

Feb. 26, 2014

Trying to Find Common-ground, to do Good News Ministry

By Fred Wilgenburg

Do you know the children's song, "the wise man built his house upon the rock...the foolish man built his house upon the sand?" Here's a YouTube link if you want to play it: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eu5bBDRpzPM>.

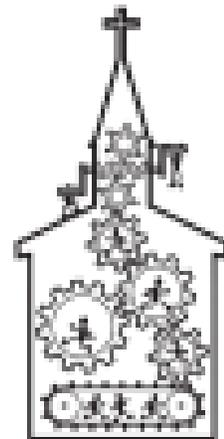


It's a good-old song, with words of truth taught by Jesus in Matthew 7:24-27. The 'rock' is Jesus' words, and His teachings.

Jesus' teachings and His work of salvation shared in the Bible are basic and foundational for believers, and for Christian ministries and churches, right? We can at least know we are heading in the right general direction if we are ultimately teaching that Jesus is the Savior for people from their sins and hurts.

A while back I was visiting with a friend/pastor about strategies for doing Gospel outreach in the neighborhood. In relational ways, ultimately the outreach we talked

about would share how Jesus heals us from brokenness and how he then teaches how to live a whole-some life. Wanting to be unified, I suggested that we visit with the other Christian leaders in the neighborhood, to receive their input and to share some of our thoughts for outreach. My friend, who holds the same basic Christian views that I do (sin>salvation>service), and who knows that neighborhood better than I do, cautioned me that some of the other Christian leaders won't appreciate that because they don't agree with the theology of sin and salvation, nor of eternity that includes hell, not that I would necessarily go right to the subject of hell, nor to the subject of sin and salvation, for that matter. He said they wouldn't agree with the



perspective that people may be broken and need healing. These leaders were not of churches with 'universalist' or 'unitarian' in their names, which would make the above concerns understandable. Rather, they represented Christian churches.

That is a challenge in this day and age, isn't it. As Christian ministries, we want to be about Jesus Christ, and the freedom and healing He offers, yet I'm hearing that isn't a starting point that we all can agree on. . . . Good reason for continued dialogue.

May God bless each of you as you navigate your way in your Good News ministry. May we each lean on God the Holy Spirit, our perfect guide!

More on Page 2 



These guys need to be kept busy—please donate your used or new bikes and bike parts to Center of Hope.

Bikes are in demand and we are low on supplies.

We are in need of **three to four people to sort and tag winter clothing.** We would appreciate it if you could come on Wed. between 11 am and 5 pm. Or let us know what would work for you. If you are interested please come to Center of Hope or give us a call or email or facebook



Work & Life Training Program is Center of Hope's latest program. This 16-week program covers the following subjects: Interpersonal & Communication Skills, Computer Skills, Personal Financial Management, Christian Worldview on

Vocation, and Resumes/Applications/Interviews. We are pleased to have a full class of 10 students being taught by 5 qualified teachers. Employers are involved as well, for their support, input, and to be recipients of prospective employees (the students).

What Does the Center of Hope do? We...

1) distribute winter clothing & bikes-for-work at minimal prices.

2) we meet most guests in our Care Center.

3) we do many Pastoral visits.

4) we have Restored 2 Life church, which includes Sports Night for many young men.

5) we have weekly Bible Studies.

6) we do Faith Community nursing.

7) we offer Journey Camp for children.

8) we offer Work & Life Training Program.



CENTER OF HOPE

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Center of Hope appreciates gifts made...

In memory of: Rev. Norman Menning

In honor of: Rev. Wayne & Tammy Sneller, Doug & Sherry DeNauí, Brad & Karleen Dykstra, Lowell and Glenda Bonnema.

As always, we are happy to have you on our mailing list. Please let us know if you would like to be removed from our list or have your newsletter sent electronically.

Address:

225 E 11th St Suite 101
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Phone: 605-334-9789

Fax: 605-274-0651

E-mail: info@centerofhopesf.org

Web: www.centerofhopesf.org

Facebook@: facebook.com/centerofhopesf