

Great Commission drives us out of our comfort zones

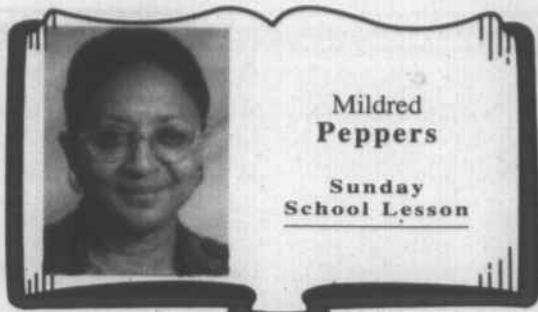
Lesson Scripture: Acts 8:4-17

Lesson Aims: to understand that the Holy Spirit is for all who believe, to appreciate Philip's ministry in Samaria, and to stretch beyond our comfort zones to witness for Him.

Background: Matthew 28:18-20 and Acts 1:8 are the "Great Commission." Jesus, just before His Ascension, commissions all believers into service. Beginning first at home (Jerusalem) and then in the surrounding areas (neighborhoods, cities, etc.), Jesus wants the "Good News" spread throughout the world. That was then, you might say, but the commission is yet to be completed.

All too often we focus on "the other" and not those near to us. Yes, we must go far off, but there is a lot to be done right here! To fulfill the Commission, believers must cross all barriers that include race, ethnicity, gender, class and anything else that separates. Based on some statements by folk in the last few weeks, this country needs help!

Many believers who received the Holy Spirit back in Acts 2 returned to their homes. Others stayed in the city as the church continued to grow. Peter and John experienced the first persecution (Acts 4). As jealousy grew, the members of the Sanhedrin arrested and flogged all of the apostles during the second persecution (Acts 5). Stephen, the Grecian Jew chosen among the "seven," not only endured the third persecution but gave his life in the process.



Mildred Peppers

Sunday School Lesson

Saul, the Pharisee, initiated the fourth persecution, which scattered believers throughout Judea and Samaria. Everyone fled except the apostles! It appears that this persecution and the others are bad, but the Almighty had a way of turning things around. Think about it. The believers are now ready for the second tier of the Commission! In their flight, the preached Word was shared whenever they went.

Lesson: Philip, another of the "seven," is in Samaria preaching Christ. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, he does many signs and wonders - healing the sick and casting out demons. Many see and believe. The times have changed but human nature is still the same. There will be those observers who want the power but lack the change of heart. Such is the case for Simon, the sorcerer. He gets baptized and follows Philip very closely, thinking that he can figure out the tricks.

The home church (Jerusalem) hears the good news about the

Samaritans. Their conversion is truly a miracle for they are very low on the Jewish social ladder. Peter and John are sent to investigate. Both of them lay hands on the people, and the Holy Spirit comes to them. By all means continue to read verses 18-25, revealing Simon's character.

Application: Far too many of us believe that attending worship is all that the Lord requires. When we accept Christ as Lord and Savior, we're saved. However, Jesus commands us to share His Word with others, wherever we go. Simple translation says that once we're saved, we must lead others to Him because we want to share this with everyone.

The Great Commission drives us out of our comfort zones (our church) into the hedges and highways to witness for Him. In sharing that "Good News," we cannot allow any manmade barrier to detain us! He comes for all who believe! If He saved us, He can and will save others! Be a real witness for Him!!

Mercedes-Benz

"One secures the goal of his spirit when he finds his calling."

Eric Harrison
In business since 1997

When buying your next vehicle, ask for Eric. He will look out for your best interest.

Mercedes-Benz of Winston-Salem
New & Certified Pre-Owned Vehicles

601 Jonestown Road
Winston-Salem, NC 27103

Monday - Saturday
8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
(336) 760-4580

Atkins revival set for Oct. 24-28

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Calling all Camels and friends of Atkins High School. A revival will be held Oct. 24-28 at Union Chapel Baptist Church. Reconnect with alumni from the late '60s and early '70s. Services will begin at 7 o'clock each night.

Here's the schedule of guest preachers (the revival speakers were students in Pastor Robinson's social studies classes during his

time at Atkins):

• Monday, Oct. 24 - the Rev. Gary Hairston (Class of '70), associate minister, New Bethel Baptist Church of Winston-Salem.

• Tuesday, Oct. 25 - the Rev. James Gilliam (Class of '70), pastor, Antioch Christian Church of Winston-Salem.

• Wednesday, Oct. 26 - the Rev. Richard Woods (Class of '71), associate minister, New Hope Baptist Church of Winston-

Salem.

• Thursday, Oct. 27 - the Rev. Ray Watlington (Class of '70), pastor, Christian Fountain Church of Winston-Salem.

• Friday, Oct. 28 - the Rev. James Clyburn (Class of '71), pastor, Red Bank Baptist Church of Germantown.

Union Chapel Baptist Church is at 300 W. 25th St. Host pastor is Konnie G. Robinson, former Atkins instructor (1967-69).

United Progressive Baptist Church

PASTOR LEWIS E. DEVLIN

Home Tel: (336) 767-7825
Office Tel: (336) 724-1266
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study - 7:00 p.m.
Thursday Grandparents Bible Study - 7:00 p.m.
At E. 12th & Jackson Avenue
1122 Quincey Caldwell Circle
Winston-Salem, NC 27101



Pastor Lewis E. Devlin and 1st Lady Mary E. Devlin

"Praise Assembly Christian Center, Inc."

2252 Queen Street, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27103
(336) 723-1020 Fax (336) 217-8088
www.paccinc.org

Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 A.M.
Tuesday Prayer Service - 6:30 P.M.
Wednesday Bible Study - Noon & 7:30 P.M.



Dr. & Mrs. Johnny L. York

Dr. York can be heard each Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m. on "The Light" 1340AM "A Ministry Where Jesus Is Lord"

STEADFAST LIFE CHANGING MINISTRIES, INC.

"Where Broken Lives Are Made Whole."



Pastor Aldine Ingram Jr. and 1st Lady Sandra D. Ingram

Sunday Services
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Services
Prayer & Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
2651 Belevs Creek Rd.
Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101
Phone 336-723-4104
Email SteadfastM@aol.com

Now Faith Ministries, Inc.

540 Granville Drive
Winston-Salem, NC 27101
Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 5472
Winston-Salem, NC 27113-5472
E-mail: benfaith@earthlink.net or
E-mail: BILGUL7@cs.com



Apostle Brenda E. Nelson
Pastor - Vindetta Gulley

Service Times
10:30 AM Sunday Morning Worship
5:00 PM Sunday Evening Worship
7:00 PM Tuesday - Faith Lessons
7:00 PM Friday - Healing & Deliverance

October 9, 2005 • 5:00 p.m.
Pastor Vander Purcell, Jr. &
Total Restoration Outreach Ministries
(Greensboro, N.C.)

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for,
the evidence of things not seen." (Hebrews 11:1)

THE CHRONICLE'S Church Directory

New World Cappadocia Outreach Center

P.O. Box 4543
Winston-Salem, NC 27115
(336) 744-7924

Sunday 11:30 AM Morning Worship
Sunday 5:00 PM Evening Worship
Wednesday 7:00 PM Bible Study
Monday 7:00 PM School of Leaders
Saturday Outreach TBA



Pastor Melvin "Rip" Wilkins Sr. & 1st Lady Wilkins

Christ Cathedral Church of Deliverance

Bishop Freddie B. Marshall, Th.D
Senior Pastor and Founder
240 N. Dunleith Avenue, Winston-Salem, NC 27101
336.724.1700 (Phone) 336.703.1336 (Fax)
www.christcathedral.us



Bishop & Lady Marshall

Worship With Us
SUNDAY
8:30 am Early Morning Worship
10:00 am Christian Education
11:00 am Morning Worship
5:00 pm Sunday Night Live (1st & 3rd)
WEDNESDAY
12:00 noon Hour of Deliverance
5:45 pm Fellowship Dinner
7:00 pm Bible Study

Tune to our Radio Broadcast

"Power In The Word"

Every Sunday @ 8:30 am
WPOL 1340AM "The Light"

"A Church That Ministers To Your Destiny"



The Cathedral of Refuge Church of Deliverance

An Affiliate of End Time Harvest Preparation Assemblies

Order of Services



Pastors Anthony & Rita Wilson

Sundays
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship
2:00 P.M. Hispanic Worship
5:00 P.M. Evening Worship

Wednesdays
6:00 P.M. Pastoral Bible Study
6:00 P.M. Youth Tutorial

5469 Old Walkertown Rd., Winston-Salem, N.C. 27105
(336) 595-1960

Come and Celebrate With Us Our 8th Church Anniversary
October 9, 2005 • 5:00 P.M.

Rev. A. B. Sutton
Charlotte, N.C.

Piney Grove Church of Winston-Salem, Inc. -
Early Sunday Morning Worship Service 8:00 a.m.
Join us for a Blessed Time in the Lord.



Piney Grove Baptist Church

Dr. James F. Linville, Pastor

4715 Indiana Ave. • Winston-Salem, NC 27106 • (336) 767-4044

- ◆ Early Morning Worship.....8:00 a.m.
- ◆ Sunday School..... 9:30 a.m.
- ◆ Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.
- ◆ Evening Services..... 4:00 p.m.
- ◆ Bible Study Every Wednesday.....10:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Mission Statement: "A Saving Station for Lost Souls and Enrichment Center for Christians"

Website: www.pineygrovebcinc.org E-mail: pgbc2005@bellsouth.net

For Further Information

Contact Michael J. Graham at (336) 722-8624 Ext. 109.