

2019-5



REACHING THE LOST

FROM THE CHURCH OF CHRIST TO YOUR COMMUNITY



250,000,000
ALL-TIME CIRCULATION



252,279,723

**All-time copies of
House to House/Heart to Heart**

285,316 copies of the June Issue

119 congregations

2,615,744 copies of the July Issue

1,116 congregations

De Casa a Casa (Spanish HTH)

12,412 copies in May/June to

16 congregations

15,115 copies so far in 2019

All-time Spanish copies: **153,427**

New Movers Edition

6,281 copies in May and June

for **133** congregations.

71,674 all-time New Movers copies

Contact us to learn how you can get involved (call 877.338.3397, email info@housetohouse.com, or visit get.housetohouse.com).

Free HTH Websites

378 congregations

We are happy to provide a free basic website for any congregation participating in HTH. Please contact us to get your free website.

HTH has generated **115** studies that we know about in 2019 (about 5 studies per week). Send an email to info@housetohouse.com to let us know about an ongoing study.

Reaching the Lost, House to House/Heart to Heart, and Polishing the Pulpit are under the oversight of the elders of the Jacksonville church of Christ in Jacksonville, Alabama.

More left to do

We are excited that HTH has reached this milestone. Over a quarter-billion copies of HTH have now been distributed through the mail, via door-knocking, in newspapers, at state and county fairs, and at parades; some have even been smuggled into countries where the gospel is still illegal. We are excited that HTH has achieved this milestone. HTH has also been distributed in print in 90 countries, and it reaches more from the website. Truly, "your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world" (Romans 1:8).

There is more yet to do. According to the World Population Clock there are more than 7.7 billion people in the world, all of whom need the gospel of Christ (Acts 17:30). We want to work with you to reach as many of them as we can, and we strive to do it as effectively as possible.

In these pages, we hope you will find ideas that you and your congregation can use to make your evangelistic efforts more effective. We want you to be encouraged and inspired by the reports from the field.

We have new, exciting features at HTH, and we invite you to learn about them and participate in them. One feature now available is the ability to add a mailing list to to your current mailing to the community. If your congregation has a bulletin mailing list, for instance, contact us to get that added. We also encourage every participating congregation to add their members and friends and family to their mailing, as members often live outside the area to which HTH is mailed. You can encourage people to sign up to receive email updates and information at my.housetohouse.com.

Perhaps you are discouraged and feel that your efforts are not producing fruit, but, "let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart" (Galatians 6:9).

Luke Griffin

Director of Operations

House to House/Heart to Heart

Editors



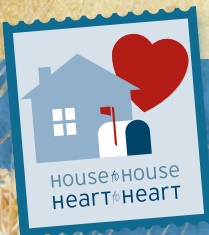
Allen Webster



Rob Whitacre



Luke Griffin



A Brief History of HTH



The deadline to send materials for the September HTH issue is:

July 15!

(Send NOW if possible)

When will I get the July issue?

The July issue is currently printing and mailing. Most churches' HTH should arrive between July 15 and August 15. Dated materials will be given priority.

What events go in the September issue?

Any event dated between September 7 – October 15 should go in the September issue.

- 2019** All-time circulation passes 250 million.
- 2017** Began publishing monthly.
- 2016** HTH adds the new-movers program.
- 2015** All-time circulation passes 200 million.
- 2014** First French issue is printed.
- 2008** All-time circulation passes 100 million.
- 2006** Single issue circulation passes USA Today.*
- 2005** All-time circulation passes 50 million.
- 2004** Issue circulation passes two million, passing the circulation of the New York Times.* HTH begins printing a Spanish edition.
- 2002** All-time circulation passes 20 million.
- 2000** All-time circulation passes 10 million.
- 2001** Issue circulation passes one million.
- 1998** Circulation passes 300,000 and all-time circulation passes three million.
- 1997** All-time circulation passes one million.
- 1996** Circulation increases to over 100,000 with 23 participating congregations.
- 1994** House to House Heart to Heart starts with one congregation and 1,000 circulation.

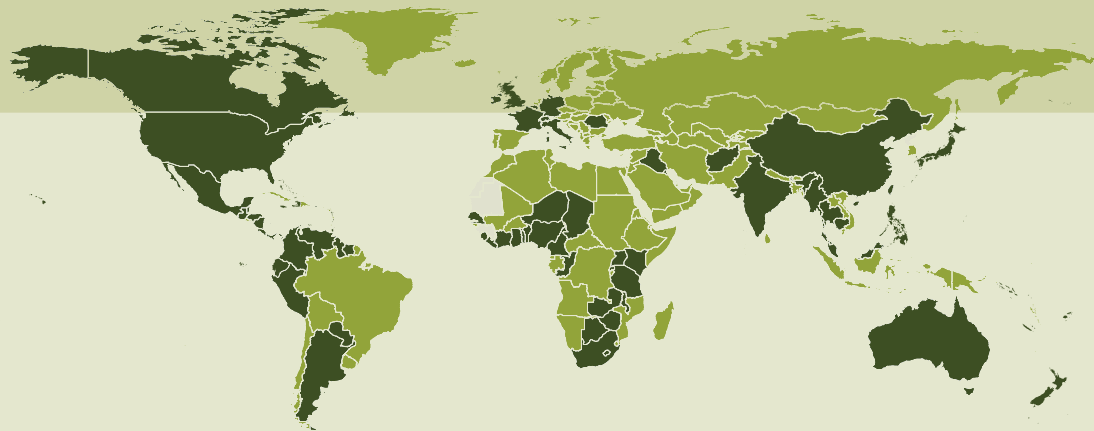
*NY Times and USA Today circulation for a single issue. It is not apples to apples since they are daily publications.



90 COUNTRIES

have received *House to House/Heart to Heart* in print!

- Print coverage
- Internet coverage
- No coverage





Good News Back from the Field!

Send us YOUR success stories.

We hear all the time, "Oh, I was going to write you, but I never got around to it. We had a baptism from HTH. We have a study going on. A member was restored. We added a family." Be sure to share with others in the program so all can be encouraged and be praying for success. Please call or email us your results.



Knocking Doors

We were encouraged on Saturday to see two Facebook posts, back to back, from two states, and two different congregations who use House to House. These congregations were out door knocking in their communities, following up with their mailings, and taking the gospel to their neighbors.

Take a look at the pictures. This is how House to House gets its best results in the local congregations.

Our thanks to Sullivan Village in Lawton, Oklahoma, and Bridge Avenue in Weslaco, Texas, for working for the Lord. Pray for them.



A young man named Ethan sharing the Gospel with some neighbors in Lawton, Oklahoma.



Cary Gillis, Araceli Ledezma, and Marc Anthony sharing the gospel in Weslaco, Texas.

Spreading the Seed in Scotland

"At the end of April, Janet and I went around houses in the neighborhood distributing copies of House To House, Heart To Heart."



Graham and Janet McDonald distributing copies with the congregation in Cumbernauld, Scotland



The congregation in Cumbernauld, Scotland

Contacting New Movers!

Damon Cook with the Normangee church of Christ in Texas called to say that he contacted the first of the 16 names on his New Movers list. The older gentleman was very excited that he had been contacted and said he had already received a letter from the church. He was "chomping at the bits" to meet with the preacher and members of the church. We had our first visitor Sunday who came from HTH delivered to his home. Before he





World-Wide Outreach

In addition to the English and Spanish editions of HTH, we now produce a French version with churches in seven countries so far. We direct mailed three issues into French-speaking households in Nashville, Tennessee. We have also printed several issues in Chinese. The tract, "What Must I Do to Be Saved," has been printed in Spanish, French, Portuguese, and Chinese.



left, he said he would see us Wednesday and that he thinks he has found his new church home.

Some Flowers Take Time to Bloom

While many plants generously display their flowers every year, others take their time before blooming. The kurinji shroub, native to southern India, blooms once every twelve years. When it does, it turns the hillsides a beautiful shade of bluish purple.

Stuart Melheim from the Celeste Church of Christ in Celeste, Texas recently called. They had a baptism from House to House two weeks ago. The woman got House to House the last time they mailed it, and because of that she visited them. She has been at every service since before finally becoming a Christian.

Here's what's special about that. The last time the Celeste congregation mailed House to House was in 2007.

This woman has been attending faithfully since 2007, and just became a Christian two weeks ago! The Celeste congregation was reminded why she first visited and called today to send out the July issue.

Sow the seed, and you never know when it will produce a harvest! Even if it's 12 years later!



The Kurinji Flower

Wonderful Results in Prisons

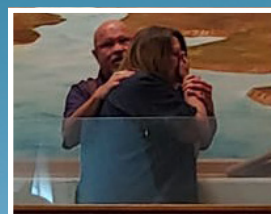
Charles Hunt from the Waynesboro church of Christ reports that he teaches a weekly Bible class at a prison in their area, and he has a Sunday night service for those who have been converted. He called us to say he has baptized about 25 in prison ministry since December. He said House to House has been a big part of it. He teaches them, starts them on our Bible courses, and leaves copies of HTH and tracts for them to read between classes. He said prison is the best thing that has ever happened to a lot of them because all they have is time to study.

"And you shall know, the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32).

County Wide Mailing and a Conversion

Five congregations in Chattooga County, Georgia, had an old school tent revival two weeks ago. To help advertise it, they mailed the March issue of House to House to every home and P.O. Box in the county. That's about 12,000 copies. They left off any church name and just said, "Come hear the gospel." March's main article was "10 Things I Wish the World Knew about Jesus," which was the perfect topic for this event. Eric Owens was the speaker— an excellent choice.

Robby Eversole reported, "Carol Hartline attended every night of our revival at the AG Center. We have continued to study with her and tonight we have a new sister as she was baptized into Christ for the remission of her sins. To God be all glory and praise." Carol told Robby she found out about the meeting when she got House to House.



Carol Hartline obeyed the gospel





The Campaign Trail

The campaign trail is designed to share news about our travel experiences. We learn a lot from our sister congregations as we meet with their elders, eat in their homes, and talk with the members before and after each lesson. It is one of the greatest blessings of our work and one we like to share with our readers. You may read about your congregation or about something we learned during our visit together.

House to House School of Evangelism is not just a one-shot stop; it is a comprehensive effort to turn a congregation into an evangelistic body. Those who enroll in our school may be featured in "Reaching the Lost" from that time forward. We want to know what works, and we want to share congregational successes. During the past year, we have travelled to the states of Missouri, Virginia, Arkansas, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and Texas training the saved to teach the lost. The following reports are given to encourage, train, and focus all Christians on the importance of personal evangelism.

Arnold church of Christ, Arnold, Missouri (January 18–20, 2019).

In our last issue of RTL, we gave a report from an elder about how the church members were applying what they had learned during the seminar. It was an impressive plan and now they are beginning to see the results. Here is a note from one of their deacons, Wayne Scrimsher: "Rob, Things are going well. We have just hired Michael Wyatt. We have had several baptisms; the secretaries can give accurate information. We have several studies going on right now. You guys seem pretty busy. Congrats on your son's baptism. I believe I saw that on Facebook or somewhere."

Madison church of Christ, Madison, Georgia (January 25–26).

This was our second stop for 2019. This is a small and relatively new congregation who already had a heart for evangelism. We were impressed as they told us about their current efforts to gain the favor of the local people (Acts 2:47). All they needed was some training and a plan. Below is a report I received from one of their elders, Butch Shepherd: "Brother Whitacre, thanks for following up. On Sunday nights after evening worship we are showing your DVD again to the congregation as some of them were unable to be there when you were there. Cary will go through the three Back to the Bible lessons together with the church when we are finished with the DVD. We are ready to go to work. Thank you and your family for your efforts, discipline, and hard work you all do for the Lord and

His church. I will certainly give you updates on our efforts. May God continue to bless you brother."

Timberville, Virginia (February 22–23).

"I just wanted to let your family know how much we all appreciated you for coming and sharing what you all do. I really learned a lot. Today I started sending cards out! I thought that was such a wonderful idea. I especially want to thank Nicole. I know it is hard for her to speak to ladies, but she did a fantastic job. Keep up the good work! Prayers to you all, Kathleen Gantt."

Heber Springs, Arkansas (March 22–23).

Mike Kizziah, an elder, wrote, "Hope you're doing well. And things are going well here at Heber. In fact, we will soon begin sending the Heart to Heart monthly newsletter to the mail zones near our building. After three months, we plan to have follow up house calls to see how the folks like the newsletter and invite them to have Bible studies. Meanwhile, we have already used your three-lesson bible study program to conduct some Bible studies."



Heber Springs church of Christ

Hope, Arkansas (March 24–27).

Although this was primarily a Gospel meeting, we were able to introduce some of personal evangelism concepts. In fact, the elders were so interested that they booked HTHSOE to come next year and train the congregation. Even with the limited teaching and influence we had during the meeting, we still received the following note: "Rob, thank you so much for recommending and sending the link for Back to the Bible. It was so helpful in teaching the gospel to my

neighbor, Phyllis Allen, who had been a Baptist all her life. I am happy to say she is now my sister in Christ, as well as friend and neighbor. It was wonderful seeing you, Nicole, Hannah, and Jared at Hope and getting those hugs. You're in my prayers as you travel and conduct personal evangelism seminars, which I know will result in many members added to the church."



Hope church of Christ

Ironaton church of Christ, Talladega, Alabama (April 5–6).

Visiting Ironaton was a special blessing. Among those attending was Ariel. She had learned there was only one church by attending with her husband (a Christian), but during the seminar she realized she was not baptized into that church. During the intermission, Beth and Kinley Goodwin saw her in the hall crying. She explained what she'd just realized; she then agreed to study more. So, we sat down with the last Back to the Bible (red) booklet and went over a few of the concepts that were compelling during the seminar. She never had questioned her salvation, and she was hurt because she had been lied to all of her life by very sweet and, she thought, sincere people. She came to the conclusion that she needed to be baptized into THE church, so she called her husband (who had to work this day) and we went right then. She now has stated the desire and is working toward the opportunity to study with her parents, family, and others she attended with at her former denominations. Cliff Goodwin sent this report on May 5: "Brother Rob, it has been two months since you came to Ironaton and presented an evangelism seminar. Needless to say, already the results have been encouraging! We have not been keeping records formally, so these numbers are conservative estimates. I would say that in the past two months our congregation has conducted approximately 20–30 Bible studies with at least 8–10 prospects and new members. We have been blessed with three baptisms, and we hope to begin

a new converts' class soon. Thank you so much for what you have done for Ironaton and for all you do in the kingdom! Sincerely, Cliff Goodwin.



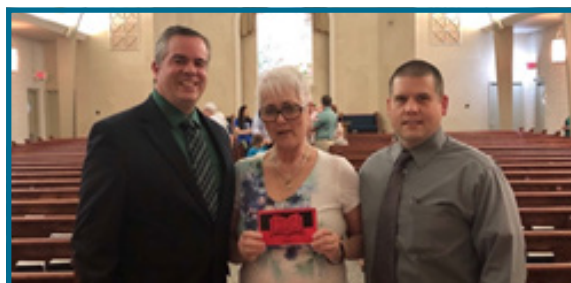
Ironaton church of Christ

Southwest church of Christ, Austin, TX (April 15–17).

One of our goals is to reach all our schools of preaching. Southwest is a special place as this is where I graduated in 1997. The attendance during this seminar was some of the best we have witnessed. During the seminar we learned that the leadership from the local Baptist church was attending. They loved Back to the Bible and took enough copies to teach their "church." (We hope the church will soon follow up with them.) An elder's wife, Midge Siebert, wrote, "Dear Rob...several of us at Southwest have been concerned that we are so caught up in the busyness of many good works that we have forgotten the most important work of reaching lost souls with the Gospel. Thank you for "waking us up."

Bremen church of Christ, Bremen, Georgia (April 28–May 2).

Bremen was one of the first congregations where we conducted a Personal Evangelism Seminar several years ago. This time they wanted an advanced seminar and campaign. In a campaign, we extend the seminar into a type of gospel meeting and preach Back to the Bible. In 60% of these we have conversions during the campaign! I want you to meet Rachel. On the last night, she

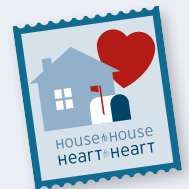


Bremen church of Christ



Helpful Resources

Check out these websites for study materials!



housetohouse.com



evangelism.house-to-house.com



365.polishingthepulpit.com





Contact us to help spread the Word to your neighbors.

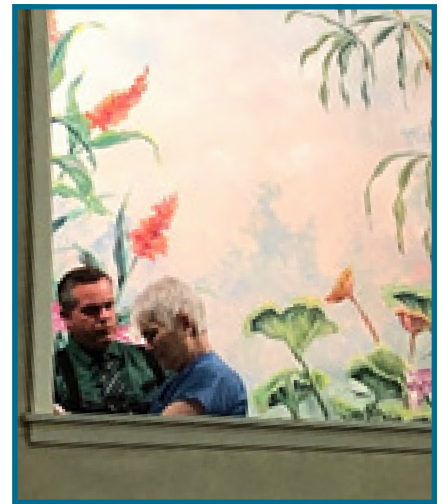
We often hear people say they do not have time to get the addresses together to mail out HTH. Well, there is great news. You do not have to! We do all that for you. We design and proof your piece, order addresses for your routes, and mail them directly into your community. You never have to visit the post office. The active part for you includes praying for the seed of the gospel as it goes out, following up on contacts, being ready when visitors walk through the door, and being willing to conduct Bible studies.

Let us show you how easy it is. Contact us today for a free consultation and instant mailing information that is specific to your area. Let's work together to reach your neighbors with the gospel. —**Luke Griffin**



came forward to confess Christ and be baptized for the remission of her sins. She lived her life in denominational error until that day. She was first contacted by doorknocking. Chad studied with her a year prior, but she was not ready to commit. We were able to water the seed and God gave the increase. She said Back to the Bible was so simple. I love to preach it! To God be the Glory!

What is even more exciting is hearing from those who are inspired by these reports. Here are few updates we have received:



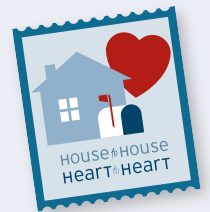
Breman church of Christ

Tim McHenry preacher for the Willette church of Christ, Red Boiling Springs, Tennessee, writes, "I am studying through your workbook. I must say that it really is excellent. Previously, I had been used to using the Fishers of Men" studies. They are similar to the Open Bible Study by Stewart. When I first saw the Bates material, I thought it was too skimpy to deal with everything that was needed. However, I must confess that using it now for the third time (two baptisms with the previous studies!), it does get to the point easier than the others. We have not yet baptized the person from the third study. He is stubborn, but we still hope to he will obey this weekend. Hope all is well with you all and that Hannah's therapy is progressing. Update: Since writing this note, Tim baptized Jimmy Gentry!"

Ben Giselbach, preacher for the Edgewood church in Georgia, writes, "We just finished watching your evangelism video Wednesday night. I wanted to thank you personally for making that video. It has encouraged the class far more than any other evangelism study I have taught. The video was encouraging especially to me. I have had studies with four people multiple times with Back to the Bible the past two weeks, one of which I baptized. Two others are still studying. I expect to baptize at least one in the coming week. Your work has been a motivating factor in regaining my focus as an evangelist. I've prayed for more studies, and so far, God has blessed me with them. Thank you for your influence in the church and for your work."

TJ Wakefield, elder at Lascassas church of Christ, Tennessee, and his wife Flora drove four hours from Lascassas to Adamsville, Alabama, to attend our PE seminar at the 7B lectures. The Wakefields are dear friends and great encouragers. Several years ago, he called and talked for almost an hour on soul winning. Shortly after that, he drove from Lascassas to Willette to spend the day studying and discussing evangelism. He later brought their associate preacher, Cody Boston, to learn more about how to reach the lost. He attends every PTP class on evangelism possible. He has baptized 15 people in the past couple years. He once told me, "Rob, never forget the best tact is contact." I am thankful for the example of older men and women who have not lost their passion to seek and save the lost. We love this Christian couple for their work's sake!

Soul Saving Strategies



IDEAS TO EXPAND GROWTH GET.HOUSEDHOUSE.COM

Taking House to House Hand to Hand: Fun and Easy Ideas to Evangelize

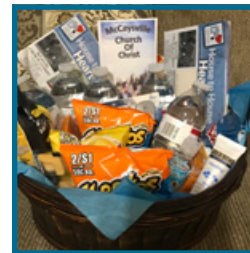
Your congregation is already evangelistic. You are praying for opportunities to share the gospel with your neighbors, you are reaching them with *House to House Heart to Heart*, and you are showering guests with love when they visit your services. Since you are always looking for additional things you can do to reach the lost who are searching for the truth, here are a few ideas that work for us. Add a few of these easy ideas to your outreach and pray for God to give the increase!

- Pause right now to pray for opportunities.
- Put House to House in the lobby of every business your members own. Couple their good work ethic and reputation with an invitation from the congregation they attend. Ask other businesses in the area if you can do the same thing.
- Contact the women's health centers in your area and see if you can make World Video Bible School DVDs "Abortion: A Woman's Right" and "A Woman's Choice" available for free. Include a QR code for all of the WVBS videos and your business card in each one.
- Contact the gun stores, pawn shops, and shooting ranges in your area. Ask them if you can give them the WVBS DVD "The Christian and Self-Defense." These will be popular with their customers and will encourage them to open their Bibles. Their popularity will be exciting for the store owners and will help you form a good relationship with them. Include a QR code for WVBS videos and your business card in each one.
- Create "Kindness Baskets" to leave in the waiting rooms at your local hospitals. Include bottled

water, snacks, crossword puzzles, change for vending machines, and some copies of *House to House*. When you go back to refill them every couple of weeks, you may be able to visit with someone there at the time and pray with them.

- Contact the funeral homes in your area and ask if you can keep them stocked with the tract "Death Hurts but Jesus Helps." Include your business card in each or stamp (or write) your congregation's information on the back.
- Mail or hand deliver the WVBS DVD "Why Are There So Many Churches?," the *House to House* tract "Is One as Good as Another?," and the *House to House* bookmark "Church History Timeline" to every denomination in your area with an invitation to discuss them.
- Use your church sign to offer free personal Bible studies and Bible correspondence courses by mail or email. You could say, "Have Bible questions? Let us help! Contact us for a free personal study."
- Like us on Facebook, invite your friends to do the same, and share our articles. Do the same with World Video Bible School, World Bible School, Christian Courier, Apologetics Press, Gospel Broadcasting Network, and other great brotherhood sites.

Go, shine your light, sow the seed, and invite as many as you can to the feast! (Matthew 28:19, 5:13, 13:3, 22:9). —Matt Wallin



The McCaysville church of Christ in Georgia shares a "Kindness Basket."

Upcoming Appointments

July 10

Valdosta Church of Christ, Tuscumbia, Alabama (Allen Webster)

July 12–20

Jamaica Mission Trip (Rob Whitacre)

July 10

Oak Hill church of Christ, Rome, Georgia (Allen Webster)

July 25–26

Power Lectureship (Rob Whitacre)

August 15–22

PTP – Sevierville, Tennessee, Evangelism Training (Pre-Conference)

August 30–31

Saford, North Carolina, Personal Evangelism Seminar

August 28

Dalraida church of Christ, Montgomery, Alabama (Allen Webster)

Keep up to date at evangelism. housetohouse.com

ANSWERS TO BIBLE QUIZZES

June

Bible Curses: 1. "Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them" (Galatians 3:10) 2. Gospel (Galatians 1:8) 3. Christ (Galatians 3:13) 4. Deaf (Leviticus 19:14) 5. Job's (Job 2:9) 6. Malachi (Malachi 4:6) 7. James

(James 3:10) 8. Paul (Acts 23:12) 9. Satan (Job 2:4–5) 10. Ecclesiastes (Ecclesiastes 10:20)

July

Moses and Egypt: 1. They had become more and mightier than the Egyptians (Exodus 1:9–10) 2. 7 (Genesis 41:30) 3. Pharaoh's daughter (Exodus 2:10) 4. He was beating a Hebrew brother

(Exodus 2:11–12) 5. Midian (Exodus 2:15) 6. Zipporah (Exodus 2:21) 7. Draw not near; take his sandals off his feet (Exodus 3:5) 8. He was slow of speech and slow of tongue (Exodus 4:10) 9. Aaron (Exodus 4:14–16) 10. A serpent (Exodus 7:10) 11. Put lamb's blood on the lintel and doorposts and stay inside (Exodus 12:22) 12. False (Exodus 8:22–23; 9:26; 10:23) 13. A pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by

night (Exodus 13:21) 14. The Red Sea (Exodus 14:21–22, 29; 15:22) 15. Water became blood (Exodus 7:20) 16. Land of Rameses (Genesis 47:11) 17. Levi (Exodus 2:1–10) 18. Egypt (Hosea 7:16)

August

Starts with the Letter Z: 1. Zacchaeus (Luke 19:2–4) 2. Zacharias (Luke 1:13) 3. Zadok (2 Samuel 8:15–17) 4. Zamzummim (Deuteronomy 2:20) 5. Zarephath (1 Kings

17:9) 6. Zaretan (Joshua 3:16) 7. "Zeal for Your house has eaten Me up" (John 2:17) 8. Zealot (Luke 6:15) 9. Zebedee (Matthew 4:21) 10. Zebulun (Numbers 2:7) 11. Zechariah (Ezra 5:1) 12. Zedekiah (1 Kings 22:11) 13. Zelophehad (Numbers 27:1–11) 14. Zeresh (Esther 5:10–14) 15. Zerubbabel (Ezra 3:8) 16. Zion (2 Samuel 5:7) 17. Ziba (2 Samuel 16:1).



Things to remember

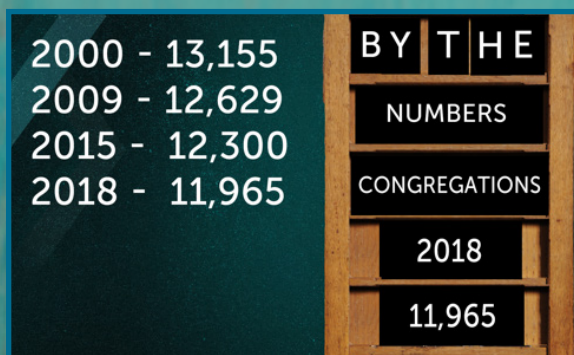
in all written communication with contacts:

1. A friendly greeting is the equivalent of a smile in print.
2. Give a sincere message of thanks for their willingness to study the Bible.
3. Send contact information, including email, phone, and mailing address.
4. Invite the person to services; include physical address and service times.

Evangelism Is Making a Comeback

ROB L. WHITACRE

The interest level in personal evangelism has never been higher in my lifetime. It has been well over 40 years since we have experienced numerical growth among churches of Christ in America. Currently we are losing about 18,000 members each year. Well over 100 congregations close their doors annually. The numbers don't lie.



Any business would go bankrupt if it experienced these numbers. If we want different results, we must not continue to do the same things. This is why we created the House to House School of Evangelism last year.

This is a full-time effort to focus congregations of our Lord on personal evangelism. Our school is unique, because we bring the training right to your doorstep. There is no need to travel and interrupt your schedule. At your convenience, we will bring training, materials, and experience to your eldership, pulpit, and members and conduct what some call a "Personal Evangelism Bootcamp." A total of seven lessons are offered. These provide a comprehensive approach to turning your local congregation into an evangelistic body. Elders are left a ten-point plan for church growth that revolves around local evangelism. The pulpit is given the training and tools to teach members how to get into and

conduct a personal Bible study. Training books, Bible study methods, and instructional DVD's are available for anyone who wants to become more proficient in soul winning. A congregation can even turn the seminar into a campaign where I preach all three Back to the Bible lessons in a Gospel meeting format. In over 60% of these campaigns, conversions take place. For congregations wanting additional training, we now offer six advanced lessons that sharpen the sword and further develop your skills.

HTHSOE is not teaching theory, nor is it just another evangelism class. This school is the result of constant practice and proven techniques/methods that have worked and continue to work in countless congregations all over America. This is why we publish, "The Campaign Trail" in each issue of Reaching the Lost. You can hear directly from congregations where we are training the saved to teach the lost. Accountability goes both ways. If what we are teaching does not work, we definitely do not want you to do it. In addition, and most importantly, we are practicing it personally while at home in Jacksonville, Alabama. We want you to meet Bettina Bodine. Her conversion is a direct result of applying the principles we are teaching at HTSHE. To open her heart, we used compassion cards. This is an easy-to-learn tool that allows a congregation to cultivate the local fields in search of good soil using a pen, card, and stamp. We asked Jacksonville members to send Bettina get well cards and to write encouraging notes. She received over 75 cards in a matter of weeks. This opened her heart and made the transition to a Bible study easy and seamless. We used the study method, Back to the Bible. She loved it and repeatedly told us how simple it is to understand.



God's Plan for Saving Man

Divine Love
John 3:16

God's Grace
Ephesians 2:8

Christ's Blood
Romans 5:9

Holy Spirit's Word
Romans 1:16

Sinner's Faith
Acts 16:31

Sinner's Repentance
Luke 13:3

Sinner's Confession
Romans 10:10

Sinner's Baptism
Acts 22:16

Christian's Love
Matthew 22:37

Christian's Work
James 2:24

Christian's Hope
Romans 8:24

Christian's Endurance
Revelation 2:10



During the third and final lesson of Back to the Bible, we paused, and brought out our chart on Mark 16:16. I asked her to check the correct reading.

As with almost every prospect she checked, "He

Mark 16:16

He who believes is saved and then baptized.

OR

He who believes and is baptized shall be saved.

who believes is saved and then baptized." Several minutes later she actually read Mark 16:16, and it is something we will never forget. She read it, just like she had been taught! "He who believes is saved and then baptized." We were surprised and asked her to read it again. It took three times before she paused, looked up, and said, "Well that is not what I have been taught." It was not an hour later, and she was at the Jacksonville church of Christ being baptized for the remission of her sins.

Congregations are booking our seminars and campaigns weekly. We get reports of conversions almost daily. Perhaps there is a restoration movement taking place among God's people when it comes to personal Bible studies. From 1920 to 1977 we grew by leaps and bounds. In fact, from 1947-1953 (7 years) we doubled in size. There is nothing Satan fears more than congregations of our Lord to focus on training the saints to teach the sinners! Our prayer is that someday soon, we will see churches of Christ begin to grow again in America, and if the reports we are seeing and hearing are true, it is not too far away!



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POLISHING THE PULPIT

... stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance (2 Peter 3:1).

AUGUST 16-22, 2019

Come to Polishing the Pulpit

This is PTP's 25th anniversary year. Come be a part of over 5,000 Christians getting together to sing, love, and learn. PTP is a spiritual prayer-cation for the entire family.

Want to come early? The pre-conference runs from Wednesday evening to Friday afternoon (August 14-16).

Can't stay for the whole thing? Come for the weekend. Spiritual Renewal Weekend starts Friday at 5:30 PM and runs through Sunday (August 16-18).

Better yet, stay for the whole week. The conference runs from 5:30 PM on Friday through Thursday (August 16-22). We hope you can come!