

B Epiphany 2 2010  
1/15/12

There were a lot of people who came through our doors on Christmas eve. Not only members but also friends and family.

And I've gotten to know many of them over the years. One of those old friends of the congregation who visits every Christmas and sometimes during the year showed me her watch and said, "*Hey I just want you to know, I still have my prayer dot.*"

There on the face of her watch was a little green dot, like the ones that are being passed out now.

About 7 maybe 10 years ago I handed out dots and encourage people to wear them on their watches or put them on their phones to remind them to pray about the ministry of Our Savior's and to tell others about our congregation.

The idea is that  
Every time you see the dot you remember to pray to God  
Every time someone else sees the dot they're bound to ask, "*what is that dot on your watch?*"  
And you can say, "*Oh that's a prayer dot. It reminds me to pray. I got it at church.*"

And then comes the really neat part...you can go on to say something like "*I love my church.*"  
then tell something about Our Savior's like:  
*We have a great Sunday School.* or  
*My son came home from confirmation really happy last night.* Or  
*We sponsor a student in India through our church.*

Or *Our choir is singing on Sunday*  
... whatever seems natural  
And then say...are you listening here? Then say  
*"Why don't you come and see?"*

Bing, just like that you are an evangelist! You are like one of the disciples! You are spreading the word without preaching.

All you have to say is "Come and see".

"Come and see" is no idle invitation  
There is power in those words.

To "come and see" promises an encounter with God.

In the Old Testament the deceiving Gibeonites thought they were going to "come and see" Joshua but unfortunately for them, they also met God's justice.

Psalm 42:2 asks, *My whole being thirsts for God, for the living God. When will I **come and see** God's face?*  
Psalm 46:8 says ***Come and see** what the Lord has done, the desolations he has brought on the earth*  
Psalm 66:5 says ***Come and see** God's deeds; his work for human beings are awesome*  
And later in vs 18 God responds, *I know everything they've ever done or thought. I'm going to come and gather everyone—all nations, all languages. They'll **come and see** my glory.*

In the New Testament, especially in the book of John "**come and see**" is not simply an invitation to meet Jesus but also implies

,  
to have faith in him,  
to follow him.  
to be transformed by him

In the gospel text today, (John 1:35-51) Jesus called his first disciples by simply inviting them to **come and see**.

A few verses (and a day) later, Philip invited his skeptical friend Nathanael to **come and see**.

They both became faithful followers.

After the Samaritan Woman at the Well met Jesus, she ran into town, shouting “***Come and see** a man who has told me everything I’ve done! Could this man be the Christ?*”

At the raising of Lazareth and again at the empty tomb the words, “Come and see are spoken.”

The amazing thing is that really is all we have to say. Come and see.

We don’t need to have all sorts of fancy word or theology.

Say the words and trust that God will do the rest.

Trust that in the end it is by the power of the Holy Spirit and by God’s gracious action

So I am giving you each a prayer dot and inviting you to put it on your watch or your cell phone and see what happens.

When you notice it, say a prayer and include me and Our Savior’s sometimes.

When someone else notices it, use it as an opportunity to tell someone 1 good thing about our savior’s and then say

“Come and See.”