Date: 3/26/16

Title: In the Book!

Theme: Make sure your name is in the Book of Life

Object: Phone book, church directory, high school year book

Text: Luke 10:20 (NKJV) Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven.”

Here Jesus was talking to His disciples after they returned from a missionary trip.

They were amazed that they could cast out demons that were afflicting people and heal them.

But Jesus said there is something much more important to be glad about.

He said “Rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

The Bible describes a book in heaven called the Book of Life.

And everyone that is trusting in Jesus as their Savior has their name written in the Book of Life.

And when Jesus comes again, He gives eternal life to all those whose names are written in the Book of Life.

Well I brought some books with me today, and I want to see if my name is in these books.

Here’s the oldest book I brought with me. It’s over 50 years old. It’s called Shaleresque. It’s the year book for the Shaler High School class of ‘62. [Show picture, read name, show friends…] [Excited]: I’m in the book! I went to high school! I graduated! I had friends! I am somebody! I’m in the book!

Here’s another book [phone book]. I was so excited when this book came, I wanted to see if my name was in here. [Find name. Read name and address. I’m in the phone book! I have a phone! Anybody can look up my number and call me! I have an address! I live in Atkinson! Anybody can look up my address and come and visit me! I am somebody! I’m in the book!

Here’s the last book. It’s kind of a homemade book. It says: Haverhill SDA Church Directory. [Find name and address in that book.] [Excited]: I’m in the book! I’m a member of the Haverhill church! Church friends can look up my number and call me anytime they want! I belong! I am somebody! I’m in the book!

Now it’s nice to have your name in a book and be able to be part of a school or a town or a church.

And we can rejoice that we have friends and that we are somebody.

But what did Jesus say we should rejoice about? (That our names are written in heaven.)

Anybody can get in a phone book or a school yearbook or a church directory.

But not everybody gets their names written in the Book of Life.

So how do we get our names written in the Book of Life in heaven?

We have to love Jesus with all our heart and trust in Him as our Savior and Lord.

We have to tell Him we are sorry for our sins and ask Him to forgive us.

And because He died for our sins, He can forgive us when we say we are sorry.

Then we don’t have to die for our own sins, and Jesus can write our names in the Book of Life.

When Jesus comes again, only those in the Book of Life get to live with Jesus.

We will live with Him in a brand new world for ever and ever!

It’s going to be the most amazing place you have ever seen.

Are you interested? Do you want your name in the Book of Life?

Let’s ask Him right now to write our names there, what do you say?