



MONTICELLO

# CHURCH OF CHRIST

*As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men—Galatians 6:10*

## Would You Like to Buy A Vacuum?

—Rob Whitacre—

The doorbell has just rung, and you open the door. There stands a salesman. He is nicely dressed, smiling, and holding a vacuum in his hand. He says, "Would you like to buy a vacuum?" How would you respond? Some might just shut the door, while others may be polite and say, "No thank you," while quickly looking for an exit strategy.

It is hard to fault anyone for asking for Bible studies. There are so few Christians who are willing to conduct a study. I certainly don't want to discourage anyone. Selling a product is an art. Every salesman goes through training courses to learn about his product, but more importantly, to learn about the customers. I would like to suggest that there is a better approach to sinners than asking, "Would you like to have a Bible study?" Here are few things to consider.

First, you should never transition from contact to Bible study without prospecting. The prospecting stage is the key to a successful end. Prospecting is soil preparation, and Christianity is uniquely designed to accomplish this step.

Second, work on your approach. The approach is the key moment of any sale. Christians are the most equipped people in the world to interact with sinners. The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control! Who would not like these qualities? Look for areas of agreement and familiarity; offer compliments.

Third, invest time in every contact and let them get to know you. You are the only church member they know so never forget Who and what you represent. Find out what they enjoy and enjoy it with them. You must be willing to become all things to all people that some might be saved (1 Corinthians 9:22).

Fourth, never underestimate the power of a meal. Eat with sinners, and you will quickly learn why Jesus did the same. Meaningful and revealing conversations do not normally happen at the front door. Conversations over a meal are usually a fountain of information.

Fifth, do not forget the purpose of prospecting is to get the Bible study. While we eat and build friendships with sinners, keep the mission in mind. If a sinner sees who you are and how important Christ is in your life, the door will open for a Bible study.

Sixth, develop your transition. The awkward moment is always the seconds between the conversation and the invitation to study. Here is a line that we have used dozens and dozens of times with success. "Margie, what do you think about the Jacksonville church of Christ?" (if the church has done a good job, the response will give you the green light). "How much do you know about us? Would you like to know more?"

Seventh, be ready for "yes." Set the day and time without delay. Remember, meals are always a winner before a study, as they relax the prospect. Dessert is always good during the middle of a study.

The doorbell has just rung, and you open the door. A nicely dressed man immediately begins complimenting your yard, home, and mentions one of your neighbors. He is conversational, and before long, he is talking about floors and how important it is to keep them clean. "Have you ever heard of our new Space Vac? You have got to see this thing work. It is the most amazing product I have ever seen. May I demonstrate?" He begins to vacuum your house and shows you how unique his product is and shows you how to use it. Before long you are using it and loving it. He does not have to ask you to buy it, because you are going to ask, "How could I get one of these vacuums?"

You do not have to ask for a Bible study when you earn it. Know your product and get to know your customer, and you just might make the sale.

## Memory Verse

For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

**Galatians 3:27 (ESV)**

**October 29, 2023**

### ELDERS

Mike Beard

Larry Fisackerly

Joe Moore

### DEACONS

Marty Baker

Chris Bryant

Ray Linder

Jason Meier

Jeff Newton

Joshua Pettigrew

Kerry Rice

Jeremy Wilson

### MINISTERS

**Pulpit Minister**

Josh Walker

**Campus Minister**

Brad Tolbert

### Meeting Times

Bible Study 9:30 AM

Assembly 10:30 AM

Assembly 5:00 PM

### **WEDNESDAY**

Bible Study 6:30 PM

### ATTENDANCE

Bible Class ..... 68

Sunday AM Worship..... 95

Sunday PM Worship .... 67

Wed. Evening ..... 66

Budget ..... \$5,810

Contribution ..... \$6,579

## THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYERS

- ◇ **Ricky Naron** has been put on hospice
- ◇ **Eddy Don Russell** is at home awaiting test results
- ◇ A number of the congregation is recovering from COVID
- ◇ **Sandra Higgins** will have cataract surgery Nov 8th
- ◇ **Tommy Freeman & Mary Hamick** were involved in a wreck
- ◇ **Tommy Free** is suffering from mini-strokes
- ◇ **Jessi Baker (Fern Baker)** is recovering from injuries
- ◇ **Laverne Potter** is at Lake Village undergoing rehab
- ◇ **Michael & Daphne Fuqua** continue to need prayers after daughter, **Marlene**, passed
- ◇ **Acacia May (Becky Rice)** is feeling better and has a plan forward
- ◇ **Kelly Koonce** has undergoing treatments
- ◇ **Dale & Diana Bates** are need prayers concerning their health.
- ◇ Continue to remember **Donnie & Janice Wright**
- ◇ **Tami Robinson (Calvin Jones sister)** has been diagnosed with cancer

- ◇ **Grady Rawl** is recovering from a stroke
- ◇ **Rita Stiles** continues to have health issues
- ◇ **Candace Carter** is having issues with her meds
- ◇ **Joel Thompson** has pancreatitis
- ◇ **Benita Forrest** is still in need of prayers

## REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

Jean Enlow    Betty McGuire    Pat Turner  
 Lyndell Baker    Judy Purvis    Laverne Potter  
 Marie Wooten



**11/4**    Tailgate - SNU



**Elders, Deacons, & Ministers will have a  
 2024 Planning Meeting on Nov 2nd**

**LOVE Ministry will meet November 5th**

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS TODAY

**MIRACLES OF JESUS:** Jesus Heals the Boy with the Unclean Spirit

**5th Sunday Giving - 29th - Giving goes toward building fund  
 Group 5 (Josh & Karli Walker) Card Writing - 3:30 pm**

## THIS WEEK

**Ladies' Class - Wednesday @ 10 am**

## NOVEMBER

2nd - Planning Meeting (Elders, Deacons, & Ministers)  
 5th - LOVE Ministry Meeting - 4 pm  
 14th - Ladies' Night Out

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### **OCTOBER**

29 Kelly Koonce  
 Mark Sponaugle  
 Ryan Thompson  
 30 Jim & Barbara Dyson

### **NOVEMBER**

2 Lane Usry  
 3 Marty Baker  
 4 Shawna Cook

## DAILY BIBLE READING

**MONDAY** Luke 12-13  
**TUESDAY** Luke 14-15  
**WEDNESDAY** Luke 16-17:10  
**THURSDAY** John 11  
**FRIDAY** Luke 17:11-18:14  
**SATURDAY** Matt 19, Mark 10  
**SUNDAY** Matt 20-21

## LADIES' DUTIES

### **Communion Prep**

Oct 29 Angela Naron  
 Nov 5 Barbara Newton  
 Nov 12 Barbara Newton  
 Nov 19 Sara Newton

### **OCTOBER**

### **CARDS**

Janet Staudinger

### **FOOD**

Lindsey Baker  
 Jennifer Knight

### **PENCILS/CARDS**

Carolyn Ashcraft

## CONTACT US OR FIND US ONLINE



facebook.com/montcofc



youtube.com/monticellochurchofchrist



**Web:** <http://montcofc.org/>  
**email:** [preacher.montcofc@gmail.com](mailto:preacher.montcofc@gmail.com)

### **Mailing Address:**

P.O. Box 485  
 2078 Hwy. 425 N.  
 Monticello, AR 71657  
**phone:** 870-367-3919