

GOOD NEWS

White Fields!

OUR FAMILY NEWS

Pray For: Logan’s grandpa, Helen Spicer, Chloe Larson, Wayne Ezell, Doris Fikes.

Traveling/Working: Slope workers, Thad Douthitt (deployed) , Steve and Abby

Fellowship: Young Adults (all are welcome) get together January 20 at 5PM at the Murdocks. Plan to attend and enjoy fellowship!

Radio Program: Listen to “Searching the Scriptures”, our weekly radio program, Sundays at 9am, on 99.7 FM.

CHECK THE SIGN UP FORMS ON THE BULLETIN BOARD AND VOLUNTEER!

Today’s Scripture: “Say not ye, There are yet four months, and *then* cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.” **John 4:35 (KJV)**

Today’s Proverb: “ Let the fields and everything in them exult. Then all the trees of the forest will shout for joy before the LORD, for He is coming— for He is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with His faithfulness.

Psalms 96:12-13 (HCSB)

Attendance Last Sunday: 72 Record: 96

CONTACT INFORMATION

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January 14th, 2018 BULLETIN for the



God’s Plan of Salvation

- HearRomans 10:17
- BelieveMark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6
- Repent Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10
- Confess Romans 10:9-10, Matthew 10:32-33
- Be Baptized..... Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16
- Arise & Walk in Newness of Life.....Romans 6:4

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth...”

—Romans 1:16 KJV

MEETING TIMES

Sunday:

Bible Classes: 10AM
AM Worship: 11AM
PM Worship: 6PM

Wednesday:

Bible Study: 7PM

OFFICE HOURS

Tue./Thur. 3PM-7PM

COME JOIN US!

The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:

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Wasilla, AK 99654
(907) 373-5773

Visit our website at:

www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

White Fields

Jesus did a lot of things during His ministry on Earth that was outside the normal behavior patterns for Jewish men of that day. He and His disciples ate without washing their hands (Matthew 15:1-12), He healed on the Sabbath day (Luke 13:10-17) and He talked with a Samaritan woman (John 4:1-42).

After Jesus had talked with the Samaritan woman, His disciples returned and Jesus took advantage of the situation to teach them an important point. This point is not lost on anyone, even today, who has ever planted a crop. It doesn't really matter if you planted a garden or a cash crop such as cotton, wheat, soybeans or rice, the message is the same...You can determine when the time is right to harvest by looking at the fields.

John 4:35-38 (KJV)

" Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. And herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth. I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours."

There are several points that Jesus made in this teaching moment that we need to recognize today. First is that there should be as much urgency to save souls as a farmer has to gather his crop. All farmers know that they have to gather the crop when it is ripe or risk losing the entire years labor. You don't say I will harvest next month after I take a vacation! This attitude should be ours when it comes to teaching the gospel to our neighbors. We ought not say I will talk with them next month or later this year, who knows what the future may bring? In this lesson, Jesus tells us that the time is now...not next year or even next month to spread the gospel. Waiting is likely to result in a spoiled crop, or in the case of the gospel a lost soul.

Next, Jesus is teaching us that the gospel is designed to have an immediate impression on the minds of men and women. And we need to expect that it will have that immediate influence. We see the influence that it had on the minds of the Jews on Pentecost day in 33AD, 3,000 were converted. We see the influence it had when Paul was preaching to King Agrippa (Acts 26) and we can see it today. Of course, not everyone who hears will respond by submitting themselves to the will of God, but everyone will be impacted by the Gospel. This is clear by the different reactions between King Agrippa and Festus. One was almost persuaded, the other thought Paul was crazy. But the Gospel had an immediate effect on both men.

By: Bill Beebe

Jesus also teaches us that we should expect that the gospel will result in a revival! When Jesus spoke to one person, the woman at the well, that one-on-one teaching opportunity resulted in a multitude of responses. Notice, she went into the city and told others and those came to see what she was so excited about. And they believed.

Our problem today is that we make the excuses that Jesus could have made. He was tired and hungry, it would have been understandable if He had just taken time to rest and wait until his disciples returned with the food before starting to teach again. He was a Jewish man, it was very improper for Him to talk with a woman alone. In addition, she was a Samaritan, and no self respecting Jew would even give her the time of day because they were considered less than dogs to the Jews. So He could have decided not to talk with her because of the damage it would do to his reputation. Not only was she a Samaritan woman, she was a person who was leading an immoral life. She had had several husbands and was currently in a relationship with a man she wasn't married to. Jesus could have decided that she would not listen to the gospel message anyway so why waste his time and energy.

But Jesus didn't make any of these excuses! Although He was tired and hungry, although this woman was considered to be less than human by the Jews and even though she was someone that most would have considered not the least bit interested in a religious message, Jesus made an effort to speak with her. And what a glorious result! Not only did she believe, but the whole town believed.

We need to recognize today that the fields are white to harvest. The time is now, not next month or even tomorrow. We need to understand, and expect, that the gospel will make an immediate and lasting impression among those who hear it. And we need to realize that we should not decide who may or may not be interested in Christ, it is our duty to provide the message...God will give the increase. And some who we think may be the least interested will be the most productive in the Kingdom of God.

So, look around. The fields are white. The crops are ready. God only needs workers who are ready to harvest. With a concerted effort, we could turn the Mat-Su Valley upside down and start a revival for Christ here and now. There are souls waiting to be saved, are you willing to make the effort to save them. Or are you willing to let them just go to Hell because you are tired and hungry and they wouldn't be interested anyway.