

What is the Primary Goal of Evangelism?

S ome people think the goal of evangelism is simply to grow a congregation; as long as pews are filling up, they believe the goal of evangelism is being achieved. For others, it's all about baptisms; as long as people are being baptized, they think they are fulfilling the goal of evangelism. Don't get me wrong, baptisms and "church growth" are certainly good things, but these could absolutely be in vain if we do not understand the *primary* goal of evangelism.

What Is Evangelism?

It's funny that we urge Christians to be evangelistic, but sometimes without even really explaining what that means.

The word "evangelism" comes from the Greek word, "euaggelizo," which means **to announce good news.** Obviously in the context of Christianity, the good news about which we're talking is the Good News about Jesus Christ: the Son of God was born King of the Jews, was crucified, and was raised King of kings and Lord of Lords; and He gives eternal life to His disciples.

In a nutshell, evangelism is telling people the Good News about Jesus.

Church Staff:

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But why do we tell people the Good News? What's our primary goal in that? **Our goal is for them to know how to be a disciple of Jesus Christ, if they so choose.** And we must realize, the decision to be a disciple is not one to be taken lightly.

Jesus said, before following Him, people ought to consider the cost. He compared it to building a tower, "Which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and **count the cost**, whether he has enough to complete it" (Luke 14:28)? Jesus wanted people to understand the enormous commitment required when responding to the Good News:

If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not **bear his own cross** and come after me cannot be my disciple... any one of you who does not **renounce all that he has** cannot be my disciple (Luke 14:25-26,33).

(Continued on back page.)

Deacons:

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Welcome Guests

We are so glad that you decided to visit Port Orchard Church of Christ this morning! Since you took this step to join us for worship, we would like to extend to you a warm welcome. Wherever you are this morning, as we lift worship to God, we pray that you are able to leave feeling uplifted, convicted, or encouraged in your faith.

We seek to worship God like the first century

church did, with a sense of awe and with a fear of the Lord. Some things we do might seem old fashioned or traditional, but we want you to know that at its core, it is for the praise of God's glory.

You are not required to do anything weird or ostentatious. We hope that you feel free to join us in worshipping God to the best of your abilities. If you have any specific needs, we have a ministry staff that would love to connect with you. Ask the people sitting around you for names of the ministry staff and to point them out!

Once again, we are so happy to have you here worshipping with us and we hope this is a chance to worship God in a deep and meaningful way.

Save the Dates!

Wednesday 03/21 6:00-7:00 pm Pray, Pray, & Pray Numbers 6:24-26

Church of Christ,

I wish to thank Ken Avery for his tireless efforts, replacing pipes under the sink.

He was sick with bronchitis which made it more difficult.

Thanks, Ken, and God Bless You

Dorothy Fletcher

Port Orchard News and Events

Pulpit Preview

Vincente Huerta will be giving the sermon on Sunday: "Spring Cleaning: Luke 11:24-26". Worship Service begins at 10:45. We hope to see you here!

Happy Birthday!

March: Ariana Avery-04, Charlotte Hahn-04, Lynn Chapman-05, Lydia Gerard-10, Brad Orser-12, Troy Hill-15, Mary Carter-23, Billy Hanson-23, Jim Furstenwerth-24, Darrell Fry-25, Faith Wichman-28, , JT Keagle-29, Lilly Harris-30, Mallory Hall-30, Roger Taylor-31

Last Sunday

Dale Sanders shared a sermon with us last Sunday. If you missed his message, please visit the church website at pococ.weebly.com to listen.

Wednesday Evenings

What: Pray, Pray, & Pray (Numbers 6:24-26) Where: Port Orchard church of Christ Auditorium When: Wednesdays, 6-7pm

Serving March 18, 2018:

Prayer Leader:	Dave Snypp	Communion Prep:	Rick Velasco
Scripture Reader:	Brandon Zepf	Communion Cleanup:	Rick Velasco
Offering Thoughts:	Bob McDaniel	Song Leader:	Gene Gerard
Communion Meditation:	Darrell Fry		
Servers:	David Lawrence & Wayne H.		
Ushers:	Brandon Karn & Terry Bratcher	Children's 9:30 Teacher:	Laura Fry
Greeters:	Lori Sanders & DeLoris Lawler	Youth Worship:	Jennifer Delay
Prayer Partners:	Ken & Tammy Avery	Preaching:	Vincente Huerta
Sound:	Forest Gerard		
Slides/Lighting:	Dale Sanders		



Rwanda, Africa

If you missed services and wish to read last week's missionary article, go to pococ.weebly.com, click "Weekly Church Bulletins", and click "Download File" under the file name 3-11.pdf. If you cannot access the article this way, we, gladly, can print one for you. Just give the office a call or get in touch with Kelli Keagle on Sunday.

Moving Assistance for the Woodrows

The Woodrows need help loading furniture and boxes into the U-Haul they are renting on Saturday. If you can help, contact Pam Woodrow for location in Port Orchard.

Life Line Screening

Life Line Screening uses ultrasound technology to view the plaque build up in your carotid arteries, the main arteries that carry blood to the brain. Blockages in these arteries are a leading cause of stroke. We are pleased to host this Life Line Screening event on 4/24/2018 at The Port Orchard Church of Christ. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or

visit www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle or text the word circle to 797979

2018 High School Graduates

If you have a senior graduating this spring, please let sister Bonnie Mitchell or sister Carla Duffy know so that we can get our celebration preparations underway. We want to give our graduates a good send-off!

Garage Sale for Manger Scene Fund

To have a successful garage sale, donated stuff is needed. Please donate usable stuff. Not usable:

- No big exercise equipment.
- No old TVs or stereo equipment
- No badly stained, excessively used, excessively dirty, badly damaged, unworkable or broken, has an odor or appears to be unsafe stuff
- No items that go against church values or standards

The church garage is available for storage. If you need assistance moving items, see or call Barbara Chasteen or Rick Velasco.

Our Prayer List

Healing:

Baby Tommy Don Jordan Gwen Johnson, Karen T.'s sister Haylie Williams Jessica, Norma Gregory's daughter Jamin Mason Those suffering from seasonal viruses & other infections Delores Brun Runell Mason **DeLoris** Lawler Norm Brinkley Tammy Avery's friend Roxanne **Encouragement:** Josh Wilson Brennan, relative of Atwoods & Norma G. Traveling: Frys Other: Our children, church, nation, President Trump and ministries. That God will bless our deacons with wis-

dom in reaching the many decisions they are entrusted with.

Direction of our congregation.

March 11, 2018

Worship: 78 Class: 59 Offering: \$2,817.57

(Continued from front page.)

Again, the primary goal of evangelism is for people to know how to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. **Some will, sadly, decide the cost is too high.** In rebellion, they will choose to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin rather than be mistreated with the people of God (see Hebrews 11:25). Others will see the Good News for what it is. In faith, they will repent of their sins and say, "Here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" (Acts 8:36). **Evangelism Is Not Just for the Lost**

As a side note, when we understand the goal of evangelism is for people to know how to be disciples of Jesus, then we will realize that evangelism is not just for the lost, it's also for the saved. **Even the church needs to be constantly reminded and matured concerning how to follow Jesus.**

In case that seems strange to you, to evangelize to the saved, consider these facts:

 We could easily define evangelism by the "Great Commission," in which Jesus said to go and make disciples by teaching them, baptizing them,

Port Orchard Church of Christ 4135 Carr Lane SE Port Orchard, WA 98366 360.876.2604 churchpococ@gmail.com www.pococ.weebly.com and continuing to teach them how to to baptize people and grow churches. follow Jesus (Matthew 28:18-20). We can quickly walk people through w

- Paul said evangelists and other leaders "equip the saints for the work of ministry" (Ephesians 4:12).
- Evangelists like Timothy and Titus remained in churches, teaching and reminding Christians how to be disciples of Jesus.
- Every one of Paul's letters was evangelistic, but they were evangelistic to the saved, not the lost.

Evangelists teach the lost – and the saved – the Good News about Jesus, so they know how to follow Jesus. All Christians, in some sense, **need to be evangelists and to have evangelists in our lives.** We all need to be taught more (and reminded often) about the Kingship of Jesus, so we know how to follow Him. Why It Matters That We Know the Goal of Evangelism

Why does it matter that we realize the primary goal of evangelism isn't just to baptize people or get them "coming to church"? It matters because we've developed all kinds of methods and strategies to baptize people and grow churches. We can quickly walk people through why they need to baptized. We can show people why our congregation is a great place to be. But are we being evangelistic? Being evangelistic means teaching people about Jesus. If we teach them about Jesus and they reject Him, we've still be evangelistic. But if we use some slick presentation to get someone baptized, or get them coming to our congregation, but they don't know what it means to be a disciple, then we have NOT been evangelistic.

Baptism and church attendance are absolutely necessary to be a disciple, but they are not the primary goals; the primary goal is that we learn to **bear our cross and daily follow Christ.** If we don't learn faithful discipleship, baptism and church attendance are ultimately in vain.

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