

Lead, Follow or Get Out of the Way

While browsing through a popular monthly magazine I ran across a statement that I thought most people in the church could well take to heart. It stated, “*Lead, follow or get out of the way.*”

Wouldn't it be wonderful if every member of the church would follow that admonition? Look at the elders that are not leading anyone anywhere! Look at the elders and others who are leading and multitudes stubbornly refuse to follow them! Not all men are leaders and perhaps all men are not followers. Should it be that you are neither a leader nor a follower then for the sake of heaven and all that is pure and good—get out of the way!

I'm reminded of the man who had a dog that would chase rabbits, tree squirrels and bring up the milk cows. But in his later years he got to where all he would do was chase cars. Then he got so cantankerous that all he would do was lie down in the road and dare the cars to run over him. Naturally people would stop, blow the car horn and plead with the dog to move. The old dog didn't move unless pleaded with, until one day a man came through, determined that the dog was not going to stop him this time. He simply sounded the warning—blew the horn—and went roaring through. You know what happened. When the old dog found out that he could not stop the progress of the car—he got out of the way without any hesitation what-so-ever.

There are members just like that old dog. They'll gripe, complain, ridicule and in every way possible hinder the work of the church until they learn that others are not going to allow them to get away with it. When confronted with the fact that they are not going to be *pampered* they'll usually do like the old dog—get out of the way.

Brethren, we need *leaders* in the church and *followers*, in the church who will not allow a minority to hinder the progress of the kingdom. The Lord's church needs men who are capable leaders both in the eldership and out of it. The church needs members who are followers, and perhaps this is what most of us are. But if we are neither a leader nor a follower then let's be *honorable* enough to get out of the way and not hinder the progress of others. There is a great lesson found in those words and they have a clear sounding ring to them, “Lead, follow or get out of the way.” ~William S. Cline

Kennewick Church of Christ

3926 W. Kennewick Ave. Kennewick, WA 99336
509-783-4013

Website: www.Kennewickcofc.com

Facebook page: Kennewick Church of Christ

Church Email: kencoc@gmail.com

Meeting times:

Sunday:

Sunday Bible Study 9:30 am

Sunday Night Worship 6:00 pm

Wednesday:

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 pm am

Elders:

Clarence Botts: 509-521-3344; ccbotts@hotmail.com

LaVern Engelke: 509-783-6479; vern.engelke@gmail.com

Minister:

Dustin McCrickard 509-579-9068

Open Congregational meeting – 2nd Sunday at 5:00 pm. All are welcome

Attendance 06/30 63

Budget \$2400.33

Contribution 06/30 \$5319.65

July 07, 2019

Kennewick Church of Christ

What Will It take Next

I am confident our Lord knew of the motivation that would be necessary to bring people to the obedience of His word. In His own words He spoke, “And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto myself” (John 12:32). The Lord has made it plain that the “only drawing power” needed to save the lost and the only motivation needed to keep the saved faithful is the understanding of the crucifixion and why it was necessary.

The gospel remains as God's power to save (Rom. 1:16; 1 Cor. 15:1,2); it has not lost one ounce of its saving power and when it is preached in its fullness and obeyed it will produce saved people today as it did on Pentecost in Acts 2.

Apparently, there are many today that no longer believe our Lord's statement in John 12:32. So called “new methods” of bringing the lost to Christ are being introduced almost daily. Everything from offering money to learn memory verses, to “Kite Sunday”, to a McDonald's Hamburger are to supposedly motivate people to attend Bible Classes and worship services. “What will it take next?”

If we are to begin to entice people to accept the Lord Jesus strictly because of a physical appeal (such as those things mentioned above), how long will it be before baptistries are formed into swimming pools and the elements of the Lord's Supper replaced with hamburgers and cokes just to get people to attend.

It has been wisely stated that when it takes ice cream, tea, and fried chicken to get people to become a christian or to keep them attending, the kind of Christians we will have will be as cold as ice cream, as weak as tea and as dead as chicken. It is no wonder preachers are instructed in many places to be entertainers rather than evangelists of the Lord Jesus Christ. Paul stated that the preaching of the gospel was foolishness to many (1 Cor. 1:21). It is the preaching of the Whole “counsel of God” (Acts 20:27) and obedience rendered unto it that will save the lost from hell (Heb. 5:8,9), and there is no substitute or alternative.

I firmly believe that if the preaching of Jesus Christ and Him crucified will not bring a person to desire to obey Christ as Lord, that nothing ever shall. God forbid that his children would stop planting the seed of the word, and watering that seed, for in the day that we do, we can be sure that God will no longer give the increase (1 Cor. 3:6). ~Byron Denman

.....
Preacher, give us the word of God. Don't tickle the ear, don't share!

Preach with the touch of God. Bring us to Calvary.

Preach against Sin...

Make us uncomfortable...

PREACH!

Don't tell me how I wish it was. Preacher tell me like it is.

that old time bible teaching.

Revive Us Again!

Keep These Dates in Mind	July Birthdays and Anniversaries		
06/30 Fifth Sunday Singing 07/13 Men's Breakfast and Fellowship 07/14 Open Congregation Meeting 5:00 07/20 VBS 07/21 Fellowship Potluck Teen Camp 08/04 First Sunday Potluck 08/10 Men's Breakfast and Fellowship 08/11 Open Congregation Meeting 500p	Kael Botts 7/3 Bob & Shirley Childers 7/11 Mailey McCrickard 7/11 Kaleb McCrickard 7/12 Marilyn Davis 7/15 Joshua Hickman 7/15 Patrick & Kristy Hickman 7/19 Danny & Shannon Mendoza 7/22	Alec Minor 7/22 Jim & Holly Preston 7/22 Dorothy Bryan 7/27 Sarah Mendoza 7/28 Ila Stephens 7/28 Jeffra Slagle 7/29 Shaylin Smith 7/29	
	Bible Studies		
	Adult Bible Classes Sunday am.–O.T. Beginning in Gen 12 Wed pm – Shadows of the church from the O.T	Youth Classes Classroom Wing Teen Class - Teen Room	Ladies Class Thursday 10:00a.m – 11:30a.m.

Be faithful unto death and I will give you the crown of life. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who conquers will not be hurt by the second death.



Issues (ongoing): Karen McBurney, Shirley Childers, Kaleb McCrickard, Marji Lindholm, The Johnson family, Marilyn Davis, Randy Hargus, Eunice Petros, Tami Pennington, Amanda McCrickard's parents, Karen McBurney's father, Leland And Marilyn's daughter, Don and Sherri Blackwell.

- Keep all those who are sick and traveling in your prayers.
- Remember VBS is June 21. Keep those who are working to make this day a success in your prayers.
- Keep those who will be away at teen camp this week in your prayers.
- There will be a congregational meeting to discuss our impressions of the men whom we are considering to work with our congregation with the elders for those who are interested. Time will be announced.

Our Ministries

Mountain States Children's Home

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world. (James 1:27)

Peru Ministry – Oscar and Anna Maria in Peru

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the son and of the Holy Spirit

Food Pantry - Our food pantry is located in the small room next to the library.

"Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed." (Proverbs 19:17)

Austin and Kennadie McCrickard – Bear Valley Bible Institute

"And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ. (Ephesians 4:11-12)

Proper Preaching

A mark of the digressive attitude of the current generation is the refusal to preach the Word as God has ordained it to be preached. All too often we are faced in our assemblies and Bible classes with vague discussions of the most trivial kind or pompous platitudes which are designed to tickle the ears of the hearer. Most sermons, which are heard from the pulpits of the Lord's church today, could be preached in the most liberal Methodist church without raising an eyebrow. Beloved, the proper preaching required of God will cause a stir (Acts 19:23), and not until we relegate ourselves to do that kind of preaching shall the apostasy rampaging through the congregations be stopped.

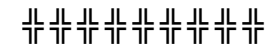
One should read Paul's discussion of proper preaching in 1 Corinthians 1:17-31. In that great passage the apostle sets forth that our preaching must be, first of all, *plain*. It should not be with the "wisdom of speech," that is to say, those words which are born out of the unconverted wisdom of the world (v. 17). Words are merely the emblems or symbols of thought, and unless they are properly understood the idea carried by them cannot be grasped. I am persuaded that it is the realization of this fact which motivates the wolves among us to try to cover their nefarious tracks with a majestic harangue of nothing.

Secondly, Paul shows that proper preaching must be *powerful*: for the word itself is "unto us which are saved...the power of God" (v. 18). The Gospel is not weak, nor is it ineffectual. God has placed within its confines the complete ability to make man complete, and this by His grace which teaches us (Tit. 2:11-13). Thirdly, Paul declares that proper preaching must be *purposeful*. As God's power unto salvation for every one who keeps on believing, the heralding of the Gospel has a definite part in the Scheme of Redemption: for "it pleased God by the foolishness [as the world considers it] of preaching to save them that believe" (v. 21). It was divinely chosen by God to confound the false and perverted notions of men (v. 27).

Fourthly, Paul demonstrates that proper preaching should be *pointed* in verse 24. In our preaching we must preach Christ, and Him crucified. However, such preaching to the religiously wrong is a stumbling block: they fail to perceive the significance of that which is preached, and indeed are blinded by their vain traditions. It is foolishness to the heathen: for they, generally speaking wish to continue in their rebellious ways. Thus, proper preaching demands that we preach the Gospel of Christ in such a manner as to force upon the mind of these people the reality of where they are at, and where they are going, and, ultimately, how to detour from it.

Finally, Paul states that proper preaching must be *profitable* (v. 30-31). It should cause men to "glory in the Lord." Paul held back nothing that was profitable by his preaching (Acts 20:20), but today our preaching in our stagnated sermonettes, which are void of exposition and proper application, does not profit even the most attentive spiritual minds. There is little or no meat put out for the hungry from our pulpits classrooms. Some say, "Oh, the brethren cannot take strong meat." Yet, how do they know if the brethren are never given strong meat?

Souls are too precious to cast away due to our pitiful lack of proper preaching. We cannot negotiate them to heaven; only sound Gospel preaching will get them there. I would the day would come when preachers would do what they are supposed to do—"Preach Word." H. Daniel Denham



I, therefore, a prisoner for the Lord urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit – just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call – one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. (Ephesians 4:1-7)