

KEAM ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST - WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

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The Way Jesus Did It

“Some of the people therefore, **when they heard these words**, were saying, ‘This certainly is the Prophet.’ Others were saying, ‘This is the Christ.’ Still others were saying, ‘Surely the Christ is not going to come from Galilee, is He? Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the descendants of David, and from Bethlehem, the village where David was?’ So a division occurred in the crowd because of Him. Some of them wanted to seize Him, but no one laid hands on Him.

“The officers then came to the chief priests and Pharisees, and they said to them, ‘Why did you not bring Him?’ The officers answered, ‘**Never has a man spoken the way this man speaks.**’ The Pharisees then answered them, ‘You have not also been led astray, have you? No one of the rulers or Pharisees has believed in Him, has he? But this crowd which does not know the Law is accursed.’ Nicodemus (he who came to Him before, being one of them) said to them, ‘Our Law does not judge a man **unless it first hears from him** and knows what he is doing, does it?’ They answered him, ‘You are not also from Galilee, are you? Search, and see that no prophet arises out of Galilee.’ Everyone went to his home.” (John 7:40-53)

From this passage, we learn just how powerful a communicator Jesus was. Those who were sent out to arrest Him were **so impressed with his speech** that they could not even bring themselves to do so. In **John 13:13**, Jesus says, “You call me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am.” The most frequent example Jesus gave them was in His manner of speech.

Recently, I realized something that I had not before. We have very little in the way of the actual conversations the first Christians had with the lost. We know that they were successful in their efforts because of the rapid growth of the body. We have letters written to those who had been saved, but we only have summaries of the accounts of the conversations that led to their conversions. The book of Acts summarizes some of the acts of some of the apostles. However, when it comes to the actual conversations, we have very little recorded.

So, how did they do it? I venture to say that they did it largely in **the same way that Jesus did it**. How did Jesus do it? How did he converse with, relate to, and direct people to God? We have quite a number of abbreviated versions of His encounters with two categories of individuals - those who truly wanted to know and those who merely opposed Him.

When questioned, Jesus often responded with questions of His own. He did not allow others to control the conversation by objecting and saying, “Don’t

ASSEMBLY TIMES

Sunday Morning 9:00
Bible Study and
Sunday School

Sunday Morning 10:00
Worship Assembly

Sunday Evening 18:30
Worship Assembly

Wednesday Ladies 10:00
Class

Wednesday Evening 19:00
Bible Study

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Mike Baisley
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Braam Le Roux
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answer my question with a question!" Instead, He shrewdly maneuvered His opponents into dilemmas using this tactic. He asked them questions that exposed their ignorance or evil intentions. When asked by what authority He did miracles, He asked them to tell Him the source of John the Baptizer's teaching – "from heaven or from men?" (**Matthew 21:23-25**) When criticized for forgiving sins, He asked them, "Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven'; or to say, 'Arise and take up your pallet and walk'?" (**Mark 2:1-12**)

Sometimes Jesus made what appeared to be bizarre statements to provoke a response. "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." (**John 2:19**) **Sometimes He would ask questions simply to make people think.** "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" (**Matthew 16:13**)

The account of **the Samaritan woman at the well** is perhaps the most complete example we have of Jesus doing "personal" evangelism. Jesus opened a conversation with her, crossing several cultural barriers, simply by asking her for a drink of water. (**John 4:7**) He followed that with some nonsense about "living water." (**John 4:10**) Of course, there was no nonsense about it. He was merely arousing her curiosity. The account (**John 4:3-42**) yields remarkable insight into how Jesus actually related to one individual, a stranger from another culture, resulting in many believers. (**John 4:39 & 4:42**)

Regarding the speech of a Christian, Paul said, "Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned, as it were, with salt, so that you may know how you ought to respond to each person." (**Colossians 4:6**) Let us look to the Master Teacher so that we may know how we ought to respond to each person. As He said to His apostles, "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; therefore be shrewd as serpents, and innocent as doves." (**Matthew 10:16**)

So, do you have any good questions? Jesus did; use His. He won't mind. "For what will a man be profited, if he gains the whole world, and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" (**Matthew 16:26**) "Then how does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord'?" (**Matthew 22:43**) The list of His questions is long. This writing contains only a few of them. Open-ended, thought-provoking questions were His specialty. They need to become ours.

All too often, we put ourselves on the defensive unnecessarily. We are always trying to prove everything in a "**preaching**" mode. We find ourselves trying to impress upon people the facts and commandments that they need to hear, but do not want to hear. If we "**preach**" the way Jesus did instead, and we ask the right questions, then honest people begin to think in the right way. When **they then begin to ask us** the right questions, we have the answers, don't we? They then have given us **their permission** to give them the "**words of eternal life.**" (**John 6:68**)

*Hoping to speak like Jesus did,
Bill Elliott*

WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TUESDAY

No **Weekly singing** this week.

WEDNESDAY – 11th

No **LADIES BIBLE CLASS** – Next one will be 18th April at 10:00
– Lesson by Chantelle du Preez, tea will be hosted by Tippy and Joy.

THURSDAY – 12th

No **YOUNG ADULTS** this week.

FRIDAY – 13th

No **YOUTH** this week.

OUTREACH PROGRAMME

Will be starting soon. You will be assigned a task.

Scripture Readings and Sermon Topic Today

AM: John 7 : 40 – 53

“The Way Jesus Did It”

PM: John 4 : 1 – 10

“A Noteworthy Conversation”

PRIVILEGED TO SERVE

	<u>TODAY</u>	<u>8/4/2007</u>
SONG LEADER	AM - M. Baisley	PM - M. Baisley
OPENING PRAYER	AM - B. Le Roux	PM - G. Baisley
LORD'S TABLE	AM - J. Roberts	PM - I. Engelbrecht
SCRIPTURE READING	AM - N. Nyemba	PM - C. du Preez
PREACHING	AM - B. Elliott	PM - B. Elliott
CLOSING PRAYER	AM - G. Baisley	PM - H. Kirby
FLOWERS	Vanessa Herman	
	<u>NEXT WEEK</u>	
	<u>15/4/2007</u>	
SONG LEADER	AM - Q. Le Roux	PM - Q. Le Roux
OPENING PRAYER	AM - H. Granger	PM - H. Kirby
LORD'S TABLE	AM - M. Baisley	PM - G. Baisley
SCRIPTURE READING	AM - G. Baisley	PM - K. Brandstetter
PREACHING	AM - J. Smulders	PM - B. Elliott
CLOSING PRAYER	AM - K. Brandstetter	PM - C. du Preez
FLOWERS	Pearl Nyemba	

THE ANVIL

Last eve I passed beside a blacksmiths door, And heard the anvil ring the vespers chime. When looking in I saw upon the floor, old hammers worn with beating years of time.

“How many anvils have you had,” said I, “To wear and batter all these hammers so.” “Just one” said he, then said with twinkling eye, “The anvil wears the hammers out you know.”

And so I thought the anvil of God's word, For ages skeptic blows have beat upon.

Yet though the noise of falling blows was heard, The anvil is unharmed the hammers gone.

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE FIGURES

Sunday AM Worship	108
Sunday PM Worship	63
Wednesday Evening Bible Study	37

BENEVOLENCE

Are you remembering to bring your donations? Your help is required. Thank you once again for your contributions and generosity.

For next week please provide:

Canned Mixed Vegetables / Oats 500gr

PRAYER REQUEST

Neville & Myra Lentz, who have been struggling with flu. Brad Johnson, Bill Elliott's brother-in-law. Jade Preston. Hugh Granger who had surgery on his knee on Thursday.

Prayers for safe travelling for Stuart Granger touring Europe and the UK and returning 15th April. Also safe travelling for those of our young adults and youth group who have gone to Natal for the Youth Camp.

BIRTHDAYS

Rebecca Wood	9 April
Fabian Gordon	10 April

Happy Birthday, enjoy your special day!!!

ANNIVERSARIES

Adriaan & Gaby Le Roux	13 April
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Congratulations! Enjoy your day.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Bulletin Contributions for Sunday 22nd **must be in by Thursday 19th 12.00 midday please**, as Pam Share will be away Friday 20th and Saturday 21st. Many thanks.

REQUEST

Kirsten Sporke is moving into her own 2 bed roomed townhouse, and is looking for someone to share accommodation with her. Please see Kirsten or Jason for details.

STATISTICS AND STUFF

Who can estimate the value of God's gift, when he gave to the world his only begotten Son! It is something unspeakable and incomprehensible. It passes man's understanding. Two things there are which man has no arithmetic to reckon, and no line to measure. One of these things is the extent of that man's loss who loses his own soul. The other is the extent of God's gift when he gave Christ to sinners ... Sin must be exceeding sinful, when the Father must needs give His only Son to be the sinner's Friend!!

