

The Beautiful Feet of Evangelism

Our current day finds people in a uniquely vulnerable place. Many are fearful of what the future holds. Others are concerned about the present political climate, their personal health, or finances. Yes, these can be scary days, but at the same time opportunities to share the gospel are plenty!

Despite many opportunities, there has been an undeniable and drastic decline in evangelism. As research shows a sobering reality that nearly 80% of unchurched people say they will engage in a faith conversation but that only 30% of Christians are actually telling people about Jesus. Why is that?

One of the reasons is because the church is becoming known more for what we are against than what we are for. We tend to have a greater concern for changing a person's political opinion rather than their spiritual condition. The New Testament church did not focus on political opinions or personalities, but rather on proclaiming the good news of the King of Kings who died for our sins and rose from the dead. Likewise, we need to regain our focus on the main thing, the gospel of Jesus Christ.

One of the upcoming opportunities is our Youth Summer Mission Project (YSMP) trip in the summer (7/6-7/14) where we go to an Indian Reservation in Arizona to focus on sharing the Gospel and developing long lasting relationship with a local church. We serve the local church by going out into the community to share the Gospel message, praying for families, hosting revival meetings, Worship services, Bible studies, construction projects, cooking classes, sports camp, youth camp and Vacation Bible School.

Again, the theme for mission this year is to "ENGAGE"! I want to challenge y'all to Go and make disciples of all nations...! Let us be reminded on the importance on going. Apostle Paul writes in Romans 10:13-15 "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." *How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"*

If you are interested in participating YSMP this year, please contact Pastor Paul or the Mission Committee.

傳福音的佳美腳蹤

我們今天的社會是一個相當特別，前所未有的，容易使人沮喪和受傷的環境。許多人對自己或家人的前景有恐懼，也有些人對當前的政治氛圍，或個人的健康，或經濟情況感到憂心。沒錯，這個時代是可以令人相當失望和害怕；但是同時這也是個充滿分享福音機會的時代。

儘管如此，有一個不可否認的事實是我們傳播福音的力量正在迅速消退中。據一項調查報告指出，有 80%的（未曾接觸福音的人）表示他們十分願意積極參與關於信仰的討論；但是另一方面卻只有 30%的（基督徒）表示他們曾向別人談起過耶穌。為什麼會是這樣呢？

其中一個原因是今天「教會」所逐漸給人的感受是我們所反對的事似乎要比我們所追求的事更容易讓別人知道些。我們似乎對想要改變某一個人的政治理念與看法總比想要改變他的屬靈光景更有興趣！聖經中新約教會的歷史並沒有談到什麼政治理念與個性，只是單單傳講為我們的罪而死且復活的萬王之王，主耶穌。所以，我們也應該要回到這個主題，專講我們的主耶穌基督。

即將到來的一個差傳機會是我們的青少年暑期短宣(YSMP), 7/6-7/14. 我們將去亞歷桑那州的印第安保留區分享傳講福音，也繼續和當地教會發展長期的合作關係。我們進入當地社區中分享神的信息、為他們禱告、幫助帶領敬拜、靈命成長、查經、球類競賽、烹飪班、兒童暑期聖經班...等活動。

今年的差傳主題是「積極參與」。我要挑戰大家都走出去使萬民都成為門徒。使徒保羅在羅馬書 10:13-15 說：“因為「凡求告主名的就必得救」。然而，人未曾信他，怎能求他呢？未曾聽見他，怎能信他呢？沒有傳道的，怎能聽見呢？若沒有奉差遣，怎能傳道呢？正如經上所記：「報福音、傳喜信的人，他們的腳蹤何等佳美！」”

如果你有意願參與今年的暑期青少年短宣，請與郭智榮牧師或差傳委員會聯繫。