

IOWA DISTRICT NEWS



Iowa District of the United Pentecostal Church, International

Daniel Flemming, District Superintendent

Change

Rex Deckard, Editor

We live in a world of enormous change. Technology, medicine, and society have gone through dramatic transformations in the past few decades. If Rip Van Winkle would wake today, he would think that he was on a different planet.

Change is normal and natural. As we read through the Bible, the world of Jesus' day was much different than Moses' day, and much more different than Noah's day. However, change is not a problem as much as the *pace of change*. What used to take hundreds of years to alter is now happening in a few short years.

For example, transportation was almost unchanged for thousands of years, but in a few decades we have went from horses to trains to cars to airplanes to space shuttles. In education, scrolls finally gave way to the printing press, and books ruled for 500 years. Computers, iPods, PDA's and laptops are now quickly taking the place of books.

Most change is positive. However, sociologists

Tips for Successful Home Bible Study Teaching

By Daniel Flemming, District Superintendent

Home Bible Study teaching promises to be among the most rewarding times in your spiritual Journey. Jesus told His disciples on one occasion "I have meat to eat that ye know not of. ... My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work". (John 4:32-34) Jesus was simply saying the thing that really satiates my inner man is to be engaged in personal evangelism. Moreover, He said that personal evangelism is doing the "will of him that sent me." Sharing the word through personal evangelism will ultimately be both a satisfying and addictive experience.

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are telling us that the pace of change is happening so fast, that humans can barely 'keep up.' This may be the reason why many people feel so unsettled and insecure. They are longing for the familiar- for things that are unchanging- eternal things. What an opportunity for the Church.

We have a God, a message, an experience and a Book that is forever settled in Heaven. It won't- can't- change.

The old hymn says it best, *Why don't you hold to God's unchanging Hand? Hold to God's unchanging Hand? Build your hope on things eternal, and hold to God's unchanging Hand.* §

Here are some tips for the teacher. Keep in mind that each teacher will have his or her own style. These are principles of Home Bible Study Teaching that can apply across the board.

Trust the Word to do the work.

I have heard it said that "the more of God's Word that is put into a person before they are called to a point of decision the better the chance that they will make the right decision." I have found that statement to be true in my own experience because the Word of God works. My responsibility is not to change the person; my responsibility is to put the Word of God into their life consistently. While it is easy to suffer from what some call "destination disease," we need to fall in love with
See *Tips for Successful HBS Teaching* on page 4

Iowa PrayerNet

Susann George, Coordinator



toward the Lord. Pray that they would have a heart to work for the Lord and that there would be great friendship and fellowship in their lives.

MAY FOCUS

Apostolic Men

Our men need our prayers. We are thankful for the Iowa District men who are serving the Lord and working hard for the kingdom. Let's cover them with prayer this month, and give particular attention to the annual Men's Conference on May 16 and 17. Special prayer for Bro. Tom Menuey, the Iowa Men's Leader, would also be in order.

JUNE FOCUS

Marriages

The traditional, God ordained, marriage is under attack. Let's pray for our law makers to have a clear vision and direction from the Lord on this subject. Pray that marriages be preserved and strengthened not only in our Pentecostal churches, but everywhere couples need help in keeping their relationships intact.

JULY FOCUS

Singles

The Lord has a grand design for our Apostolic singles. Please pray that they would be content in their station and that their desire would be

Consider starting a 'Prayer Bulletin Board' in a highly visible place in the church. Keep material fresh!

GLOBAL IMPACT

Your prayer list should include Global Impact. This is a UPCI vision to see every District, church and department **DOUBLE IN A DECADE**, achieved by a 7% annual growth rate, involving the entire church in evangelism. As we bind together in faith for this plan, I know the Lord will open up many avenues for the Iowa Apostolics to be a witness in their communities.

Sectional Prayer Coordinators:

Section 1 - Sis. Pam Kinney

Section 2 - Bro. Mark Williams

Section 3 - Brother John Thompson

Section 4 - Sis. Charlene Kloster

Prayer Tour In The City.

Pile into a vehicle and drive around the city in which you live. Pray for different aspects of the city—schools, law enforcement, fire and medical personnel, homeless areas, rescue missions, crisis pregnancy centers, etc. If possible, finish your prayer tour at a location where you can view the entire city. Spend some extended time in prayer over the city, asking God to move.

Let the Children Pray. Yep, encourage your kids pray—for anything, anywhere, anytime! Pray for the family in need when an ambulance or fire truck drives by. Pray for missionaries you or your church supports. Place pictures of friends and family on the refrigerator or on the bathroom mirror as reminders to lift those people up in prayer.

Funnies

An old farmer went to the city one weekend and attended the big city church. He came home and his wife asked him how it was.

"Well," said the farmer, "it was good. They did something different, however. They sang praise choruses instead of hymns."

"Praise choruses?" said his wife. "What are those?"

"Oh, they're OK. They are sort of like hymns, only different," said the farmer.

"Well, what's the difference?" asked his wife.

The farmer said, "Well, it's like this - If I were to say to you: 'Martha, the cows are in the corn' - well, that would be a hymn. If on the other hand, I was to say to you:

'Martha, Martha, Martha,
Oh Martha, MARTHA, MARTHA,
the cows, the big cows, the brown cows, the black cows
the white cows,
the black and white cows,
the COWS, COWS, COWS
are in the corn,
are in the corn, are in the corn, are in the corn,
the CORN, CORN, CORN.'

Then, if I was to repeat the whole thing two or three times, well, that would be a praise chorus."

Upcoming events in Iowa

For further details, contact your Sectional Representative

May 16/17 - Men's Retreat, Ames

May 17 - World Changer's Day, Adventureland, Des Moines (Youth)

May 20-23, *Destination '08* Training, St. Louis, MO

July 30-August 1, Iowa District Campmeeting and Ministers' Training Seminar,

Polk County Convention Center, Des Moines

Speakers, *Doug White, J.R. & Roffie Ensey, James Guerrero, and others*

The next weekend, his nephew, a young, new Christian from the city came to visit and attended the local church of the small town. He went home and his mother asked him how it was.

"Well," said the young man, "it was good. They did something different however. They sang hymns instead of regular songs."

"Hymns?" asked his mother. "What are those?"

"Oh, they're OK. They are sort of like regular songs, only different," said the young man.

"Well, what's the difference?" asked his mother.

The young man said, "Well, it's like this - If I were to say to you: 'Martha, the cows are in the corn' - well, that would be a regular song. If on the other hand, I was to say to you:

'Oh Martha, dear Martha, hear thou my cry
Incline thine ear to the words of my mouth
Turn thou thy whole wondrous ear by and by
To the righteous, inimitable, glorious truth.

For the way of the animals who can explain
There in their heads is no shadow of sense
Hearkenest they in God's sun or His rain
Unless from the mild, tempting corn they are fenced.

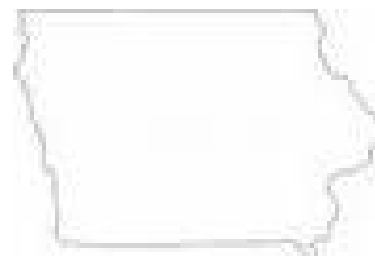
Yea those cows in glad bovine, rebellious delight
Have broke free their shackles, their warm pens eschewed
Then goaded by minions of darkness and night
They all my mild Chilliwack sweet corn have chewed.

So look to the bright shining day by and by
Where all foul corruptions of earth are reborn
Where no vicious animals make my soul cry
And I no longer see those foul cows in the corn.'

Then if I were to do only verses one, three and four and do a key change on the last verse, well that would be a hymn

Missionaries in the Iowa District in May:

Rev. & Mrs. Peter Gration, Papua New Guinea



the process of teaching the Word of God. Enjoy the journey and the adventure of teaching the Bible

Understand the ultimate and intermediate goals. The ultimate goal of the Home Bible Study is to make a disciple of Jesus Christ. Therefore, our focus is on more than just conversion. It has to do with "teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:20). The intermediate Goal of the Home Bible Study is to see God's Word become the authority in their life. You have maybe been in a Bible Study when the person challenges you by saying "well you say this but my friend or my uncle who went to Seminary says something different."

Don't get discouraged or become argumentative, just recognize that the shift has not yet come in who the spiritual authority is in their life. Their friend or their uncle is, at that point in time, still the spiritual authority in their life. At this point your natural tendency is to argue with the person and then walk away feeling satisfied that at least you won the argument. This is where you must make up your mind that winning the person to the Lord is more important than winning the argument. Just continue to teach Bible principles and show the Word to be relevant to their life. In many cases there will come a day when they will say, "you know my friend says this or my uncle says that but I am going believe what the Bible says." When a person reaches this point they are open to receive their own book of Acts experience!

Answer their questions with the Bible.

If a person asks a question in a Bible Study do not answer their question by saying, "well I think" or "my pastor says." Turn to a scripture and read it together and then ask them the question, "what do you think the Bible principle is in this scripture?" In doing this you are teaching them to think Biblically. By the way if you do not know the answer it is ok to say "I do not know the answer to your question, but I will look it up and come back with the answer next week."

Go the distance through persistence.

James 5:7-8 tells us to wait patiently for the coming of the Lord like a farmer waits for the harvest. The farmer cannot make the sunshine, produce rain, or force a seed to grow. However, he does not sit by and do nothing all summer during the growing season. He cannot do what God must do, but God will not do what he can do. The diligent effort of relationship building, planting, and watering through the Word of God is something we can do continually. This effort coupled with patiently waiting for, encouraging, and celebrating any measurable growth is the key ingredient for the persistence that will go the distance.



"Congratulations again to AYI's 2007 Youth Group of the Year Onawa. Pictured with the Onawa Youth Group is Shay Mann – General Youth President, Onawa Pastor Brian Kinney and wife Sis. Kinney, and the AYI Youth

Youth News

May 17 – World Changers Day at Adventureland

June 16-21 – Mega Youth Camp visit
www.apostoliceyouthofiowa.org for more info.

Pre-Registration by June 9th \$99 (Strict)
 After June 9th \$125

Speaker: Omar Jolly – Ozone Park, NY

Register Today, Space is Limited!
 Place: Jericho Hills Campground - Lucas, IA

July 31 – Youth Night at Family Camp

Aug 7 – One month until SFC offering date Sept 7th, 2008!

Need resources to help your church with their SFC drive? Visit our website for links to downloadable resources and more!

All youth events are updated in detail on our website. If people have any questions, please visit our website or contact their local sectional rep.

Youth Facts: Only 12% of people under 18 are coming to church in America. *Even worse, only 10% of these people continue going to church when they are adults.*

Ladies Ministries

Submitted by Susann George
Iowa Ladies President

The ladies wanted to do their part to support UPCI's Global Impact Plan, so our Iowa Ladies 100% Impact Club was unveiled at the 2008 Iowa Ladies Conference under the direction of Debbie Schmaljohn! We are absolutely positive that the Lord will honor this project and use it to help keep all our ladies on a unified course and will open doors for us to be a witness. We know each church that participates will benefit, helping their ladies to win souls and to stay motivated. The Ladies Committee is committed to helping our churches so if there are any questions or any ways we can assist please let us know.

We want to be of help with Iowa girls also and are continually working on ways to encourage them in the Lord under the heading of "Today's Christian Girl". Camptime will bring our first event for girls ages 10-18. It will be held on Friday afternoon, August 1st. Our TCG Committee is: Tammie Allison (Coordinator), Nancy Croteau, Danielle Menuey and Pam Spicer.

Daughters of Zion (DOZ) is a very important part of Ladies Ministries. This is under the capable direction of Deb Waits who will help provide material, ideas, and motivation in any way she can.

Let me just say how proud I am of the Iowa Ladies...they have a heart toward God. I am so impressed by the devotions they contributed to make up the Iowa Ladies 1-Year Devotional, 'Beautiful Things'...an awesome and inspiring book. Not only will it bless our Pentecostal ladies but it will make a great witnessing tool as they give them for gifts, and the funds we raise from the sales will remain in Iowa to help underwrite future projects.

All of this is just "women's plans" unless directed by the Lord. We covet your prayers as we labor in the Ladies Ministries department.

Kathy Streeter, Secretary
 Tina Underhill, Section 1 Rep
 Amanda Flemming, Section 2 Rep
 Deb Waits, Section 3 Rep
 Tammie Allison, Section 4 Rep
 Deb Schmaljohn, Section 5 Rep

Resources on the Internet

For many free and greatly reduced printing supplies such as postcards, business cards, magnets and others, go to:

www.vistaprint.com

For the latest in prophecy news, go to:

www.Endtime.com

For the latest in headline news affecting churches and ministries, go to:

www.thecronline.com

For the website of Terry Vik's drama team, go to:

www.terryvik.com

For Brother Deckard's web log (Blog), go to:

www.calvarydsm.blogspot.com

For the United Pentecostal Church homepage, go to:

www.upci.org

For a website for pastors, from Focus on the Family, go to:

www.parsonage.org

For the Iowa Apostolic Youth website, go to:

www.apostolicyouthofiowa.org



Section 1

Rev. Dale Hodge,
Presbyter

Section 2

Rev. Michael Daley,
Presbyter

Section 3

Rev. Rex Deckard,
Presbyter

Section 4

Rev. Alex Kloster,
Presbyter

Section 5

Rev. Clayton George,
Presbyter

*"If it falls your lot to be a street sweeper,
sweep streets like Michelangelo painted
pictures, sweep streets like Beethoven
composed music, sweep streets like
Leontyne Price sings before the
Metropolitan Opera. Sweep streets like
Shakespeare wrote poetry. Sweep streets so
well that all the hosts of heaven and
earth will have to pause and say: "Here
lived a great street sweeper who swept his
job well."*

-Martin Luther King, Jr.

*Rev. Daniel Flemming,
District Superintendent*

*Rev. Duane Bollinger,
District Secretary*

Rev. Rex Deckard, Editor

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