

# Plain Path

Weekly newsletter of the Fry Road church of Christ

Sunday, January 26, 2014

Volume 19, Number 4

“Teach me thy way, O Lord, and lead me in a plain path... Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart” (Psalm 27:11-14)

## GREAT GOSPEL MEETING AT CAESAREA

by Mark White

**G**ospel meetings have been around for as long as the church has existed. The very first Gospel meeting ever conducted was on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2). This day of Gospel preaching gave birth to the church of Christ. They had an excellent preacher (Peter); a powerful message (the Gospel of Christ); a good audience (Jews

from all over the world); and spectacular results (3,000 were baptized in one day). Philip, the evangelist, preached a Gospel meeting in the region of Samaria (Acts 8). Gospel preaching had a tremendous effect on the people who heard it there.

Acts 10 records that an angel of the Lord, the Holy Spirit, a Roman centurion, and the apostle  
*(Meeting, continued on pg 2...)*

## ARE YOU LOOKING?

by  
Bob  
Pulliam

**Y**ou may be in the process of looking for a church where you can “put down roots”. Please consider the following as you search:

**Putting down roots requires good soil and water.** You wouldn’t plant a seed just anywhere. And while there are a lot of churches out there, not all are “good soil” for your spiritual growth. Some are a “lake” of “distilled water”, and drown people in a “gush” of feel-goodism. You need to look for a place that tells it like it is with love. You need elders who challenge you. A preacher who shows you where to put your life, rather than putting on a show for you.

**Good growth requires pruning.** Many people today like for their church to “leave them alone”. But we sometimes have “dead wood” in our lives that will  
*(Looking, continued on pg 2...)*

## Gospel Meeting

*This Week* **January 26 - 29** *This Week*

Sunday, 9:30AM ... False Ideas About Jesus  
10:30AM ... God Wants the First  
6:00PM ... Look to Jesus and Live  
Monday, 7:30PM ... What Should the Church Be Doing  
Tuesday, 10:00AM ... Preaching the Gospel Today  
7:30PM ... The Bible and Eternal Punishment  
Wednesday, 7:30PM ... The Lamb of God

*Our speaker will be Mark White*

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(Meeting, continued from pg 1...)

Peter, combined their efforts to preach the Gospel to the Gentiles. The angel prompted Cornelius to ask for Peter's help. The Spirit commanded Peter to go to Caesarea with Cornelius' servants. Cornelius himself was busy inviting his friends and relatives to attend the meeting (Acts 10:24). Isn't it amazing that Cornelius was a soul-seeker even before his own conversion?

After exchanging a few brief remarks between them, Cornelius said to Peter, "Now therefore we are all here present before God, to hear all things commanded thee by God." (Acts 10:33). Are there not lessons in this disposition for us? Will we exercise as much concern for our meeting as Corne-

lius did for his? Will we be as interested in inviting friends and family to our meeting as Cornelius was to the meeting in Caesarea?

Cornelius sent for the right kind of preacher. He did not send for Jewish teachers of the law, Pharisees, or Sadducees. Peter was called for because the angel knew he would speak words of salvation (Acts 11:13, 14). We expect the same from our preacher in this meeting.

It is also worthy of note that Cornelius was glad Peter came. He thanked him for being in Caesarea (Acts 10:25, 33). He was pleased that a Gospel preacher would be there to speak to him and his family and friends. Sometimes, Gospel preachers are not welcome! Some would rather not have a Gospel preacher speak to their kinsmen and near friends. Could it be that we are ashamed of the Gospel of Christ? Thankfully, Cornelius was not so disposed. In fact, Peter was encouraged to preach anything God had commanded. Cornelius was not interested in speculative theories, philosophy, psychiatry, or other rhetoric. He wanted God's commands preached! Our preacher in this meeting will be

free to preach what God expects us to know.

Finally, the Caesarean Gospel meeting was conducted in the "presence of God" (Acts 10:33). Do we not get the idea here that this was a respectful, reverent gathering? They were aware of God's presence among them. Would there have been any habitual late-comers in this crowd? Were any of them inattentive to the things preached? If they sang or prayed, don't you suppose they did so worshipfully? Our meeting must be conducted with the knowledge that we are gathered together "in the presence of God."

This ancient Gospel meeting was a great event for many reasons. There was a great preacher, whose chief interest was truth and its unswerving proclamation. There was an interested audience. There was a reverent audience. There was an evangelistic spirit, spurred by Cornelius' personal invitations to the meeting. The meeting was so edifying that these Caesareans asked Peter to stay and preach some more (Acts 10:48).

Fry Road begins a Gospel meeting today. How much like the Caesarea meeting will this one be? 

## THIS WEEK'S DAILY BIBLE READINGS

### NEW TESTAMENT READING

JOHN 13 - 16

January 26 - 28

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

JOB 11 - 19

January 29 - February 1

I TIMOTHY 4:13

(Looking, continued from pg 1...)

keep us from heaven. If the preacher and elders aren't reproofing and rebuking, then you are being hindered from becoming all God would have you be.

**Plants need protection.** And souls need protection from false teachers and their doctrines. Sometimes we need warmth in the cold winter of a cruel world's

attacks.

Allow me to encourage you to read the following passages, and take a closer look at the work going on here at Fry Road. We want to go to heaven, and we would love for you to join us on our journey. (II Tim 3:16f; 2:15; Mt 7:13-23; Acts 20:28-30; Gal 4:16) 

# FAMILY NEWS & NOTES

*News and Notes of Interest  
to Fry Road Members*

Because of the large number of visitors to our services, we would ask those wishing to identify with the congregation to do so by expressing this interest directly to the elders.

## *Upcoming Meetings & Events:*

**Gospel Meeting (Mark White)**  
January 26 - 29, 2014

**Gospel Meeting (Steve Wolfgang)**  
April 13 - 16, 2014

**V.B.S. ("We Would See Jesus")**  
June 23 - 26, 2014

**Gospel Meeting (Joseph Casimier)**  
September 21 - 24, 2014

## *Sick and Shut-Ins*

*Sections have been removed to preserve member's privacy*

## **Sermons:**

### **Next Sunday:**

What Jews Believe About Jesus,  
and Why They're Wrong

### **Tonight:**

Look to Jesus and Live



*"Have I therefore become your enemy  
by telling you the truth?"*  
*(Galatians 4:16)*

Have you ever told someone the truth, something they really needed to hear, and they became angry with you? And, unfortunately, you and I can be just as bad about it. This week, look for cases in Scripture where people were told the truth and became angry. List them with what important thing was at stake, and how the situation turned out. I'll get you started with II Kings 5. Share your list with your family.

## *Angels Rejoicing...*

## *Directory Info*

# FOR THE RECORD

## WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS

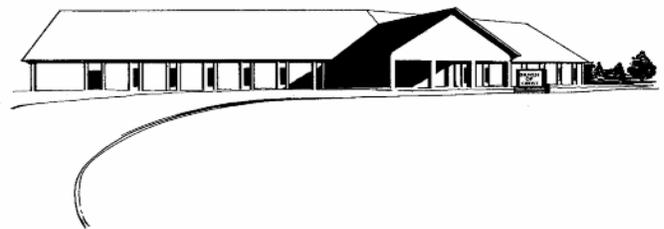
## MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS

Sections have been removed to preserve member's privacy

IN KEEPING WITH OUR LONG STANDING AGREEMENT, THOSE SERVING PUBLICLY ARE REMINDED TO PLEASE DRESS IN A MANNER RESPECTFUL OF THE GOD WHOM WE SERVE.

### ELDERS:

Ruben Amador  
Matthew Heaton  
Donnie Mangrum  
Steve Voss



### DEACONS:

John Coleman	Ken Dunsmore
David Ellison	Ray Farrell
Aubrey Garner	Steve Geraci
Steve LaGrasta	John Light
Steven Martin	Mike McMurray
Jason Mock	David Stevenson
Glenn Tomblin	

### TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Classes	9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Assembly	10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Assembly	6:00 PM
Wednesday Bible Classes	7:30 PM

### EVANGELIST & EDITOR:

Bob Pulliam                      bob@fryroad.org