How To Have A Good Gospel Meeting
Acts 10:19-33

Introduction:
A. Purpose of our gospel meetings not always as clear as could be.
   1. Not merely a semi-annual custom.
   2. Not merely a public relations event. (cf. Mt. 6:1; Gal. 1:10).
B. Purpose of our gospel meeting should be fourfold:
   1. To preach to the lost world. (Mt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:16)
   2. To seek to restore lost brethren. (Gal. 6:1; Jas. 5:19,20).
   3. To teach faithful Christians. (Heb. 2:1-3; 2 Tim. 2:2-5).
C. Story of Cornelius makes some suggestions for a good gospel meeting.

Discussion:
I. We Should Arrange For Good Gospel Preaching. (vv. 17-19,33; cf. Acts 11:14)
   A. This does not mean to most “dynamic” speaker possible. (2 Cor. 10:10)
      1. Too much attention of entertaining “delivery”, not enough the message delivered.
      2. Too much emphasis on “manner”, too little on “matter” (cf. 2 Cor. 11:6).
   B. This does mean to arrange to have the gospel preached. (Rom. 1:15,16; 1 Cor. 1:21)
      1. Preached in its purity. (Gal. 1:6-9).
      2. Preached in its plainness. (cf. 1 Cor. 14:5-9).
      3. Preached with love (Eph. 4:15)

II. We Should Seek To Magnify God Rather Than Man. (vv. 25,26,46).
   A. Too much focus on personalities in meetings — degrees, accomplishments, etc.
      2. Power of gospel message does not depend on how well we know or like speaker.
      3. Power of gospel message is churches real strength, not fleshly strength. (2 Cor. 4:7; 1 Cor. 2:3).
   B. Too much focus on impressing community with us rather than the Lord.
      1. We like to point to our facility, our physical growth, our people.
      2. We like to the advantages of becoming one of us rather than added to Lord.

III. We Should Especially Pray For The Meeting. (v. 31).
   A. That the speaker speak as “he ought to speak” - rather than apologize for his boldness. (Eph. 6:10).
   B. That the word will have free course - rather than hindered. (2 Thess. 3:1).
   C. For the welfare of those who preach and the lost. (2 Thess. 3:2; Rom. 10:1-4).

IV. We Should Try To Provide A Good Audience. (vv. 24,27).
   A. Is it important enough for you to attend?
   B. Is it important enough for you to want others to attend.
   C. Do you try to make people think that you really want them to attend?

Conclusion:
A. A good meeting requires extra effort on our part.
B. A good meeting requires combined effort on our part.