

# WHAT WE (I) CAN DO FOR THE MEETING

2Cor xzz5:17-21

## INTRODUCTION:

- A. The success of a gospel meeting depends almost entirely on the members of the congregation
- B. It depends on just how interested the members are in making the meeting successful.
- C. For the greatest amount of good to be done the best efforts of us as members must be put forth and for that to be the case we must put our whole heart into the effort.

## DISCUSSION:

### I. GIVING A WHOLE-HEARTED EFFORT

- A. The heart of man is the beginning place for every great undertaking.
  - 1. Each member must cleanse their heart of everything that would hinder the success of the meeting
  - 2. Love one another with a pure heart 1Pet 1:22
- B. Each member should be glad the meeting has been planned and thankful to be able to attend Psa 122:1
- C. Love God with all our heart Matt 22:37
- D. Seek God with our whole heart Psa 119:2
- E. Hunger and thirst after righteousness Matt 5:6
  - 1. Want to learn more Jas 1:25; 2Tim 2:15
  - 2. Put God's kingdom first Matt.6:33 Plan to attend, be willing to sacrifice to attend
- F. The success of the meeting will be hindered unless each member makes sure their heart is centered on spiritual things.

### II. PURPOSE OF MEETING MUST BE UNDERSTOOD

- A. Save lost (make Christians) Matt 28:19,20; Acts 11:26
- B. Edify the saved (church) 1Thess 5:11 Feed, strengthen, encourage, "fire up" (Perfecting Eph 4:12)
- C. To honor and glorify God Eph 3:21 By exalting Jesus and His word as the only guide from earth to heaven Acts 4:12; 1Pet 1:23
- D. By understanding these purposes we will be better able to prepare our hearts and minds, thereby making it successful.

### III. THIS RESULTS IN PREPARATION Col 3:23,24

- A. Many times the extent of preparation is advertising: making announcements to members and area churches which are important but not enough
- B. Preacher sometimes blamed for lack of additions
  - 1. Ask yourself "If I were not a Christian, would I want to be a part of his congregation?"

- 2. Guest and converts associate more with members than with the preacher Matt 5:16
- C. This preparation results of having our hearts prepared, it is impossible to desire something strongly and be indifferent toward it.

### IV. UNDERSTANDING, PREPARED HEARTS WILL:

- A. Demonstrate this with their presence Heb 10:25
  - 1. This method of feeding has been chosen and we must be subject to one another 1Pet 5:5
  - 2. Our presence is essential for our benefit as well as others: members and non-members
  - 3. Our plans should already be made
- B. Encourage others to attend: be a Cornelius Acts 10:24
  - 1. Fields are white to harvest Jhn 4:35
  - 2. Possibilities at Corinth Acts 18:9,10
- C. Be willing to participate
  - 1. Everyone sit close to front, leave back seats for visitors and ones with small children who **NEED** it. (children need to be taught to sit close to front & be still and listen)
  - 2. Sing and pray with spirit & understanding 1Cor 14:15
    - a. Pray for preacher and lost
    - b. Pray as if everything depended on God and work as if everything depended on you
  - 3. Give undivided attention to lessons - take notes
  - 4. Be friendly to each visitor at each service, have them fill out a visitor's card, especially if first time.

## CONCLUSION:

- A. The preaching will, I believe, be true to the Word of God 2Tim 4:2
- B. Preacher will do his part; will we do ours
- C. Good meetings don't just happen - they are made to happen
- D. So let's make preparation by first preparing our hearts and by understanding the purpose and when we do that we will then work for its success.