

# 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 Urgency of Evangelism

- Renn Ferguson

**A**s our evangelistic campaign and gospel meeting draw closer, we have been reminding ourselves of the importance of evangelism. In last week's article, we noticed how evangelism is not a suggestion but a command. It is the only method that will truly grow the church. This week, as we continue these thoughts, we must remind ourselves of the urgency of evangelism.

If you noticed that your next-door neighbor's house was on fire, would you feel the obligation to warn or help them. Most would answer yes. When someone is in immediate danger, and we have ability to help, we have responsibility to help. No good person would ever willingly allow harm to come upon someone else without first trying to prevent it. Is not that what we are doing when we evangelize? We may rationalize in our minds that the lost are not in immediate danger as in the example of a house fire, but they most certainly are. As is highlighted in the book of James (2:14-17), our life is a vapor. Our next-door neighbor might be here today and gone tomorrow, and what have we done to warn them of hell?

There are numerous passages and examples in the New Testament scriptures that show the urgency of the gospel. One such example are Ananias' words to Paul, "And now, why do you wait?" (Acts 22:16). We must remember that tomorrow is not promised. As it is also written in 2 Corinthians 6:2, "...Behold, now is the favorable time; behold now is the day of salvation." While we often use such passages to emphasize the urgency of obedience, I believe the urgency of preaching is implied. As we see in Romans 10:14, "...And how are they to hear without someone preaching?" If there is urgency in obedience, there is likewise urgency in evangelism. The early Christians understood this better than we do today. In Acts 8:4 we see, "Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word." Even in the midst of persecution, the likes of which you and I have not endured, they continued to evangelize.

We should always see the urgency in spreading the gospel to this lost and dying world. Yet, from October 30<sup>th</sup> to November 2<sup>nd</sup>, we have an opportunity as a congregation to work together and sow the seed of the gospel in our community. Do we really understand how urgent this is?

2022 Theme:  
More About Jesus

### CONNECTIONS

**MSOP  
CAMPAIGN**

- ▶ DOOR KNOCKING
- ▶ GOSPEL MEETING
- ▶ FELLOWSHIP

**OCT. 30 - NOV 2**

The Correspondent is a weekly publication of the COLLINSVILLE-TROY CHURCH OF CHRIST. The church meets at 1400 Troy Road, Collinsville, Illinois 62234