

Sharing the Gospel at Food Festival

Story by Carol Savage

Photos by Karen Wallace



Participants at the Sausage Festival in Elberta answer a Bible quiz. A team from CC Fellowship Foley, AL, used the quiz to share their faith with over 100 people.

While helping with the aftereffects of Hurricane Katrina in the Bay St. Louis, MS, area five years ago, Joe Aldrete's heart was stirred. Joe felt a great connection to the needs, spiritual as well as physical, of the southern people impacted by the devastation. Two years ago, he helped plant a Calvary Chapel in Foley, AL.

This past October, Pastor Joe and other believers from CC Fellowship Foley reached

out with the Good News to attendees of the Sausage Festival in Elberta, LA. Many who had not understood salvation heard the Gospel of grace. The team prayed with a number of people.

Fifty adults and 15 teens from CC Fellowship Foley participated in the outreach, which took place at the one-day festival last October in a public park in downtown Elberta. The team used a 10-question Bible quiz in order to strike up conversations. The believers talked to over 100 people in a wide range of ages and backgrounds, according to Pastor Joe.

"Many people said that, at this point in their lives, they were not walking with the Lord. Many did not understand salvation," said Joe. When people were asked about their eternal destination, most were unsure. The team was able to pray with many people. Joe continued, "We told them that Jesus had died for their past, present, and future sins."

A woman who had recently received that joy and assurance of salvation was one of those who brought the Good News to the event. Formerly Joe's neighbor, the woman had been a churchgoer who became overwhelmed with trials and succumbed to alcoholism. When Joe and his family were preparing to relocate, he invited her to the fellowship. She began attending and surrendered her life to the Lord. "She is a new person with a new countenance," Joe said. "She came and shared at the festival."

Shaley Decker, a youth from CC Fellowship Foley, added, "It was an awesome opportunity to share the love of Christ with people who have never accepted Jesus into their hearts. It was really fun!"

"Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."

Mark 16:15b

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Pastor Joe Aldrete laughs along with someone who struggled with the quiz.

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