

## What Should You Say To Visitors?

By: Dan Jenkins

So, as you walk through the church building or when sitting in a pew you see a person who is a visitor. What do you say to them? It may be an awkward moment, but it is obvious that saying the right thing is so important. Below are seven ideas of what each of us can say to cause visitors to return again. These ideas are not original (I found them in a blog by Thomas Rainer), but they might help you become a person God can use in an amazing way.

**“Thank you for being here.”** Imagine the impact that saying these simple words would have on visitors to our services. Especially if they heard them many times when they come.

**“Let me help you with that.”** From the moment visitors arrive at our services, the warmth of these words can have a profound impact when they come. It might be helping them carry items into the building—purses, books, diaper bags, coats, etc. The fact you were there, saw their need and offered to help will not be forgotten.

**“Please take my seat.”** Covid-19 and social distancing have created some unusual situations. Imagine a family with two or three children arriving at services and are having trouble finding seats. It would be far easier for you or you and your mate to move to another pew and give your seats to them.

**“Here is my email address. Let me know if I can help in any way.”** These words spoken from your sincere heart reflect the life of Jesus. Newcomers likely have several questions you can answer.

**“Can I show you where to go?”** Visitors find themselves in a new place not knowing the location of restrooms, nurseries or classrooms. When you see them struggling, go out of your way to help them.

**“Let me introduce you to \_\_\_\_\_.”** Bring them to one of the preachers or elders. If you learn where they are from or where they work, make sure they meet members who share this in common with them. You will be amazed how “passing a visitor” along to another member will impact their lives.

**“Would you join us for lunch?”** Almost every week you eat out, perhaps with other members, inviting them to go with the group quickly introduces them to others. Our young adults do an excellent job in this area. Think of how often Jesus ate with others. Studies show what a great impact this has on those who visit.

What would you add to this list? What have you said to visitors which has impacted them?

Just put yourself in the place of a visitor and think of what could be said that will help them see Christ's likeness in the church. Let's work on this together.



---

## Many Will Seek To Enter And Will Not Be Able

Article Selected

Jesus “went through the cities and villages” of Perea and was “teaching,” while He was “journeying toward Jerusalem” for the last time (**Luke 13:22**). There were many things He needed to share with the people in these closing weeks of His life.

One message that resonated with “one” of His hearers was when Jesus spoke of “few” who would be “saved” (13:23). Perhaps this follower heard Jesus say, “Narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are **few** who find it” (**Matt. 7:14**). Perhaps He heard Jesus say, “For many are called, but **few** chosen” (**Matt. 20:16**). The response of Jesus is striking when the man asked, “Lord, are there few who are saved?” Jesus did not say, “No! What are you talking about?” In fact, Jesus emphasized the point even more.

The words of Jesus in **Luke 13:24** are sobering! He answered intensely, “Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able.” Jesus emphasized that the way to salvation is “narrow” (i.e., difficult to navigate), and that one must “strive” (Greek word is *agonizomai*) or “agonize” in every way to enter that narrow door. So, the first part of Jesus’ response to the man is affirmative: “Few will be saved!”

The second part of Jesus’ response in this verse is just as affirmative. Jesus plays off of the word “few” who will be saved and focuses

on the “many” who will not. Consider carefully what Jesus says: “Many (not a few!), I say to you (not someone else!) will seek to enter (a true desire and endeavor) and will not be able.” How sad! How tragic! How sobering! Many will seek to enter into heaven but will not. Why not?

Some seekers will not enter heaven because they have been deceived by human doctrines and are following manmade religion (**Mark 7:6-13**). Some seekers will not enter heaven because they do not have a love for the truth and have instead believed a lie (**2 Thess. 2:10-12**). Some seekers will not enter heaven because they think that their own goodness or the goodness of their family will secure their entrance (**John 8:31-59**). Some seekers will not enter heaven because they are led astray by the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches (**Matt. 13:22**). Some seekers will not enter heaven because they are gradually hardened by the deceitfulness of sin in their lives and don’t even realize it (**Heb. 3:7-18**).

This is no joking matter! This is no “the preacher is too strict” matter! This is an eternal matter that caught a man’s attention to ask, “Lord, are there few who are saved?” Jesus said, “Many will seek to enter and will not be able!”

---

## Upcoming Events

TODAY: Ron White will be preaching in the morning; Doug Jobs in the evening.

TONIGHT: Youth Devo after evening worship. Boys bring drinks and girls bring desserts.

Sun. 9/18: Ron White will be preaching in the morning; Kevin Sheeran in the evening.

Sun. 9/25: Ben Moseley will be with us all day.

Area Events (More info on the bulletin board in the hallway):

Sept. 25-27: Gospel Meeting with Mike Vestal at Mathis church of Christ

Oct. 7-9: Creation & Evolution Seminar at Weber Road

Oct. 15: Saturday Workshop for Bible class teachers at Mathis church of Christ Ladies Day.

Nov. 12: Bible Bowl 2022 at Weber Road

## Prayer List

Prayer Requests:

Please pray for our new preacher, Brandon Starling and his family as they prepare to come to Victoria in October.

## Members

Jeff Cannady, Les Daltry, Kin and Sandra Marie, Ann Pantel, Veronica Serenil, Clark Withers, Dee Gilpatrick, Faye Henderson.

## Service Roster

Week of September 11, 2022

### Sunday Morning

Scripture Reading..... Will Burleson  
Song Leader ..... Kevin Sheeran

Opening Prayer..... Ron White  
Closing Prayer..... Bryant Siegel

### Lord's Supper & Offering

Bread..... Ken Dorries  
Cup..... Doug Jobs  
Offering..... Dan Fielder  
Assist..... Jack Jobs  
Assist..... Willie Fossati  
Assist..... Luke FitzSimmons

### Sunday Evening

Song Leader ..... Kirk FitzSimmons

Opening Prayer..... Ken Dorries  
Closing Prayer..... Will Burleson

Lord's Supper & Offering..... ... Doug Jobs, Ken Dorries

### Wednesday Evening

Adult Class..... James Cammock  
Song Leader ..... Kirk FitzSimmons  
Devotional ..... Mark FitzSimmons

### Other

Prepare Communion ..... Nina Siegel

## Congregational News

### Birthdays

Cooper Siegel.....Sept. 11  
Sabrina Gonzales.....Sept. 17

Food Helpers for the month of Sept. - Team A.

If you have any prayer requests or upcoming events to be announced, please contact our secretary, Nina Siegel, at (361) 573-0030.

## Our Elders

Mark FitzSimmons  
Ron White

## Our Deacons

James Cammock—Evangelism  
Lupe Escojido— Benevolence  
Bryant Siegel—Education and Finance

## Weekly Reading

Do not be deceived: “Evil company corrupts good habits.”  
1 Corinthians 15:33

## Service Times

Sunday Morning Bible Class.....9:00 A.M.  
Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M.  
Sunday Evening Worship.....5:00 P.M.  
Wednesday Bible Class.....7:00 P.M.

## Attendance Records

Week of September 4, 2022

A.M. Bible Class.....55  
A.M. Worship.....85  
P.M. Worship.....54  
Wednesday Bible Class.....56  
Offering week of September 4, 2022.....3,353

## Supported Works

John & Carla Moore *Bible Land Passages*  
B.K. York *Southwest School of Bible Studies*

---

**midtown**  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

5901 N. Main  
Victoria, TX 77904  
361-573-0030

midtowncoc.org

**Weekly Communication!** To receive the *Midtown Messenger* and other congregational news to your inbox each week, please email [events.midtowncoc@gmail.com](mailto:events.midtowncoc@gmail.com).