

Door Knocking Campaign

Let's not forget about our door knocking campaign here in Belle in May. On May 1st and 2nd we will knock doors and then will continue the meeting through the 5th and maybe later depending on how things progress in the five days we have slated. Every one of us needs to have a job of some kind in this in order to pull this off and make it a success. In April we will be going through classes of meeting the public for those who will be knocking doors.

Daily Bible Reading Schedule

Date	Morning	Evening
03/30/09 Monday.....	Deuteronomy.....23-24	Acts.....02
03/31/09 Tuesday.....	Deuteronomy.....25-26	Acts.....03
04/01/09 Wednesday.....	Deuteronomy.....27-28	Acts.....04
04/02/09 Thursday.....	Deuteronomy.....29-30	Acts.....05
04/03/09 Friday.....	Deuteronomy.....31-32	Acts.....06
04/04/09 Saturday.....	Deuteronomy.....33-34	Acts.....07
04/05/09 Sunday.....	Joshua.....01-02	Acts.....08

The Informer is a weekly publication that is published and overseen by the Belle church of Christ located at the corner of 8th and Oak in Belle, Missouri 65013. Our Mailing address is "P.O. Box 381, Belle, Missouri 65013. The church phone number is (573) 859-6616. Jerry McDonald is the pulpit preacher. His email address is jerry@challenge2.org. His cell number is (573) 578-5931. Thomas McDonald is the associate preacher. His email address is thmcdonald10@hotmail.com. His cell phone number is (573) 201-6093. We support U. John in Prakasam, India. We will also be supporting Jeremy Desjarlais in Sydney, Australia. We also support Ruben Williams as he studies to preach at the Memphis School of Preaching. Our church website is <http://www.bellecoc.com>. The email address is bellecoc@bellecoc.com. Our services are as follows:

TIMES OF SERVICE

Sunday Morning Bible Study.....9:30
 Sunday Morning Worship.....10:30
 Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00
 Wednesday Evening Bible Study.....7:00
 Ladies Bible Class 3rd Monday Evening of Each Month.....7:00

OUR PLEA: BACK-TO-THE-BIBLE

Belle church of Christ
 P.O. Box 381
 Belle, MO 65013

The Informer

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Living Together - Right or Wrong? (Part 2)

Chuck Northrop

MARRIAGE: When God created man, He created him with certain appetites such as the sexual urges. God, also, originated a way to fulfill those desires. For the sexual desires, God instituted marriage—one man for one woman until death. An examination of the topic of marriage in the Bible reveals that there are four purposes which God ordained in marriage:

COMPANIONSHIP: In the beginning, God decreed that it was “not good that man should be alone” (Genesis 2:18). Thus, God created an help meet for him—a woman to be his companion. Someone to share his joys and his sorrows.

BODILY SATISFACTION: Sex hunger is as natural and honorable as food and drink hunger if it is kept in its proper place—marriage. The Bible says, “Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge” (Hebrews 13:4). Paul wrote, “to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband” (1 Corinthians 7:2). In marriage, a man and a woman can be intimate and, yet, remain spiritually and morally pure.

REPRODUCTION: Marriage is where the home begins for God blessed the first union and said, “Be fruitful and multiply...” (Genesis 1:27-28). In this light, “children are an heritage of the Lord and the fruit of the womb is his reward” (Psalm 127:3-5).

TRAINING OF CHILDREN: Since marriage is for reproduction, it is only natural that marriage be used for the training of those that are procreated. A home with a father and a mother is the best place to raise children. Thus, Paul exhorts parents to “bring them up in the nurture and admoni-

tion of the Lord” (Ephesians 6:4). When raising children with morals and values, we bless our children, ourselves, and the world in which we and they live.

When Jesus spoke of marriage, He taught, “that He which made them at the beginning made them male and female . . . For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder” (Matthew 19:4-6).

The “one flesh” in this passage and others have reference in part to the sexual relationship of a husband and his wife. Sex is fully commended in marriage and fully condemned outside of the marriage relationship.

DOES IT WORK?

If living together or cohabitation is for the purpose of trying out one’s mate, then a natural question would be, “Does it work?”

Psychology Today reported in 1988: “Yale University sociologist Neil Bennett and colleagues found that cohabiting women were 80 percent more likely to separate or divorce than were women who had not lived with their spouses before marriage.” In 1989, the National Survey of Families and Households related: “Unions begun by cohabitation are almost twice as likely to dissolve within 10 years compared to all first marriages: 57 percent to 30 percent.”

The very purpose for living together declares its most basic weakness. If its purpose is sexual, then it is opposed to God and morality. If its purpose is a trial for marriage, then it lacks commitment. This lack of commitment causes it to fail from its onset.

Living together sets up a relationship for failure. There is no real or clear commitment. It involves no legal or social responsibilities. There is no public pronouncement nor pledge. It is for the moment while marriage is “until death do us part.”

(<http://www.kc-cofc.org/39th/IBS/Tracts/living.htm>) {*Living Together Right or Wrong?* by Chuck Northrop © 1995}

News & Notes

THOSE TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER

We need to remember all those who are sick and afflicted in our daily prayers. We need to remember those who are in the nursing homes, and in the military. We also need to keep Doris Pendleton, Ruby Backus, Tex Kinman, Bill and Verna Butler, Gary Cooper, Lynna Shanks, Verma Long, Connie Gass, Nelta Brock, Cheryl Harris, Janet Patrick, Evonelle Calkins, Vera Dreyse, Elnora Shanks, Dawn Tivoli, Richard Massey, the Bill Habermehl family, Savannah Shanks, Taylor

Shanks, Adrian and Jean Swindler, Chesley Shanks, Gary Wallace, Sandy Sarchette, and Olivia Shanks. Andy Shanks will have knee surgery Tuesday morning at St. Mary’s in Jefferson City. Doris Pendleton’s mother, Nettie B. Shirley, fell and broke her collar bone. Two weeks later she had a mini stroke, and is in a rehabilitation hospital. Chesley Shanks has a doctor’s appointment Thursday to have an x-ray and will probably find out when his surgery will be. Let’s keep all these in our prayers.

<p>THOSE TO SERVE March 29, 2009 A.M.</p> <p>Greeters.....Jerry & Thomas McDonald Announcements.....Elwood Runge Song Leader.....Andy Shanks Opening Prayer.....Danny Keeney Lord’s Supper...Leroy Thomas & David Shanks Sermon.....Jerry McDonald Closing Prayer.....Thomas McDonald</p> <p>P.M.</p> <p>Song Leader.....Andy Shanks Opening Prayer.....Gary Wallace Sermon.....Jerry McDonald Closing Prayer.....Elwood Runge</p> <p>WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>Song Leader.....Andy Shanks Opening Prayer.....Danny Keeney Devotional.....Thomas McDonald Closing Prayer.....Elwood Runge</p>	<p>THOSE TO SERVE April 05, 2009 A.M.</p> <p>Greeters.....Jerry & Andrea McDonald Announcements.....Jerry McDonald Song Leader.....Thomas McDonald Opening Prayer.....Elwood Runge Lord’s Supper...Danny Keeney.& Andy Shanks Sermon.....Jerry McDonald Closing Prayer.....Leroy Thomas</p> <p>P.M.</p> <p>Song Leader.....Thomas McDonald Opening Prayer.....Gary Wallace Sermon.....Jerry McDonald Closing Prayer.....Danny Keeney</p> <p>WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>Song Leader.....Thomas McDonald Opening Prayer.....David Shanks Devotional.....Jerry McDonald Closing Prayer.....Leroy Thomas</p>
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FAIR HAVEN CHILDREN’S HOME

The items for Fair Haven Children’s Home this week are “Paper Towels,” and “Zip Lock Bags.”

Sermons for the Next Two Weeks

A.M. For March 29, 2009: “Crossroads” The P.M. Lesson will be “Essentiality of Repentance.”

A.M. For April 05, 2009: “He Hideth My Soul.” The P.M. Lesson “The Christ Be True.”

Men’s Business Meeting

The next men’s business meeting will be on April 7, 2009 here at the building at 7:00 p.m. All of the men are invited to attend and help make decisions for the church here in Belle.

Wednesday Evening Class

We are going to be working on marking the Bibles for the door knocking campaign and taking classes on how to conduct Bible studies until our campaign in May on Wednesday evenings .