

## INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Luke 19:37-40.**
- B. Starting one week from today we have a gospel meeting with Hugo McCord. We must realize:
  - 1. We are anxiously looking forward to this endeavor.
  - 2. The success of the meeting does not depend on the preacher, or the song leader, etc., but
  - 3. On each one of us enthusiastically working together.
- C. There is a need for preparation:
  - 1. C.E. Mathews said, "75% of the VICTORY depends on preparation."
  - 2. We need to see the vital part preparation plays in achieving goals (Ezek. 38:7; 2Tim. 2:21).
  - 3. Remember the folly of the tower builder, and king going to war (Lk. 14:29-32).
  - 4. Failure to prepare spells failure. Apathy sets in.
- D. How to prepare for this meeting:
  - 1. Pray, Invite, be Excited, Encourage, and Plan.
  - 2. Hopefully we are doing these things, and not just inviting Hugo and sending out advertising.
  - 3. Goals for the meeting need to be set. Goal in acrostic is:
    - G - going ahead with a true purpose in mind.
    - O - only limited by desire to keep all obligations and objectives scriptural.
    - A - always keeping the heavenly goal permanently in mind.
    - L - letting God direct each footstep toward the goal ahead.
  - 4. Visitation is the key:
    - 80% of all sales are made after the 5th call.
    - 48% of all salesmen make one call and quit.
    - 25% make just two calls and quit.
    - 12% make three calls and quit.(This is why we announce again and again there is going to be a meeting.)

## I. A PART OF PREPARATION: **WORK.**

- A. This is the part we hedge on, but remember that nothing is accomplished without work.
- B. Our labor does not have to be spectacular to be acceptable.
- C. There is an urgency to our work (Jn. 9:4). After the gospel meeting it will be too late to work for it.
- D. Things everyone can do:
  - 1. Attend every service with your whole family.
  - 2. Sing with enthusiasm.
  - 3. Pray fervently.
  - 4. Invite neighbors, friends, and loved ones, (even strangers and enemies).
  - 5. Make it a point to greet people at each service.
  - 6. Invite people into your home before and after each service.
  - 7. Talk up the goal--200 each night.
  - 8. Do everything constructive and good that is possible.

## II. A PART OF PREPARATION: **ENTHUSIASM.**

- A. Scripture text: Lk. 19:37-40.
- B. So far everything mentioned is something of a factual, and systematic, but enthusiasm goes much farther!
- C. The Bible speaks of enthusiasm (Isa. 59:17; Col. 3:23; 2Cor. 9:2).
- D. Remember that enthusiasm is caught not taught.
- E. The secret behind enthusiasm:

1. Christ gave Himself for me (Jn. 3:16).
  2. The Holy Spirit dwells in us (1Cor. 6:19,20).
  3. The opportunity of living in heaven eternally (Rev. 21:7).
- F. Our problem is that we want everything -to fall in place for us, fall right in our laps so to speak.

#### **CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.**

- A. The title of this lesson was, "The Fever of Reason ," and that is enthusiasm!
- B. Let us build enthusiasm in our lives for this gospel meeting by doing the things mentioned.
- C. We must realize that the importance of a soul:
  1. We may not be able to care for all the sick, but there are hospitals.
  2. We may not be able to care for the benevolent needs , but there are social agencies to help.
  3. But we can save all of the world, with the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- D. Spend this week in prayer for the meeting.
- E. Spend this week working for the meeting.
- F. Work, enthusiastically!
- G. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.