

**Clarksville Church of Christ**  
 407 W Lewis & Clark Pkwy  
 Clarksville, IN 47129-1649  
 (812) 944-2305  
[www.clarksvillechurchofchrist.org](http://www.clarksvillechurchofchrist.org)

**Sundays**  
 Bible Study..... 9:30 AM  
 Worship..... 10:30 AM  
 Worship..... 6:00 PM

**Wednesdays**  
 Bible Study..... 7:30 PM

**Elders**  
 Stephen W. Nale..... 812-948-9917  
 Allen L. Morris..... 812-967-4536

**Deacons**  
 Jeffrey B. Hunt..... 502-931-5766  
 Elbert Metcalf..... 812-246-5938  
 Rondal O. Thompson Jr.... 812-944-8295  
 Mark Maudlin..... 502-523-0479

**Editor**  
 Stephen W. Nale..... 502-727-7559

Goals For 2022  
Theme  
Be Ye Imitators of Christ  
Attendance: Sunday Bible Study: 40;  
Sunday AM: 50  
Sunday PM: 40; Wednesday Bible Study: 30

Giving: Meet Our Yearly Budget

Invitations: 130

Every Member Committed To Daily Bible Reading

Every Member Committed To Daily Prayer

Every Member Committed To Be At Every Service

Support the Work in Vincennes, Indiana  
Hold A Men's Training Class

Hold One Gospel Meeting

-Like us on Facebook-View us on YouTube at Clarksvillechurch

**Gary Henry**  
*is preaching today*

**We are now in week #18 of our Daily Bible Reading.**

**Prayer List**  
 Lynn Maudlin, Mark Maudlin  
 Sharon Nale, Polly Ward  
 Les & Novema Dunn  
 Debby Spears (Roseann's sis)  
 Sharon Thompson, Kay Thompson  
 Gene Ward & Beth McFarland  
 Brooke Thomas, Pam Caudill  
 Debbie Lewellen, Cathie Hall

**THIS MONTH: "Sought the Lost"**  
 Lk. 19:10; Gal. 6:1; Matt. 28:19-20

**Who Have You Invited To Services This week?**

**Lord's Supper**  
 Matt. 26:26-29

**Scripture Reading**  
 AM: Acts 1<sup>st</sup> 19-26  
 PM: Acts 11: 22-23

**Encouragement Tally**  
 Invites this month: 271965  
 Invites last month: 25  
 Visitors YTD: 3

Place Stamp Here

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**The Clarksville Beacon**  
[www.Clarksvillechurchofchrist.org](http://www.Clarksvillechurchofchrist.org)

Our Theme for 2022...  
**"Being Imitators of Christ"**  
 1 Cor. 11:1  
 Clarksville Church of Christ  
 407 W. Lewis & Clark Pkwy.  
 Clarksville, IN 47129

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**SHARING THE FAITH**

**Welcome!**  
 If you're visiting with us today, we want you to feel welcome and we want you to feel like our honored guest! We also want you to know that all we're interested in here at the Clarksville Church of Christ is the Truth. Jesus said, "You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32. The truth He's talking about is God's word. Jesus said, "Sanctify them by thy truth, Thy word is truth." John 17:17. Therefore we hope you'll appreciate that we'll give you book, chapter and verse from the Bible, the word of God, for everything that we say or do here today, so that everything that we do may bring glory unto God, I Pet. 4:11.

**Acts 1:19-26**  
 Despite our emphasis on restoring New Testament Christianity, we are not nearly as evangelistic as our brothers and sisters in the New Testament. They "preached the Good News about Jesus everywhere they went" (**Ac. 8:4 NLT**).

**EVANGELISM AS A PART OF DISCIPLESHIP**  
 We can't truly "obey the gospel" without evangelizing — it is a part of discipleship. Cf. **Mt. 28:18-20; 2 Tim. 2:2** Our assignment: "save as many as you can."

Sharing the faith is not a burden, but a privilege (and it should be a joy) — a natural outgrowth of our discipleship.

**WHAT OUR MOTIVATION SHOULD BE**  
 Just as *godly sorrow* brings us to Christ, it should be *evangelistic sorrow* (sorrow for the lost condition of those around us) that moves us to share the faith. Cf. Jesus in **Mk. 6:34**.

There is no more powerful motive force than *gratitude for grace* - **Mk. 5:18-20**.

**REMEMBERING WHAT OUR WORK IS**  
 Much of our discouragement in sharing our faith comes from forgetting what our work is: *sowing the seed* - **Mt. 13:1-9,18-23; 1 Cor. 3:6**.

**A FEW RECOMMENDATIONS**  
**Ideologically**, we need to get out of our "filter bubble" and "echo chamber." **Culturally**, we need to engage, empathize with, and understand *those who do not share our background and culture*. **Evangelistically**, we need to *go where the lost are* (rather than expecting them to come to us) - **Ac. 8:4**.

**Conclusion**  
 There is no more important part of *obeying the gospel* than *sharing the gospel*.

# Keeping the Faith

Acts 11:23

## THE POSSIBILITY OF APOSTASY

Many teach “once-saved-always-saved,” but the Scriptures teach otherwise - **2 Pt. 1:10,11**.

To go back on our commitment to Christ is to go back to being lost - **2 Pt. 2:20-22**. Cf. **Hb. 3:6,14**.

So it is not just non-Christians but also Christians who must “obey the gospel.”

## NO VIRTUE MORE IMPORTANT THAN FAITHFULNESS, NO SIN MORE SERIOUS THAN TREACHERY

No sin is more universally despised than treachery — no one admires a traitor.

Judas - **Mt. 26:14-16**.

Peter - **Mt. 26:33-35**.

## THE NECESSITY OF GROWTH

Salvation is not just a *fact*, but a *process* - **2 Cor. 3:18**.

Salvation not just a *status* to be enjoyed, but a *goal* to be pursued - **1 Pt. 1:5,9,13**. Cf. **Tit. 1:2**.

Growth in holiness is what life in Christ is about - **2 Cor. 7:1**.

We must be patient in the process of growth — we must not give up before the process has reached its goal.

Ultimately, the question is not when we have gotten what we wanted, but at what point God will have achieved His purposes in Christ.

## OUR PROMISE TO THE LORD

We must *keep the promise* implied in our confession - **1 Tim. 6:11-14**.

## A MATTER OF CHOICE

“When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that *with purpose of heart* they should continue with the Lord” (**Ac. 11:23**).

## Conclusion

How *binding is the promise* you have made to remain faithful to the Lord?

If you have obeyed the gospel, can you say your life right now is one of **obedience to the gospel**? Is it your aim in everything you do to **respond rightly to the gospel**?

Gary Henry — [WordPoints.com](http://WordPoints.com) + [AreYouaChristian.com](http://AreYouaChristian.com)

# Sharing the Faith

“Tell everyone God’s message. Be ready at all times to do whatever is needed” (2 Timothy 4:2 ERV).

In the New Testament, ordinary Christians were evangelistic. It wasn’t just the evangelists — everybody “preached the Good News about Jesus wherever they went” (Acts 8:4 NLT). Even under persecution (especially under persecution, it seems) the followers of Jesus spread the word of forgiveness and eternal hope.

Today, it is tragically true that we who follow Jesus are not as evangelistic as they were. We are reluctant to talk about the gospel, and most of us rarely do it except when we’re in the company of fellow believers. We have disengaged from the world in such a way that we have little evangelistic impact in our communities.

To be sure, not everyone is equally adept at talking with strangers, nor is every member of the Lord’s church equally skilled at teaching. In the body of Christ, as in a human body, “the members do not all have the same function” (Romans 12:4).

But how can we enjoy the benefits of the gospel ourselves and not want to do something to share those benefits with other people? In some kind of personal way, we should want to reach those around us with the message that has brought us such great joy.

We can at least do what Jesus told the man to do in Mark 5:1-20. In that account, Jesus had healed a man of his demonic possession, and in profound reverence and gratitude, this man wanted to get in the boat and accompany Jesus back across the Sea of Galilee. But Jesus wanted him to do something even better: “Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you” (v.19).

If nothing else, we can explain what convinced us the gospel is true. “Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect” (1 Peter 3:15 NIV). If we had our own doubts, we can tell others what truths overcame those doubts.

For those forgiven of their sins, sharing the faith is not optional. There is no alternative. If we bottle up our faith and keep quiet about it, as if we were ashamed of Christ, our faith will die.

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