

# *The* **CAREY PULPIT**

*In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus...  
I give you this charge: Preach the word  
(2 Timothy 4:1-2a).*



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*For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."*

*How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?*

*And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"*

*Romans 10: 13-15*

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## THE GREAT OMISSION

Matthew 28:16-20

### Introduction:

The Great Commission is a very familiar passage. Most of us are certain that these verses command us to make evangelism the church's first priority. We are as equally certain that these verses command us to be involved in international missions. While missions and evangelism are certainly included in the Great Commission, neither missions nor evangelism is the primary focus of what Jesus is saying. This sermon is entitled "The Great Omission" because several things have been omitted from our understanding of the Great Commission.

#### I. The First Omission is the Failure to Understand the Main Command of the Great Commission.

A. The main verb of the Great Commission is "make" disciples.

1. The verb "make disciples" is the only imperative in the Great Commission. Therefore, the command is not "go," but "make disciples."
2. Involvement in discipleship and disciple making is not optional for a follower of Christ.

B. Going, baptizing, and teaching are participles that tell us how to make disciples.

1. The events and activities of everyday life cause people to go. Therefore, Jesus commands us to make disciples wherever we go.
2. Baptism is a sign of a person's willingness to follow Christ and to be submissive to the lordship of Christ. Baptism is to be the primary public declaration of one's faith and trust in Jesus as Lord and Savior.
3. Teaching refers, not to instruction in knowledge or doctrine, but to obedience to Jesus' commands. Obedience to all of Jesus' commands

is the very heart of Christian discipleship.

#### II. The Second Omission is the Failure to Recognize That Christ, Not Humankind, is the Center of the Great Commission.

A. The Great Commission is centered on Christ, not the disciple's task.

1. The emphasis of this passage is not on the task of missions and evangelism, but on the one to whom all authority and power has been given (28:18).
2. Because Jesus has been given all power and authority, He has the right to command his disciples.
3. Because Jesus has been given all power and authority, He has the ability to help his disciples complete the task. Because all power and authority in heaven and earth belong to Jesus, through faithful obedience we can accomplish what Jesus has commanded us to do.

B. The Great Commission is centered on Christ, not the salvation of the nations.

1. The Gospel is a call to submit to the kingdom of God. The disciple is primarily a citizen of only one kingdom—the Kingdom of God. The nations represent all those things that demand we give them first priority.
2. An individual is only saved when they lose themselves to Christ. Faith that focuses upon individual needs leads to self-centeredness and self-righteousness. Faith that focuses on Christ leads to renouncing of self-centeredness and self-righteousness. Those persons who deny self and accept Jesus as Lord experience salvation.

### Conclusion:

To experience the presence of Jesus, you must become a disciple of Christ. If you are not Jesus' disciple, we invite you to become a disciple today.



**WHY IS GIVING SO IMPORTANT?**

Philippians 4:14-19

**Introduction:**

While there are many subjects that we avoid discussing, there is one subject that many Christians certainly feel uncomfortable discussing. That is the subject of giving. However, God does not mention giving through clenched teeth or under His breath; God mentions giving boldly—sharing what great things happen when we give.

Paul talked about the importance of giving. Let's examine what Paul emphasized about giving.

**I. Christian Giving Should Be a Way of Life (4:14-17).**

- A. Paul was proud of the Philippian Christians because they demonstrated their love of God by giving. They did not give in resentment or clenched teeth. They gave lovingly and unselfishly. They gave this way because they realized how blessed they were.
- B. Each Christian must dismiss the idea that possessions are "mine!" Everything belongs to God and must be treated as such (Deuteronomy 14:22-23; Acts 20:35).
- C. Think about this illustration. A proud and arrogant farmer invited his Christian brother who was a barber to eat dinner with him. The barber asked the farmer if he could give thanks for their meal. The farmer said he had no reason to give thanks. He had cleared the land. He tilled the ground. He planted the seeds. He harvested the crop. Why should he thank someone else? The barber gently asked who it was that gave the earth, who gave him the good health to till the ground and plant the seed, who put life in the seed, and who gave the rain for his abundant harvest. The farmer realized that he had many reasons to be thankful to God!

- D. We gladly tip 15-20% to a waiter or waitress, but the average Christian refuses to give God 3% (James 4:17).

**II. Christian Giving Pleases God (4:18).**

- A. Though many of Paul's original readers were not Jewish and did not understand the thank offering (Leviticus 7:12-15), most people gave sacrifices and offerings to something or someone.
- B. Giving is a matter of the heart.
  1. Many people give in order to look good in the eyes of other people, to receive a tax benefit, or to maintain a position of power. Giving for these reasons is wrong.
  2. God loves it when we put Him first and give because we love Him (2 Corinthians 9:7).

**III. Christian Giving Releases God's Blessings (4:19).**

- A. God never promised that all of our "wants" would be supplied. However, He did promise that all of our "needs" would be supplied when we put Him first (Proverbs 3:9-10).
- B. Human reasoning cannot understand how giving to God leads to a blessing, but faith enables you to discover this truth (Malachi 3:8-10).
- C. Jesus did not do away with the Old Testament; He fulfilled it. Also, He made it clear that giving is still to be practiced (Luke 6:38).

**Conclusion:**

We give because being a Christian means we should be giving. Our giving should be a natural occurrence in our pilgrimage with God. It brings great pleasure to God. Our giving has the potential to release God's blessings. Will you commit to giving today?

INTRODUCTION TO A SAINT

Romans 1:1-7

**Introduction:**

Paul did not know most of the people in the Roman church. Likewise, the people of the Roman church did not know him personally. However, they did know about Paul's reputation. As a result of his plan to visit them, he wrote a long and detailed letter to them. Paul used four words to identify himself as a believer in a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ. These words describe some things all believers have in common.

**I. Paul Was a Slave (1:1).**

A. Paul could have chosen less harsh words to describe his relationship with Christ. But he chose the image of a slave.

1. "Bond slave" was a radical relationship in Hebrew culture.
2. The relationship is described in Exodus 21:2-6.

B. "Bond slave" described a radical relationship between the owner and slave.

1. It described a total commitment.
2. It described a permanent relationship.
3. It described a voluntary response.

**II. Paul Was Selected (1:1-6).**

A. "Called" is an adjective describing the characteristic of one God has chosen for his service.

1. It indicates the initiative of God in calling one to service.
2. It indicates the state of the believer as one who is different from others.
3. Note Paul also described the Roman believers as "called" (1:6). As with Paul, God took the initiative in calling them.

B. "Set apart" describes the purpose God had for Paul.

1. He was marked out to proclaim the Gospel (1:1).
2. He was given grace gifts for his task (1:5).
3. The Romans were included (1:6).

**III. Paul Was Sent (1:1, 5).**

A. The word "apostle" means more than simply "sent."

1. It means sent in the name of the Sender.
2. It means sent with the task of the Sender.
3. It means sent with the power of the Sender.

B. Being sent as an apostle implies success.

1. Paul was sent to bring about the obedience of the Gentiles (5)
2. He was sent for "His name's sake."

**IV. Paul was a Saint (1:7).**

A. The reference is to the Romans, but certainly Paul could be included.

B. "Saint" comes from a word that means "to incline or lean."

1. The meaning of the word is "sanctified" or "set apart."
2. The example of sanctification is the setting apart of the materials for the tabernacle in the Old Testament.
3. The implication of sanctification is fellowship because it is always used in the plural.
4. The result of sanctification is service.

**Conclusion:**

How would you be introduced? Have you made that total, permanent, and voluntary commitment to Christ? Do you recognize his call on your life? Are you involved in the purpose to which he has sent you? Are you living in his service as one set apart for him?

**HOW ARE YOU RECOGNIZED?**

John 13:34-35

**Introduction:**

“Love one another.” People had heard the command to love one another before. However, they had not heard it in this context. Jesus asked the disciples to be known by love, as His followers. He wanted this to be their badge or label.

Today, groups are recognized in different ways...football players in their pads and helmets, band members in their uniforms, and Santa Claus in his suit. But Jesus wanted Christians to be known by their love, and He still desires that today. How can this take place?

**I. You Have to Experience the Love—Love One Another in the Same Way That I Have Loved You (13:34).**

- A. Jesus told his disciples that He wanted them to love others in the same way that He loved them.
1. I John 4:9 says that God is love; and when you really experience something, you will never forget it. That is true with God’s love. When you experience the love that God offers, you will never forget the experience.
  2. How we love others is a direct reflection of our love and relationship to God. Because we have experienced God’s love in our lives, we should desire to love others and encourage them to also have that experience.
  3. Christmas has lost some of its true meaning because of the way that many have experienced it over the years. Gifts are great. But as believers, we must do our part to let others know what Christmas is really about and help them understand the real experience of Christmas.

**II. You Must Set the Example of Love—This is How Everyone Will Recognize That You Are One of My Disciples (13:35).**

- A. We are all recognized in some way. What causes you to be recognized as you are?
- B. Ephesians 5:1 says that we are to be imitators of Christ as little children.
- C. What type of example are you setting in your home, your school, your job or your community? The example of love as God wants us to give is one that we must give so others can see Jesus in us.

**III. You Must Get Ready to Enrich the Lives of Others—When They See the Love That You Have for Each Other (13:35).**

- A. When others see the love of God in your life, they sense that there is something in you that they want to know more about. When this happens, you have the opportunity to encourage them and therefore, help enrich their lives with Christ.
- B. I Peter 3:15 tells us that we need to be prepared to help enrich the lives of others by telling them of the hope that we have in Christ.
- C. How are you enriching the lives of others? At times, this is very easy to do but at other times it is difficult. Allowing others to see the love that you have for others because of your relationship to Christ will give you opportunities on a daily basis to add enrichment to the lives of others.

**Conclusion:**

Have you ever really experienced God’s love? What type of example are you setting for our Lord and for others? Are you taking the time to enrich the lives of others? God desires for you to be recognized by His love.



# The Carey Pulpit

## SUBSTITUTES FOR GOD

1 Kings 12:25-33

### Introduction:

Each time I travel to Israel, I make a point of visiting Dan. At the high point of the tell, overlooking the Huleh Valley, Jeroboam built one of two great temples. The remains of that temple have been uncovered and a portion of the altar remains. Here Jeroboam instituted a substitute worship for the temple at Jerusalem.

As I listen to people today, I hear a variety of attitudes about the place and purpose of religion. Listening closely, I can detect a similarity between what people are saying today and what the Israelites did at the beginning of the Northern Kingdom. It is the issue of substituting something else for God. The establishment of rival temples both at Dan and Bethel hold for us some important warnings about the substituting of false gods for the one true God.

### I. False Gods are Born out of Selfishness and a Desire for Control (12:25-27).

- A. This is one of the fundamental reasons for creating false gods. We can make him in our own image, or in an image that supports and justifies who and what we are.
- B. When we create our own god, we exercise personal control over that religion. It therefore will not make any demands of us that we are not already willing to bear. It will not challenge us any further than we want to go.

### II. False Gods are Given Credit for the Activity of God (12:28).

- A. Setting up rival places of worship was not enough. Jeroboam set up two golden calves and proclaimed to the people, "Here are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt."
- B. The history of Israel was very clear. It was Yahweh who had delivered them from Egypt with a strong right arm. However, they were willing to turn their backs on that truth and give false gods the credit for something God had done.

### III. False Gods Shift Our Priorities (12:29-30).

- A. The priority for worship was shifted from Jerusalem to Dan and Bethel. Their worship centers were not created as a result of the command of God, but as a result of the sinful activity of man. Jeroboam got the people to shift their worship priorities from what God had decreed to what man had created.
- B. False gods always cause us to shift our priorities. They may seem to be important, and yet they take the place of the most important thing, our relationship and responsibility to God.

### IV. False Gods De-emphasize the Uniqueness of God (12:31-33).

- A. In appointing new festivals, Jeroboam was saying that his new religious creation was on equal footing with the temple worship in Jerusalem.
- B. One of the most dangerous philosophies today is the one that says, "Religion is good for man; but each man must choose his own religion. No one faith is superior to the others. The religion you choose is the one that is right for you." In other words, religion is like going to the cafeteria. All the food is good, you just choose the kinds you like. This approach denies that the Bible is the sole authority for life and living and what it means to be saved.

### Conclusion:

Ted Turner told members of the National Newspaper Association in Atlanta that the biblical Ten Commandments do not relate to current global problems, such as overpopulation and the arms race. The rules we're living under are the Ten Commandments, and I bet nobody here even pays much attention to them, because they're too old," Turner said. "When Moses went up on the mountain, there were no nuclear weapons, there was no poverty. Nobody [today] likes to be commanded. Commandments are out."

What kind of God or gods do you serve? Are there any substitutes in your life? Have you tried to redefine God to make him fit more comfortably?



## EMBRACE THE WORD AN ORDINATION SERMON

2 Timothy 4: 1-5

### Introduction:

Paul charges Timothy, his son in the faith, to be a man of the Word. The Christian minister must not seek to please the world but to please God. We will be accountable as ministers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ (4:1). Therefore, embrace the Word.

#### I. Preach the Word (4:2).

- A. The world does not need entertaining sermons, or humorous sermons, or even sermons filled with pop-psychology. The world needs the liberating Word of God. Preach the Word (see 2 Corinthians 4:5).
- B. Always look for opportunities to preach and share this Word. Pray each morning for opportunities to share.

#### II. Live the Word (4:2).

- A. Paul tells Timothy to be ready in season and out of season. This means, in part, God's servant must always be found living the Word that he preaches.
- B. The only way one can live the Word is to know the Word. Therefore, you must spend a lifetime studying and memorizing the Word of God. Allow God to transform daily your life by this Word (see Jeremiah 15:16; Joshua 1:8-9). One survey found that only 25% of American pastors seriously study the Word outside of sermon preparation.
- C. You live the Word because God enables you to live the Word. It is God who gives you the increasing desire to hunger and thirst after Him and His Word. Ask Him for this desire (see Psalm 42:1-2; 62:1-2; 63:1; Philemon 3:10-11; Ephesians 1:17-18).

#### III. Teach the Word (4:2).

- A. Timothy was told to reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. Part of his responsibility in fulfilling this task is to build relationships with men and help them to grow in their faith (see also 2 Timothy 2:2).

- B. Randall Manley was baptized in one of the largest churches in Alabama several months ago. Upon his own admission, he has no idea what it means to be a Christian. He was never discipled.
- C. What the world needs are disciple makers, instead of converts. Invest part of your life in the training of other young ministers that will multiply your ministry.

#### IV. Trust the Word (4:5).

- A. Hardships will come in the ministry. People will talk about you, stab you in the back and persecute you. Remember, the Bible promises that you will overcome.
- B. Paul was afflicted, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed (2 Corinthians 4:8-9). How did Paul keep on going? He trusted in the promises of God. He trusted in the eternal promises of God. The victory is ours, if we persevere until the end.
- C. During the reign of Vespasian, forty Christian wrestlers were taken out from the camp and forced to sit naked in the cold until they renounced Christ or froze to death. The wrestlers chanted, "Forty wrestlers wrestling for thee, O Christ, to win for you the victor's crown." After midnight no one quit. The captain of the guard was so moved, that he took off his clothes and joined with the forty wrestlers. All forty died to live again. You must persevere and trust the promises of the Word.

#### Conclusion:

Henry Varley spoke to D. L. Moody in England and told him the world has yet to see what God can do in and through and with a man wholly committed to God. D. L. Moody replied, "Let me be that man." I pray that you will be this man, in part, by embracing the Word.

THE PORTRAIT OF A PREACHER

II Timothy 4:1-5

Introduction:

In John Bunyan's work *Pilgrim's Progress*, Christian is taken first to the home of Interpreter. There he views a portrait on the wall of the house. The man in the portrait has eyes of love, a face of commitment and a Holy Bible nestled in his hands. He is the preacher, and Christian sees his importance in the life of every believer.

Paul, in his last few words to Timothy, gives some serious warnings for preachers. May your lives as ministers reflect these truths.

I. The Seriousness of God's Commission (4:1-2).

- A. Verse one shows the intensity of the call.
  - 1. The words "change thee" refer to the call of a group to read the contents of a will. The intent is to show how important the call to preach is in our life.
  - 2. When Paul mentions the "presence of God" he lets Timothy (and all other preachers) know whom they answer to for their ministry. It is not to a board, a church family or even to a convention. It is to the Lord that an account will be made.
- B. The phrase "preach the word" in verse two reflects the intent of the call.
  - 1. To preach is to publicly proclaim for everyone to hear. It may have been that Timothy was timid, or maybe afraid. It might have been that his youthful age made him seem inadequate for the task. In either case, Paul made sure he knew his primary task.
  - 2. Priority is given here to "the Word." The definite article helps us to understand the priority. The Word is the only text for all preaching and ministry.

- 3. Preference is given in verse two to the readiness of preaching. It seems (as most of us know) that it is not always easy to preach. Paul tells Timothy that preaching the truth is to be done in good times and in bad.

II. The Struggles of God's Commission (4:3-4).

- A. Spiritual dullness will overtake them. The actual translation of these verses makes the portrait very clear, "They will not tolerate clear truth." The opposition will create a struggle for every minister.
- B. Spiritual desire will fail them. The implication is that both the hearer and the speaker will be tainted by a deep sense of worldliness. Their desire will be to hear only what they want to hear. Opposition will pose a severe struggle for the gospel.
- C. Spiritual dislocation will take place. Other avenues of understanding and self-awareness will replace the uncompromising truth of the gospel. Opposition to the truth will take the form of self-gratification.

III. The Strategy of God's Commission (4:5).

- A. We must remain serious in our ministry.
  - 1. To be sober means to be serious minded. The call of every minister is to the eternal destiny of man's soul. Nothing is more serious than that.
  - 2. The serious nature must reflect every area of life (all things). In other words, one must "possess" that which he "professes" to be true.
- B. We must share our ministry by being evangelistic and encouraging.

Conclusion:

Warren Wiersbe entitled one of his books, *Be Real*. Preacher, are you for real? What would your portrait reveal about you?



## CRIES FROM THE DEPTHS

Psalm 130:1-8

**Introduction:**

Have you ever noticed the cheers of the fans of a winning team? The shouts from the sections of the stadium where those people are sitting are much different from the sounds from the sections where fans of the team that is behind are sitting.

The words of the person who wrote this psalm sound like those from someone whose life has fallen into sorrow. What kinds of expressions come from someone sitting on the losing side? How should we respond when our lives hit bottom?

**I. Worship (130:3-4).**

- A. In verse 3, the psalmist thinks about sin. "If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?" The word "sins" here means "anything that is not equal." He says that if God kept a record of everything in us that is not equal to Him, we would all be condemned.
- B. Next, the psalmist says, "But." That's a big word throughout the Bible. One place where the word "but" is used in a similar way is Romans 5:8, "But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."
- C. "But with You, there is forgiveness." That thought staggered the psalmist. He couldn't believe that a holy and righteous God would forgive sins. The psalmist said, "Therefore, You are feared." Whenever we understand God's mercy and forgiveness, we worship Him (Romans 2:4).

**II. Wait (130:5-6).**

- A. The psalmist says that his soul waits for God and that he puts his hope in His word (130:5). He says that he waits for the Lord more than a watchman waits for the morning.

- B. The psalmist waited for the Lord for at least two reasons.
  1. The first reason is that he knew that the Lord was his only hope. When someone is sick, you don't offer him a magic marker. You give him medicine, because medicine is what will help him. We wait for God because only God will help.
  2. The psalmist also waited for God because He had full confidence in his showing up. The metaphor here is a good one. The watchman who waits for the morning is sure that the morning will come.
- C. Waiting is not an easy process. We can take another lesson from the morning metaphor. The watchman can do nothing to hurry the dawn. The morning will come at the right time. In the same way, God comes and does His work on His timetable.

**III. Witness (130:7-8).**

- A. The personal worship moment that the psalmist experienced spilled over into a public announcement. Imagine him standing in the worship service to say, "All of you should join me in hoping in the Lord. I have found that God is faithful and true."
- B. Whenever you and I are in the depths of sorrow, God will work in our lives. He is more than able to do what we need. The psalmist found God to be worthy of his faith and commitment. We too will discover that the Lord will minister to us so that we will be able to urge others to trust God.

**Conclusion:**

Sitting on the winning side of the stands is no problem. When we appear to be on the losing side, we need faith. The cries of waiting, worshiping, and witnessing from the heart of the psalmist need to come from ours as well.



## THE THREE C'S OF SUCCESS

Philippians 3:3-13

### Introduction:

Years ago Al Michaels was interviewing Herschel Walker during the halftime show of "Monday Night Football." At that time Walker was a Minnesota Viking and on the Olympic Bobsled team. Many thought he may have been the best athlete of all time, but he had fallen on hard times. Walker did not have enough playing time and many people wanted to know was he a good bargain for the team. People began accusing him of being a failure, but through it all, Walker did not complain. Michaels asked him, "What is success?" Walker replied, "For me, it is going home at night and going to sleep." That was his definition of success.

What is your definition of success? The world will define it in many ways, but God defines it differently. God defines success as "being the person He wants you to be." That includes your character, your conduct, your career and your choices. Every person should seek God's success.

The Apostle Paul gives us some insights on how to achieve success in Philippians 3. To achieve God's success one must do three things.

### I. Focus on Your Choices (3:4-7).

- A. We choose our future friends. The people we are around will either pull us up, or drag us down.
- B. We choose our future family. The second most important decision you will make will be whom you will marry. That is your choice, and we need to be very careful in that decision.
- C. We choose our future profession. This has a major impact upon our lives and the lives of others.

### II. Develop a Commitment to Excellence (3:14).

- A. Take responsibility for your life. Quit blaming society, family and friends for any failures in your life. Be responsible.

- B. Do not underestimate your attitude and determination. Attitudes and determination are more important than intelligence. Study the lives of great men and women and you will find people who may not have been the smartest, but they were determined.

### III. Focus on Your Character (3:15-16).

- A. Character means being honest with others. Stephen Covey in his book, *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*, noticed the trend of losing character in our society. He noted that since 1776 until 50 years before his book every book, article, and essay on self-improvement, success and leadership dealt with character in some degree. Yet for the last 50 years, character has not played a major role in the literature. He concluded that the world says that it is more important to look honest than to be honest, to appear happy than to be happy, to show concern rather than to be concerned.
- B. Character means being honest with yourself. Character is really integrity.
- C. Character implies you do what is right when no one is looking. Many people work on image, not integrity. Image is what people think we are, integrity is what we really are. Anyone can do what is right when the world is looking, but what about when you are alone, or away from the church, or your parents?
- D. Character never compares with others. When we start thinking, "Well, everyone is doing it," we forfeit integrity.

### Conclusion:

True success comes when each person finds Christ and lives for Him. Have you found success by being a follower of Christ?

**A BURDEN FOR EVANGELISM**  
**“The Witness of the People of God”**

Responsive Reading 556  
*The Baptist Hymnal, 1991*

**Introduction:**

Fifteen years ago leaders in our convention established a day to fast and pray for evangelism. The primary purpose was to pray for a nation or people group that rarely if ever heard the gospel. This year’s target group is the Drukpa of Bhutan, a small country located between India and Tibet.

This weekend from 6:00 p.m. Friday to 6:00 p.m. Saturday, Baptists all over the world will pray and fast for Bhutan and for other lost people they know. I want us to consider the importance of sharing our faith—the importance of having a burden for evangelism.

What can we do to help lost people trust in the Lord?

**I. Pray for Them.**

- A. When we pray for the lost, we are expressing God’s desire (2 Pet. 3:9).
- B. When we pray for the lost, we are pursuing one of God’s highest joys (Luke 15:7).
- C. When we pray for the lost, we are lining up our prayers with the primary purpose of Jesus’ ministry (Luke 19:10).
- D. How long has it been since you prayed by name for lost people you want to be saved? If we fail to do that, how can we claim to be a faithful follower of Christ?
- E. You may wonder, “How do I pray for the lost?” Pray repentantly, specifically, regularly and expectantly.

**II. Fast for Them.**

- A. Some of you may be wondering, “Fast? You got to be kidding. Why would we want to do that?”
- B. Fasting means denying ourselves food or perhaps an activity we enjoy, such as television or the radio. We do this so we can draw closer to God.

- C. How can fasting help us? Fasting can produce several benefits, such as divine insight, strength and forgiveness.

**III. Witness to Them.**

- A. Why is witnessing so important? There are two major reasons.
  - 1. God’s command for believers to witness (Acts 1:8). He commanded believers to witness because that is God’s plan for winning lost people (Matt. 28:19-20). He commanded believers to witness because He wants everyone to be saved (1 Tim. 2:4). He commanded believers to witness because that is a powerful way to show our love for God (John 14:15).
  - 2. The condition of the lost. Lost people are blind to the truth (2 Cor. 4:4). Lost people want happiness and may think they are happy. Lost people have a form of religion but lack spiritual power. Lost people often fail to see the difference between being religious and being genuinely spiritual. Lost people may resist a Christian’s attempt to witness to them.

**Conclusion:**

When will we begin to feel a burden for evangelism? That burden grows out of salvation and maturity. We can only share what we have received. We will share only as we determine to truly live for the Lord.

# Scholarships for Church-Related Vocations Students William Carey College 2002-2003

In order to be eligible to receive a church-related vocations scholarship, a student must:

1. Have an ACT composite score of 17 or higher and a high school transcript.
2. Be a current and active member of a church affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention.
3. Have made a public commitment to a church-related vocation (ministry or missions) in a church affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention.
4. Have a letter from the pastor stating that a public commitment to a church-related vocation was made or a copy of a license / ordination certificate.
5. Have a pastor's nomination on the scholarship form.
6. Make application to the college and application for scholarships and grants.
7. Meet all admission requirements to the college.

The church-related vocations scholarship could provide up to \$4,600 per year for eligible on-campus residents. Commuting students could be eligible for up to \$3,300 per year.



*William Carey College*  
*Sixth Annual Minister's Golf Tournament*

- Location:** Canebrake Golf Course, Hattiesburg, Mississippi.
- Date:** May 20 and 21, 2002. (Tournament will begin 12:00 pm Monday and 8:00 am Tuesday.)
- Cost:** \$95 per person.
- Format:** Two man scramble.
- Lodging:** The college will provide free lodging on the campus. (You will need to bring linens and towels.)
- Director:** Jeff Smith (head golf pro at Canebrake) and his staff will direct the tournament.
- Dress:** Golf collared shirt with slacks or shorts.
- Food:** Snacks and soft drinks will be provided by the college. Bring a small cooler for your drinks.

*Space is limited to 100 golfers.*

**For reservations or more information, call (601) 318-6115.**

## Winter Bible Study Preview

Sponsored by

The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

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Thursday, September 26, 2002

9:00 – 3:00

Kresge Room, Thomas Business Building  
William Carey College

Led by Dr. Gene Henderson  
First Baptist Church, Brandon, MS

*For more information, call (800) 748-1651, ext. 295.*



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