

The Role of the Church in the Community - Part 10

The community outreach strategy of Jesus: He won the confidence of the people

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing an exciting series of studies on The Role of the Church in the Community. Our topic today: The community outreach strategy of Jesus: He won the confidence of the people.

Scripture Theme Song: It is good to give thanks (Ps. 92:1-4)

- 1) How did Jesus win the confidence of the people?
 - a) He mingled with people - example?
 - b) He desired their good - example?
 - c) He showed sympathy - example?
 - d) He ministered to their needs - example?
 - e) He taught with authority - Matthew 7:28-29
 - i) He spoke from a living connection with God—unlike the teachers of the law. John 12:49
 - ii) He lived in harmony with His teachings, unlike the Scribes and Pharisees—Matthew 7:24; 23:3
- 2) Examples of godly leaders who won the confidence of the people.
 - a) Joseph
 - i) He served with integrity—Gen. 39:1-9;
 - ii) He served without complaining—Gen. 39:20-23
 - iii) He served with humility—Genesis 41:14-16
 - iv) He served faithfully—Genesis 41:55-56
 - v) He served with compassion—Genesis 47:20-25

- b) Daniel
 - i) He determined to honor God even in the small decisions of life—Dan. 1:8
 - ii) He was diligent in his study—Dan. 1:18-20
 - iii) He was given wisdom by God to provide supernatural guidance—Dan. 2:46-48
 - iv) He remained true to his convictions even when threatened with personal loss—Dan. 6:10, 18-28
 - c) Esther
 - i) She trusted in God in the midst of an impossible situation—Esther 4:16a
 - ii) She was willing to risk personal loss in order to save her people—Esther 4:16b
 - d) Nehemiah
 - i) He cared about his people more than himself—Neh. 1:1-4; Neh. 2:1-9
 - ii) He believed the impossible was possible if God was with them—Neh. 2:15-20
 - iii) He was willing to join in the work rather than just give directions—Neh. 4:21-23
 - e) The apostles
 - i) Acts 2:41-45 - they were generous
 - ii) Acts 4:32-35 - they were faithful to their mission
 - iii) Romans 8:28-32 - they trusted in God to provide
- 3) Lessons for our lives today
 - a) What lessons can we learn about how to win the confidence of those we are called to serve?
 - b) Share a story of people you know who have won the confidence of those they serve.