

July 14, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

On July 6 our church received the blessing I anticipated and then some when Tom Meyer represented Wordsower Ministries in our Sunday morning services. I met Tom a few years ago through Jason Nighingale at Northwest Baptist Seminary in Tacoma, WA. He offered to quote Scripture for the youth group I was then pastoring. He blew us all away that night with an intense presentation of the book of Jonah and an equally inspiring Q&A time following. Hearing him speak of the development of his heart for memorizing Scripture, particularly the Old Testament, and evangelizing, particularly to the Jewish people, was thrilling and motivating to me, my staff and the teenagers.

Flash forward to this year, Tom was seeking a church in which to speak while in town for the July 4th program at NBS. My pastor was scheduled to be out of town, so I proposed that we schedule Tom. He was an unknown commodity to the rest of the church, but I knew what a treat we were in for. God's providential hand became evident. Our church was preparing to embark on one of its biggest community outreach events ever on the following Saturday in which we were putting into practice all we'd learned about "lifestyle evangelism."

I asked Tom to tailor his message into a final motivating charge for that event. I loved his proposal. He chose to quote the book of Jonah; explain Nineveh's subsequent failure to share the good news they'd received and how it led to words of judgment from the prophet Nahum; then quote the book of Nahum; and finally to make the dual application of owning Scripture by memorizing it, and sharing it with our neighbors lest they remain lost as did Nineveh. Tom's delivery was fantastic. It not only blew us away, but motivated us to prepare our hearts and actions for outreach. Here are some of the comments I heard about Tom throughout the week:

- ⇒ Sarah O. (my wife) took Tom's challenge and memorized five verses by Saturday. She may not have quoted them to strangers, but she was excited and ready to share the gospel!
- ⇒ Debbie S. commented that her teenage boys were on the edge of their seats the entire message -- a first for that!
- ⇒ Carl D. was the voice in the crowd cheering when Tom said he was going to quote Nahum. It is Carl's favorite book because it shows the extent of God's patient love, but what God's righteousness looks like when it must act.
- ⇒ Mike O. went as far as to say this was his 2nd favorite service in the dozen years he's attended our church!

Thanks Tom for following God's special calling for your life. That obedience has allowed a blessing for a number of lives you'll only be able to count in heaven. By the way, the outreach event was a huge success on Saturday!



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In Him,

Reg Overstreet
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