

# 2010 Fall Gospel Meeting With Various Speakers

On October 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, we had our annual fall gospel meeting. This gospel meeting was unique to our previous format for the Elders of the Wildercroft congregation decided to use local preachers for this meeting. The men chosen for this meeting were **Brandon Trout** (Southwest church of Christ in Severn, Maryland), **Rod Amonett** (Annandale church of Christ in Annandale, Virginia), & **James Baker** (Mt. Airy church of Christ in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania). These men did not disappoint. We were blessed to hear different speakers, preach unique messages, using various styles to deliver the truth of God's word.

On Thursday Evening, brother Trout preached a message entitled, "**Looking Above: Viewing The Church.**" This night, we had **77** in attendance. Brother Trout talked about how the church exists to honor God. The church is in place for God to make contact with man & for man to make contact with God. This theme has been continually displayed since the Garden of Eden. The church is a place & a people prepared to serve & worship God. Therefore, leadership is essential, for a crowd without leadership is a mob (**Exodus 32:1-5**). Brother Trout concluded by saying the church exists to glorify God. Is God pleased by the worship we bring Him? Are we ever concerned we may be boring God with our worship? Thank you Brandon for this thought provoking message!

On Friday Evening, brother Holloway preached a message entitled, "**Why John The Baptist Could Not Have A Church.**" This night, we had **90** in attendance. Brother Holloway explained who John the Baptist was both Biblically & historically. After this, **Matthew 11:7-11** was read to answer the question, "What kind of man was John the Baptist according to Jesus?" After hearing Jesus give the highest praise regarding John, it is amazing why John never built a church. In **John 3:27-36**, John makes clear why he never built a church. John did not have the authority to build one. John was not the Christ. John was not the bridegroom. John was a friend to Jesus & not an enemy. John must decrease, but Christ must increase. John was from the earth, but Jesus was from above. John was not the only begotten of the Father. Therefore, if John could not build a church, then neither can any other man, for Christ was the only one given this authority (**Matthew 16:18**).

On Saturday Evening, brother Amonett preached a message entitled, "**The Importance Of Miracles.**" This night, we had **93** in attendance. Brother Amonett talked about how the miracles are in the Bible so we may believe, but through these miracles, Jesus gives examples on how we are to reach out & respond to the needs of humanity. In **Mark 1:40-42**, the leper had no doubt about what Jesus could do. So Jesus touched the leper. Jesus touched a man who was deemed untouchable. Are we willing to touch the untouchables in our society? Remember: God is willing to clean us always. In **John 9:1-2**, Rod addressed the disciples' misunderstandings about blessings & cursings. As Christians, we must never practice selective evangelism & edification. In **Mark 9:14-29**, Rod made clear how all men must be brought to Jesus. We may have faith, but our faith may need help because at times, we don't know if it is all it is suppose to be. Finally, Rod went to **Luke 15:17-26**. We must understand Jesus displays His authority & reveals His greatness by helping us. Jesus is willing to forgive our sins & make us right with God.

On Sunday, which was the last day of the meeting, brother Baker brought 3 messages. He used the Bible Class period to talk about **Our Word Is Bond.** We had **85** in attendance. Are we keeping our word? If not, then we need to start doing so, for God keeps His word (**2 Timothy 2:13**). How do we keep our word? We keep our word by thinking more (**Matthew 1:20**), by saying, "I'll do my best" (**Mark 14:8**), by not playing Superman (**Genesis 42:37**), & by not waiting until it is too late (**Luke 14:32**).

During Morning Worship, brother Baker preached a message entitled, "**Woe Means You Are In Trouble.**" We had **117** in attendance. James eloquently exegete the text of **Luke 11:37-54**. After we all ate lunch at the Bladensburg Waterfront Park paid for by the sacrificial giving of Christian attendees, brother Baker concluded the meeting by preaching a message entitled, "**Redefining Marriage**" boldly defending the Scriptures against same-sex marriage. We had **77** in attendance.

If you missed this meeting, then you really missed some good, old fashioned gospel preaching. May God continue to bless the seed which was planted last week; may we continue to water this seed daily through our living & weekly through sound preaching; may God give the increase, & may the work these men do be blessed by our blessed Creator (**1 Corinthians 3:6 & Romans 10:13-15**)!!!