### He That Wins Souls is Wise (Proverbs 11:30)

by: W. A. Martin

When the last amen is uttered and the members file from the building and drive away from the parking lot, the work of the church begins. A sign over the exit of our auditorium should read, "You are now entering the mission field." God's work is not performed by full-time people on Sundays, but practiced by full-time Christians seven days a week. Sometimes the idea is left in our minds that the only way to serve God is to be a foreign missionary on some desolate field. How wrong we are! Every member of the body is to serve, every branch in the vine is to reproduce. "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples." (John 15:8)

Jesus spoke of his people as salt and seed. Salt and seed are useless unless they are spread. They do no one any good while collected in a bottle or a barn. Their usefulness comes with their dispersion.

Every member of the church is to make disciples as they go, wherever they go and whenever they go. Jesus said, "You shall be my witness to the end of the earth. Wherever God has planted us, we must grow and bear fruit. If God's work is to be done in any community it must be done by the individual Christian. Christians must penetrate society like salt in food and seed in soil. God calls every Christian to full-time service. The work of the ministry belongs to all church members.

When an individual works for Christ because he enjoys working for the Master, failures will never dampen his enthusiasm, but he will analyze his failures, and study their causes; then enthusiastically look out for another opportunity to succeed where formerly he failed. When a Christian has a genuine love for the lost, and has the necessary knowledge of God's Word, enthusiasm is the first fruit. The early Christians were exhorted that "with purpose of heart they should cleave unto the Lord" (Acts 11:23).

Many church members have a knowledge of God without zeal. Zeal is a natural reaction to enthusiasm. Remember, "The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise." (Pro. 11:30)



That meets at 215 South Thomas Ave, Sayre, PA 18840 (570) 886-1838 Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732 January 22, 2017

#### WELCOME!

<u>Sunday</u>	Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.
	Worship- 10:30 a.m.
<u>Tuesday</u>	Ladies Bible Class- 10:00 a.m.
<u>Thursday</u>	Home Bible study-7:00pm

### ALL THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST GREET YOU. Romans 16:16

Today's Sermon: Believe: Is That All?. Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website. Bulletins are archived on the website. valleycitieschurchofchrist.org aicoc.org (Antioch Initiative) Find us on Face Book www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc Scripture: Acts 17:24-30

## ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- > Next potluck: February 19<sup>th</sup> Theme: Mexican!
- Ladies Class: 10am, Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at the building. We will be discussing chapter 3 of <u>Struggle, Seek, Grow</u>, which is about Esther.
- Midweek Bible study @ McElhaney's Thursday nights at 7pm. Coffee and dessert is usually served. All contributions gladly accepted!



 There are several plastic baby bottles for anyone who would like one to take home and fill with money to help the Endless Mountains Pregnancy Care Center during their January campaign. The collection will finish on the 31<sup>st</sup>.



- Next Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, at 4:30 is the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Regional Singing at Horseheads. These have not been very well attended the last few times, but are well worth going to. Come and be edified by the wonderful singing of the area brethren.
- Don Myers and Jimmy Davis of the Antioch Initiative will be traveling to Tunkhannock on Thursday from their homes in Elmore, AL. They are going to speak with one of the men who has shown an interest in preaching at the Endless Mountains church, join in Bible study and worship and also visit Montrose, PA, again where the next church might be planted by them.
- Remember this is the cold and flu season. Take care of yourself and others.



# PRAYERS...

- Jennifer has been sick with bronchitis and Ethan has been dealing with a digestive upset. Pray for their speedy recovery.
- Pray for Patty and Ruthie's sister in law, Deborah, who has stage 4 breast cancer. Her spirits are good and she feels well.
- Endless Mountains Pregnancy Center requests prayers for their clients, that abortion-minded women will have a change of heart, and that all will accept the abundant life in Christ.
- Pray for all of our family members and loved ones who are yet lost or have strayed far away to come (back) to Christ.
- Darlene has been diagnosed with early stage breast cancer. She anticipates surgery on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Pray for her complete recovery and peace as she also deals with the loss of her father.
- Keep praying for the Endless Mountains church in Tunkhannock and their search for a preacher, especially this week.
- Pray for comfort for those from war-torn countries who have no homes, are starving (Northeastern Nigeria) and without water and are not safe and have lost friends and relatives in the violence that surrounds them (Aleppo).
- Remember to pray for Ben Wright (diabetes) in Kittanning, Matthew Lowe (needs care) in Ohio, and Edna Jarrett (blood cancer), of the Bronx. Also Lori Kashorek (lung cancer) in Plattsburgh, NY and Rocky Perry (seeking the Truth) of Sayre.
- Pray for our country as we start out under a new administration. Help us to appreciate and uphold the government that we are fortunate to live under, which allows us to worship God freely.

If you have any prayers or news that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy Barry

barncat7237@gmail.com or text or call (607) 261-0911.

No two people are exactly alike, and probably both are glad of it.