

HEAR YE! HEAR YE! READ ALL ABOUT IT!
SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS!

In today's sermon our Spanish ministry pastor, Fredy Castro, shared some simple ways we can share the joy of Christ with others.

Fredy encouraged us to *tell* our friends about the blessings we receive as Christians.

Fredy encouraged us to spread the good news by a *good example* – by the way we live and talk.

Fredy reminded us to *be alert* for the people God places in our lives who need Jesus and his church.

Here are some more practical ways we can spread the gospel.

Be transparent (open and unashamed) about your Christianity. When people ask you about yourself make sure you include your relationship with Jesus and church. Then turn the question around, and ask about their faith or where they go to church. A door may open for you to invite them to church or home group or other faith based activity.

Bible verse: Matthew 5:14-16 -- “You are like light for the whole world ... Make your light shine ...”

Be hospitable to others. An invitation into a relationship with Jesus and his church includes an invitation into our lives also. Jesus called his disciples his friends – we expand this friendship circle by befriending others. (John 15:15).

Bible verse: Hebrews 13:2 – “Be sure to welcome strangers into your home. By doing this, some people have welcomed angels as guests, without even knowing it.” (CEV)

Be helpful and humble in serving others. Fredy reminded us that Jesus rubbed elbows with “sinners” and folks the world considered unsafe or worthless. Jesus encouraged his followers to take care of the sick, the homeless and those who are in prison. New Heights should be considered a place where everyone is welcome to come and learn about Jesus and experience his love.

Bible verse: Mark 2:16-17 -- When they saw Jesus eating with sinners and tax collectors, they asked: “Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?” And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”

Pray for others to come to know Jesus and God to open doors to share your faith. Have at least a couple of unbelievers you pray for *by name* every day. Ask others how you can pray for them. As you have opportunity, tell others that you are praying about the circumstances and troubles in their lives.

Bible verse: Matthew 7:7 – “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.” (NIV)

Invite others to church events and home group meetings. What could be easier? Have you invited everyone you know – certainly those you know well – to a church service or home group meeting? If not, why not? We have a bi-lingual service at NHCC next week. We will have an open discussion about prejudice and racism at that service. Invite someone!

Bible verse: John 4:35 – Jesus says: I’m telling you to open your eyes and take a good look at who is right in front of you ...”

Include your pastoral staff. If you find someone who wants to talk about the Bible, don’t hesitate to ask for help. We can help you with Bible verses and helpful materials. We are willing to talk to people with you if that will be helpful. We are here to help you with your ministry!

Wrap it up: Tell about your own experiences in talking to others about Jesus and church. What other ideas do you have? What has worked for you?

Discuss how you can put these thoughts into action. Pray that God will open doors of opportunity for you to share this good news with friends, family, and even strangers.