

# A Great Gospel Meeting!

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by Wayne Goff

**“... the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.”** (1 Timothy 3:15)

Yes, this local church is a “pillar and ground of the truth”! We promote the Truth of the Gospel through preaching and teaching, and the upcoming Gospel Meeting is one of those methods and opportunities which we provide. There are some essential ingredients to a great gospel meeting, and as Christians and members of this local church, we have an obligation to fulfill these things:

## 1. Enthusiasm

The Gospel is **God’s power** to save mankind, Romans 1:16. It reveals, teaches, persuades and convicts, John 16:8-11. It does not *compel* men to believe and obey, but it gives them logical reasons and exhortation (1 Peter 3:15; Acts 11:22-24). To the degree that we understand and believe these things to be true, to that degree will we be enthusiastic and zealous for the preaching of the Gospel!

## 2. Soul-Saving

*“For ‘whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’ How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!’”* (Romans 10:13-15). The only thing that can save men’s souls is the message of the Gospel. Not all men will hear it, but some will. Not all men will obey it, but some will. But the message of the Gospel will do everything God intended it to do! It is not our job to “convert” people, it is our job to invite them to come and listen to the Gospel so that they might be converted.

## 3. Edify The Members

Members need encouraging, building up, and additional enthusiasm in their lives as Christians. Hearing visiting preachers proclaim the Truth in their own style, from their own perspective, and with renewed enthusiasm helps each of us as we go on our journey toward heaven. *“And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.”* (Galatians 6:9)

## 4. Scriptural Preaching

*“The power is not in the man but in the Message.”* But today’s preaching requires a dedicated, Bible-educated man! *“For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.”* (1 Corinthians 1:18). We trust the elders have found just such a man for this spiritual feast, and we trust that the brethren here have **not** developed a taste for “skim-milk” preaching!

## 5. Edifying Singing

Singing is a divinely-ordered act of worship in the church (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16), and it generates improved memory, a spiritual atmosphere, and touches a part of man designed by God for his good. Each of us must sing enthusiastically the psalms, hymns and spiritual songs commanded by God!

Rock legend Jimi Hendrix once told **Life Magazine** that music is a spiritual thing of its own. He said that you can “hypnotize” people with music and then “preach to them into the subconscious what we want to say.” Today’s musicians did not invent music, God did! And He knew the influence for good that it can create. Each church must provide for its members and visitors the beautiful atmosphere created by spiritual songs.

## 6. Faithful Attendance & Interest

A chain is no stronger than its weakest link, and so it is with the church. Each member has a role, a duty and a place to fill. A dozen members cannot replace one absentee member! It just doesn’t work that way. *“From whom **the whole body**, joined and knit together **by what every joint supplies**, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love”* (Ephesians 4:16). *Ideally, every single member would be in attendance at every single service.* What an exciting

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