

Sounding Forth the Word

The Work of Evangelism at
Blue Ridge

Evangelism in the New Testament

- The Great Commission – Matt. 28:18-20;
Mark 16:15-16

Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying,
"All authority has been given to Me in
heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore
and make disciples of all the nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20
teaching them to observe all things that I
have commanded you; and lo, I am with
you always, even to the end of the age."
Amen.

Mark 16:15-16

And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.

16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.

Evangelism in the New Testament

- The Great Commission – Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16
- The Early Church – Acts 8:1-4; 1 Th. 1:8-10

Acts 8:1-4

Now Saul was consenting to his death. At that time a great persecution arose against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. ... 3 As for Saul, he made havoc of the church, entering every house, and dragging off men and women, committing them to prison. **4 Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word.**

1 Thessalonians 1:8-10

For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything. 9 For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, 10 and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

Evangelism in the New Testament

- The Great Commission – Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16
- The Early Church – Acts 8:1-4; 1 Th. 1:8-10
- Individuals – John 1:35-49; Mark 5:18-20

John 1:35-42

Again, the next day, John stood with two of his disciples. 36 And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, "Behold the Lamb of God!" 37 The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. 38 Then Jesus turned, and seeing them following, said to them, "What do you seek?" They said to Him, "Rabbi, ... where are You staying?" 39 He said to them, "**Come and see.**" They came and saw where He was staying, and remained with Him that day....

John 1:35-42

40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "**We have found the Messiah**" (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus. Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, "You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas" (which is translated, A Stone).

John 1:43-49

The following day Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." 44 Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. 45 Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "**We have found Him** of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote--Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." 46 And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "**Come and see.**"

John 1:43-49

47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!" 48 Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." 49 Nathanael answered and said to Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"

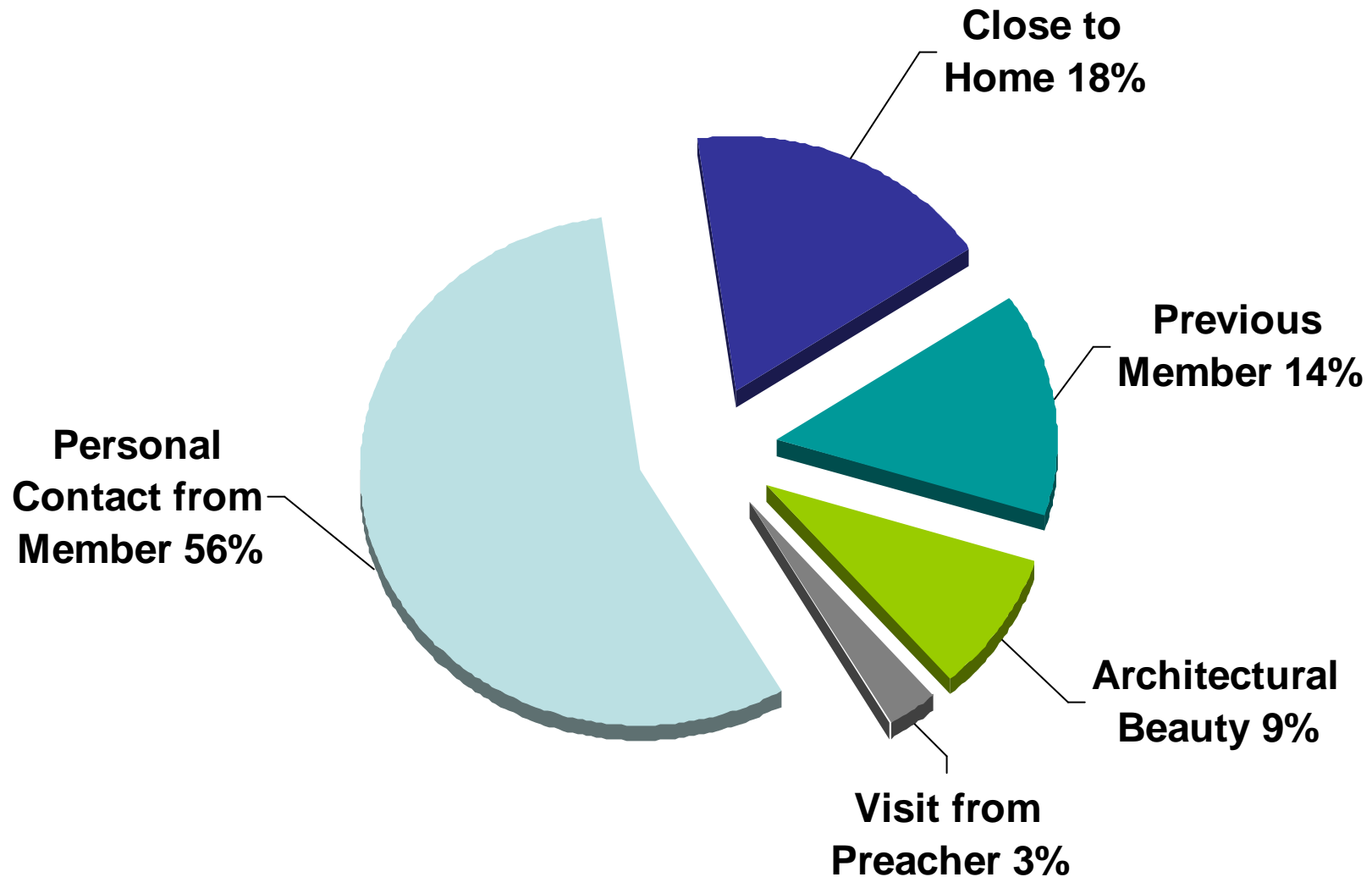
Our Congregation Spreads the Gospel By...

- Weekly preaching
- Bible classes
- One-on-one studies
- Bible courses by mail
- Home Bible studies
- Classes for new Christians
- Mailing invitations to the community
- Training of Christians to teach others
- Support of preaching here and elsewhere
- Starting of new congregations
- Other ways...

As Individual Christians, We Can Spread the Gospel By...

- Praying for the work
- Financially supporting the work
- Inviting others to home Bible studies or worship services
- Handing out info for Bible studies
- Hosting a Bible study in the home
- Directing a home Bible study
- Teaching the gospel to a non-Christian
- Helping ground a new Christian
- Baby-sitting for those who teach or attend a home Bible study
- Many other ways...

How Do People Choose a Church?



How are You Serving the Lord?

- By serving the congregation and brethren

Romans 12:10-11

Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; 11 not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;

How are You Serving the Lord?

- By serving the congregation and brethren
- By doing good works

Titus 3:8

This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men.

How are You Serving the Lord?

- By serving the congregation and brethren
- By doing good works
- By spreading the gospel

1 Peter 3:15

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts,
and always be ready to give a defense to
everyone who asks you a reason for the
hope that is in you, with meekness and
fear;

John 1:43-49

45 Philip found Nathanael and said to him, **"We have found ... Jesus of Nazareth...."** 46 And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, **"Come and see."**