
Lifelines Outreach

Mail Donations to 3225 Knobdale Road, Nashville TN 37214

Lifelines Outreach shares the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and by making disciples in the greater Nashville area.

Feb. 2018

We set up a prayer stand in Madison today. It's a great spot because it is in front of the library at one of the bus stops in Madison. Great weather and many receptive hearts to hear the Gospel. One of the young men who was originally from Kenya named Gaweer Cuol, prayed to make Jesus Lord. He has been attending the Madison Church of Christ the last two weeks. This is basically his only real church experience. God was preparing his heart to meet us today, it was a divine appointment. He prayed to receive Christ. I gave him my card and asked him to call me for follow-up. Gaweer has no phone of his own. We were able to give him a new NIV Bible because of a donation. Mindy also prayed to receive Christ. She was willing to give us all of her follow-up information so that we could contact her. We want to help her grow as a disciple of Jesus.

I am helping in a discipleship group at the Nashville Rescue Mission on Thursday afternoons. Ben Grady who is the IT manager, began the discipleship group. Ben has a real heart for evangelism and making disciples. I can see the love and compassion from Christ in his life. During one of the groups, I met a man named Arthur. He is a baby Christian. He was a church member for many years which is common. He also has a little knowledge of the Bible. I talked with him and he wanted to go further with his relationship with Jesus. I met him for lunch at Arnold's meat and three near the mission. We had a great conversation and we hit it off. I set up a time to begin building a foundation of being a disciple. We studied together the first lesson in a short book called "Lessons on Assurance" by NavPress. The book is simple. I taught Arthur in hopes that he might be able to teach the material to someone else. That is the goal. Disciples making disciples. I asked him who he could teach the first lesson to and he said that he did not know anybody. He said he did not know anybody that wanted to know more about Jesus. After we finished discussing this we went to the mission to the discipleship class. Arthur, Mike, Tony, and myself were at table together and we were discussing Mark 1-11. However, God had other plans, the Gospel was shared with Mike. Mike also had attended church for a number of years. However Mike did not have a relationship with Jesus. After hearing the Gospel, Mike prayed to receive Jesus. Arthur became very excited. He spoke up and said that he can teach Mike the first lesson in the assurance book. Mike agreed and I gave him a copy on of the Lessons on Assurance. Arthur now has his own disciple. 2 Tim 2:2 says, "The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also."

We have been meeting with a small discipleship group late on Wednesday afternoon at the Lexington Garden Apartments In Madison. A lady that we have known for over a year is hosting the group in her apartment. Joyce Reddig has been instrumental in developing this relationship so that we would have a place to meet. Joyce really has a heart for the Lord. She sees people through the eyes of Jesus. We are also going through the Lessons on Assurance books in our time together. Joyce taught the fourth lesson this past week and did an outstanding job. I told her she does a better job than me. She was excellent. When spring arrives, we know we will have a larger group of people who will attend. Thank you for praying for us and for your financial support. We couldn't do it without you! Pray and read your Bible! - *Richard Gay*

Obstacles To Evangelism In The Local Church - *By Thom Rainer*

I recently conducted an informal Twitter poll and asked what keeps Christians from evangelizing. The results were overwhelming and led to a [blog post](#) that generated quite a discussion. Today, we go deeper into that post and the comments that came from it.

Some highlights from today's episode include:

- For those in ministry, you have to be intentional about having relationships with non-Christians.
- Evangelism is an intentional effort.
- Inviting people to church should not be the totality of our personal evangelism strategy.
- Evangelism is not solely the role of pastors and church staff. It is the role of all Christians.
- The problem of unregenerate membership is significant in our churches.
- It is a sin to be good when God has called us to be great.

The main reasons Christians do not evangelize are:

1. Christians have no sense of urgency to reach lost people.
2. Many Christians and church members do not befriend and spend time with lost persons.
3. Many Christians and church members are lazy and apathetic.
4. We are more known for what we are against than what we are for.
5. Our churches have an ineffective evangelistic strategy of "you come" rather than "we go."
6. Many church members think that evangelism is the role of the pastor and paid staff.
7. Church membership today is more about getting my needs met rather than reaching the lost.
8. Church members are in a retreat mode as culture becomes more worldly and unbiblical.
9. Many church members don't really believe that Christ is the only way of salvation.
10. Our churches are no longer houses of prayer equipped to reach the lost.
11. Churches have lost their focus on making disciples who will thus be equipped and motivated to reach the lost.
12. Christians do not want to share the truth of the gospel for fear they will offend others. Political correctness is too commonplace even among Christians.
13. Most churches have unregenerate members who have not received Christ themselves.
14. Our churches have too many activities; they are too busy to do the things that really matter.

For more information about these ministry opportunities please contact
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