



THE GOOD NEWS



The Chic Shaver Center for Evangelism Newsletter March 2018

Intentionality

The number of new attenders and the number of new converts attending the Chanute, KS, Church of the Nazarene impressed me when I recently preached revival there. I asked Pastor Steve Suttles what was behind this phenomenon.

He said, "I try every week to create an opportunity to share the Gospel with at least one new person." As Pastor Suttles is leading his church into 2018, he has set the following goals:

- * To endeavor to lead 25 people to Christ this year personally
- * To begin a personal evangelism training class for 25 lay people with a challenge for them to lead 25 people to Christ
- * To baptize 50 people this year

On Sunday, February 4, his morning service attendance was 180, and there were about 20 cardboard testimonies.

Dr. Eddie Estep has been serving as District Superintendent of South Carolina Churches of the Nazarene. In a recent pastors' district newsletter, he cites Thom Rainer's research into the growingest Southern Baptist Churches. When asked the reason for their growth, the overwhelming answer was "Intentional Evangelism."

Would you join together for a new thrust of "Intentional Evangelism"? Or, as Jesus put it, "Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men" (Matthew 4:19).

- Chic Shaver

Guest Stories

As God is working across the USA and around the world, there are reports you need to hear beyond my experiences. Thus, in addition to reports by pastors on my revivals with them, I will begin to include stories from others. Today, see the story from Scott Sherwood entitled, "Not Too Old."

- Chic Shaver

Not Too Old

Mark is a young husband, father, and a part-time pastoral staff member at his church. Five years ago, he and his wife did not attend church. He was invited to church by an older man in his 70's during a chance encounter at the local Applebee's.

Enoch is a young construction contractor who has built or done major remodeling at a dozen churches over the past several years and devotes his "secular" career to serving churches. As a young adult, he had dropped out of church. When he returned to church, he was disciplined using Chic Shaver's Basic Bible Studies by an older man in his 70's who would later stand up as Best Man at this young man's wedding.

Terry made a decision to follow Christ for the first time in his life after his wife died way too young. He reached out to his former 6th grade teacher who was now retired and, you guessed it, in his 70's. This retired public school teacher led Terry to the Lord and then led him through Basic Bible Studies.

What do these three younger men have in common? You already know. The same older retired school teacher with no ministerial credential played the role of soul winner and discipler in each of their lives. Do we have to be young in order to win young people? Don't suggest that to John P. Sherwood. He doesn't know any better. I am praying for God to help us raise up an army just as oblivious as him.

(Scott is a minister and has served in several ministry roles over the last 27 years, but none he's more proud of than being "John Sherwood's son.")

*- Dr. Scott Sherwood, District Superintendent
NW IL District Church of the Nazarene*

What Revival Did for Cornerstone

It had been several years since we had a revival. The church board had been discussing upcoming plans for revival when we were given the offer to host Dr. Chic Shaver's Evangelism Seminar for the South Arkansas District. When I contacted Dr. Shaver, I became aware that he was available to hold a revival for our congregation. I took the idea to the board and we agreed that this was an opportunity that God had brought to us.

From the opening service, there was a sense of excitement. Dr. Shaver preached with passion, incorporating humor and challenge effectively and effortlessly. Our people responded to his messages. People were saved. People took steps toward sanctification. Others were sanctified wholly. From teenagers to young adults to senior adults, our people benefited from revival. The services grew each evening. Our Wednesday evening closing service saw as many as our Sunday morning average attendance - 125-130 (we usually run around 40-45 on Wednesdays).

The lasting effects of revival have been continued growth. I just finished the Basic Bible Studies with one young couple. It has been a wonderful blessing to watch them grow together in the Lord.

There's a sense of unity and expectation. There's an excitement about growth - both numerically and spiritually.

I have served as pastor of this congregation for 14 1/2 years. The anticipation of God moving among us is as high today as it has ever been in my time here.

Thank you, Dr. Shaver, for your investment in the

kingdom of God. Your time with us at Cornerstone will long be remembered.

- Pastor Tim Evans

Cornerstone Church of the Nazarene, Bryant, AR

Still Following the Lord

You may have read about Lauren in our December newsletter. A nursing student at Ivy Tech in Bloomington, Indiana, she had begun attending services at the Valley Mission Church of the Nazarene in Bedford, Indiana, with her boyfriend, Trace.

During a Sunday morning September revival service, she began to weep and left the service. Trace's mom, Shauna, went outside after her, thinking God might be speaking to her. Lauren admitted it was true and wept more profusely. They returned to the sanctuary and the altar. Lauren knelt at the altar and, with guidance, repented of her sins and invited Christ into her life for the very first time in her life. She began Basic Bible Studies.

As she continued and time passed, she took instruction about the meaning of baptism and a class on church membership. As those events neared, she and boyfriend, Trace, broke up. Pastor Paul Whiteford said, "Oh, no!" and wondered if the breakup would derail her spiritually.

When Pastor approached her about her intentions, she replied, "I am definitely not hesitant. I still need to do that [be baptized and join the church]. The breakup didn't faze me [as to her commitment to Christ]."

So Lauren has recently been baptized. She has joined the Church of the Nazarene. Lauren and Trace are still friends, and Trace's family is still regular in the church. Lauren told me that she has read her devotional book daily. People have urged her to keep growing. Many have sent her encouraging notes. She has become involved in church prayer meetings.

Lauren said, "I keep following the Lord." Lauren, we are proud of you! And readers, that's what comes after conversion. And that's what we all need to do! "Still following the Lord."

- Chic Shaver

Oswald Chambers on Sanctification

*"And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly"
(1 Thessalonians 5:23)*

When we pray to be sanctified, are we prepared to face the standard of these verses?...It will cost an intense narrowing of all our interests on earth, and an immense broadening of all our interests in God.

Sanctification means intense concentration on God's point of view...Sanctification means being made one with Jesus so that the disposition that ruled Him will rule us...

Are we prepared to say - "Lord, make me as holy as You can make a sinner saved by grace?"

- Oswald Chambers, *My Utmost for His Highest*, Uhrichsville, Ohio: Barbour Publishing, Inc., n.d., Feb. 8

We Asked - You Prayed

- * President, Dr. Jeren Rowell, Nazarene Theological Seminary. I've met with him. The blessing of God is resting on him.
- * District Superintendent, Kansas City - Dr. Eddie Estep, former Superintendent in South Carolina, has been chosen. An outstanding leader.

Thank You - Encouragement

Never can I remember so many words of personal encouragement coming to Nancy and me as we have

received in the last three months. Thank you so much for encouraging us, for your financial gifts for the Center, and your powerful prayers.

- Chic Shaver

Contributions Were Made in Memory of:

Rev. Jake Blankenship	Lynn Prager
Quentin Clingerman	Betty Rowley
Joan Franco	Doris R. Smith
Dr. Roy Fuller	Faye Stowe
Harold Greer	Dr. Stan Toler
Dr. Alfonso Herdoiza	Ruth Walker
Marjorie L. Knierim	A.J. Wetmore
Scott Lytle	Rev. Ron Whittenberger
John Oliphant	

Because You Gave, We Gave

- * Evangelism Scholarships to Nazarene Seminary and Nazarene Bible College
- * Discipleship materials to executives at Nazarene Global Ministry Center
- * Evangelism materials to Nazarene Seminary and Nazarene Bible College to be awarded to students
- * Finances to purchase 100 Basic Bible Studies to Christian Literature for Africa
- * Discipleship materials to pastors and leaders in Kansas and Missouri and to local new converts

Revival Open Dates

Most of the revivals I am holding today begin with a Saturday four-hour seminar on Witnessing or Prayer. Then, I preach Sunday through Wednesday. It is helpful to me to group revival meetings together geographically and it helps the churches to share travel expense. Would you be interested in scheduling a meeting for the following dates? Phone me if interested at (913) 491-5021 (home) or (913) 634-6560 (cell).

Sept 8-12, 2018 - Fairmount, WV	Jan 5-9, 2019 - Open
Sept 15-19, 2018 - Open	Jan 12-16, 2019 - Deland, FL
Sept 22-26, 2018 - Open	Jan 19-23, 2019 - Open
	Jan 26-30, 2019 - Open

- Chic Shaver

MINISTRY UPDATE

The Ridge Church of the Nazarene	Lenexa, KS	
Prayer Seminar		32
Preaching		40
Seekers		4

CHIC SHAVER'S UPCOMING MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Mar 2-4	Harmony Hill Camp Church of God (Holiness) Fulton, MO	Quest Retreat
Apr 13-15	Church of the Nazarene Wellington, KS	Revival
June 3-8	Arrowhead Camp & Retreat Center West Texas Nazarene District Family Camp Cleburne, TX	Camp Meeting

CSCE CONTACT INFORMATION

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Our financial commitment to you: The CSCE pledges integrity in gift management and financial accountability. We are committed to honorable stewardship of the money God has given us to do the work of evangelism. We are a faith ministry and depend wholly upon God to supply our needs through the sensitivity and obedience of His people. All contributions to CSCE are 100% tax deductible. As a ministry under K.C. First Church of the Nazarene, you will receive a yearly record of your donations from the church.