The Correspondent





SUNDAY

Bible Study 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM & 1:30 PM WEDNESDAY

Bible Study (Adult) 1:30 PM Bible Study (All Ages) 7:00 PM www.collinsville-troycoc.org (618) 667-6708

For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth... in every place. (1 Thessalonians 1:8)

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The Command of Evangelism

- Renn Ferguson

ith the gospel meeting and door knocking campaign coming up in the next couple of weeks I want us to spend some time looking at the importance of evangelism. This is perhaps one of the most difficult and consequently ignored commands God has given us. It is difficult because we often are put in situations that make us uncomfortable. We must have discussions with people who disagree with Scripture and must defend what the Bible teaches" While this might not be comfortable or easy, we must remember that it is our duty as followers of God.

Christ commanded the apostles in Matthew 28.18-2O, "And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold. I am with you always, to the end of the age" (ESV).

This was a non-negotiable for the apostles and disciples in the first century. Yet, so often it seems that we behave as if that command does not carry the same weight for us as it did them. This could not be further from the truth. We have just as much responsibility and obligation to evangelize as the apostles did. Since, this is a command if we fail to do so we are breaking the law of God and thereby are sinning (1 John 3:4).

We see so many congregations dying out. Why is that? It is common to believe that it is due to a lack of young people in the church. Now, do not get me wrong, we want as many people here as possible - no matter their age. But we are not going to grow the church just by having children. The only way to grow the church is through evangelism. If we will simply spend more time focused on spreading God's word the church will explode- that is God's formula.

Do you want this congregation to grow? Do you want to keep God's command to evangelize? Then make sure to be here for the meeting. Take a day off to help us door knock and sow seed. This is one of the greatest works any of us will ever do.

CONNECTIONS DOOR KNOCKING GOSPEL MEETING **FELLOWSHIP** OCT. 30 - NOV 2