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Edifying the Church

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INT: Church started as a mustard-seed movement Acts 2 and ended a world power in 1st Cent. C.1:2. Started with gifts of H. s. and ended with only the Bible in their hand and Jesus in heart. Work is done in two senses: Locally & cooperative. Paul told how then and now. Apos. & Prop. then & now: Evang., Elders, Teachers & members. LESSON: Some ways WE can build up the kingdom of God—like others have & are doing!!!

I. PREACH IT UP!
A. Gospel preaching here to stay. II Tim. 4:1-5. Continue till the Lord appears! I Cor. 15:58.
B. Gospel meetings here to stay. I Cor. 1:18-21* ILL. Set att. records at West Palm Beach, Fla. Plan: Zones met for supper each night in fellowship hall. Great fellowship, great interest, great enthusiasm!!! (Recommend it!)

III. Waco meeting. Zones provided noon meal for 100+, fine attendance, interest and fellowship. Enthusiasm. (Recommend)
NOTE: Both are DOWNTOWN situations. Fla. brethren drove many miles nightly! Preacher: 25 min.
KEY: Spirit of Leaders and Members in willingness to work at it! Rewarding: Rom. 1:16-17.
POWER: was in the Word of God—truthfully preach
RESULTS: Fla. cong. still setting records and Waco brethren have had a revival of hope-future.

II. PRAY THE CHURCH UP!
A. No church big-strong enough to succeed without God's wisdom, strength & protection. ITh.5:17.
B. If Jas. 5:16 powerful with one man; what be with many-men praying????
C. Church grows and succeeds through prayer!
III. Waco had zone-prayers 4-16-72. Had 300 in Eve. Ser. and 186 in zone-prayers...
COMMENT: Spr. of people ready Mon. morn!
1. Recommend such for our June 4-9 meeting!
III. Bayshore, Texas cong. having Apr. 25 spec.-prayer-sessions in behalf of: Weak members, non-Chr. friends & relatives.
Praying from a prayer-list to be made up. Praying on an extra-night (all for prayer)
2. Believe: Ch. that pray more grow more!
III. PAY IT UP! (Venacular for Support its program)

A. Some don't want program UP if it costs too much.

III. Prospective new colored preacher.

1. Bruders: give $15 a week and make this ch. WAI K! amen!!!!
2. Bruders: give $50 a week and make it RUN. Amen!!!
3. Bruders: give $100 a week, make it FLY! Let er run!

B. I Cor. 16:2 teaches Spiritual giving:
   Periodically. (each 1st Day). Personally (U)
   Purposefully. (plan ahead.) Proportionally
   (as prospered) Preventatively (no gatherings)

C. II Cor. 9:5-8.* III. (Waco) A. O. Duckworth
   "I gave more time to church work than could
   afford in Ins. business and business CAME TO
   ME!!!! Cannot out-give God. Bap. man 4-20)

IV. WORK IT UP!

A. Southside has excellent distribution of responsiblities in Mens and Womens workbooks

B. Key: Do the people have the MIND to work?
   Suggestion: If don't know exactly how to
   discharge a respon.--ask, ask, ask!!!

III. Right attitude: Bro. AC Pullias and
   Bro. D. Lipscomb invited to same lecture
   hour. Embarressing. Younger: "I am God's
   man to serve. I'll speak, not-speak,
   usher, greet or sweep the floor. Use me)

V. LIVE IT UP!

A. People read the NOW TESTAMENT much more than
   the NEW TESTAMENT! II Cor. 3:1-6.*

III. Poem: I'd Rather See a Sermon!!

   Considered squares, odd, ancient, fanatical,
   strange, different & unusual.
   Exactly what Jesus wants!!

   Paul won his battle! How about you???
   If not - Acts 8:22.
   If not disciple of Jesus. Acts 2:38 !!!
EDIFYING THE CHURCH
Ephesians 4:11-15


INT: Leaders given for three purposes; verse 12.

Ways the church can be edified or strengthened...

I. PREACH IT UP OR TALK IT UP. Women talk it up.
1. Genuine interest essential to selling anything.
5. Who will teach N. T. way if N. T. Christians don't??

II. PRAY IT UP.
2. No petition valid unless cooperation intended.
3. We need prayer continually for our leaders. Jas. 1:5.

III. PAY IT UP.
1. Why talk so much about money? asked by slackers; the stingy, covetous and half-converted. Matt. 6:21.
2. Zealous Christian, doing all can, unburdened mind.

IV. WORK IT UP.
2. Church with truth, no work, dead. Denom. is opposite.
3. Work in coming V. B. S. Need teachers and helpers.
4. Work for coming meeting. Post cards, personal letters
5. Gal. 6:9-10 covers all other "what if's". Do good.

V. LIVE IT UP.
1. Christian with all this, yet a reproach in the public eye will go unrewarded. I Cor. 9:27.
2. Poem: I'd Rather See A Sermon Any Day.
3. Good living suggests a good plan, glorifies the designer of the pattern, Lord Jesus Christ.
4. All agree in need for the church - contribute life??

over
Want to help build the church, must first become INV: a member of it. B-R-C-B Gal. 3:26