golf bag (and his little golf bag) and I began to walk to the green. While I was walking, I began to pray in my spirit this praise to the Lord, “Oh Lord, I love you. I praise You for giving me my son. This is so much fun to be out with him, playing golf and just enjoying him. Thank you Father.” After I said this prayer, the Lord impressed His words to my heart and told me this, “Now you know what it is like for me to be your Father.” I often reflect on that day and rejoice in knowing that the Lord loves me. That day has helped me pursue God with all of my heart, all of my soul and all of my mind. The Lord answered Paul’s prayer to me that day,” And I pray that you being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge-that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.” (Ephesians 3:17b-19)

Source: “Why Are Believers Not Declaring the Gospel?” by Jim Halstead

KEY VERSE

I Thessalonians 2:8 (NKJV)

“So, affectionately longing for you, we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us.”

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: I Thessalonians 2:1-2; Matthew 5:43-45; Hebrews 12:1-3

Love Is Sacrificial

1. How do you define love? List some words or phrases.
2. How has sacrificial love been demonstrated in your life? Why is it important to love others even through difficult situations?

Tuesday: I Thessalonians 2:3-4; Ephesians 4:15; Romans 1:16

Love Is Truthful

3. Why is it important to speak the truth in love to people? Give an example of a time someone told you the truth in love.
4. How has fear of man impacted you as you seek to declare the Gospel to others?

Wednesday: I Thessalonians 2:5-6; Proverbs 4:23; James 4:10

Love Has Pure Motives

5. Is it possible to do loving things for people out of wrong motives? How do you examine your motives?
6. What role does humility play in declaring the Gospel?

Thursday: I Thessalonians 2:7-9; Matthew 11:29-30

Love Is Gentle

7. What example does Paul use to describe his behavior among the Thessalonians?
8. How did Paul show that he valued the Thessalonians? How do you demonstrate that you value the people you declare the Gospel to?
9. Why is it important to share your life with those you are declaring the Gospel to?

Friday: I Thessalonians 2:10-12; I Cor. 11:1; Psalm 34:11

Love Is Encouraging

10. How do you think Paul's presence encouraged the Thessalonians when he was with them? Who is encouraged by your presence?
11. Why is just setting a good example with our actions not enough? Why is it important to tell people about Jesus with our words?
12. We are concluding our missions focus this week. What has God shown you through this series?