

Truth

Magazine

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I AM RESOLVED

**For I determined to know
nothing among you except
Jesus Christ, and Him crucified
(1 Cor. 2:2, NASB).**



Truth Magazine

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While families bring great joy, they can create heartache. How should we react when sin and sadness invade the home?

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Someone asks, “Is it right to bribe people to come to congregational assemblies with the offer of money, food, or anything of value?” In other words, is God’s power to save found in the gospel or “gimmicks”?

SLING STONES

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“David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone, and he struck the Philistine and killed him; but there was no sword in David’s hand” (1 Sam. 17:50, NASB).



I Am Resolved

■ To SERVE

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Serving others is required for greatness in the kingdom and involves selflessness, sacrifice, and humility.

■ To STAND

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Disciples of Christ stand fast, not by standing still, but by fighting the good fight of faith; let us, therefore, resist evil and defend what is good.

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David challenges each of us: “Will you make up your mind to search the Scriptures daily so that you can become what God would have you to be?”

■ To SUBMIT

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God the Father, Jesus Christ the Son, and the Holy Spirit all expect believers to exhibit a spirit of submission in relationships in this life—in our families, toward government, in the workplace, and especially in the church.

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Those who live godly in Christ Jesus will inevitably suffer persecution, but with spiritual resolve, they can triumphantly overcome.

■ To SUCCEED

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In the parlance of our agricultural past, Jim reminds us, “If you want to plow a straight furrow, you’ve got to keep your eye on the end of the row.”

Dangers of Indecision

by Mark Mayberry

Jimmy Buffet once said, “Indecision may or may not be my problem.” Although we may not waste away in Margaritaville, we may squander considerable time and energy through indecision.

The American Heritage Dictionary defines “indecision” as “reluctance or an inability to make up one’s mind; irresolution.” In contrast, one who is “decisive” is “characterized by or showing the ability to make decisions quickly and firmly; resolute.” Instead of evidencing indecision, the people of God should be decisive.

The Problem

Evidences Inefficiency

When Deborah and Barak led the forces of Israel against Sisera and Barak (Judg. 4:1-10), the tribe of Reuben evidenced inefficiency: “Among the divisions of Reuben there were great resolves/searchings of heart” (Judg. 5:12-23, esp. vv. 15-16). In other words, while other tribes quickly responded, Reuben’s response was simply to debate and discuss the issue.

Evidences Disability

Before Elijah’s contest with the prophets of Baal on Mt. Carmel, the prophet rebuked the people of Israel for their hesitancy: “How long will you hesitate between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him.” However, the people did not answer him a word (1 Kings 18:21). In other words, they were unwilling to commit.

The Hebrew word translated “hesitate” means “to limp.” In some ways, the original translation offered by Simon J. DeVries in the *Word Biblical Commentary* may best capture the thought: “And Elijah drew near to all the people and said,

‘For how much longer are you going to hobble about on two crutches? If Yahweh is God, go after him, and if Baal is, go after him.’ But the people answered not a word” (DeVries, 223).

Evidences Hatred and Contempt

Jesus said, “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth (Matt. 6:24; cf. Luke 16:13).

On the one hand, the Greek word translated “love” identifies that Christ-like love in seeking the highest good of another person. The word translated “be devoted” refers to the strong attachment we must have to God, His revealed word, and His beloved people. On the other hand, the Greek word translated “hate” identifies a strong aversion to someone or something. The word translated “despise” means to look down upon someone or something with contempt. In other words, divided loyalty will not suffice. You can’t have it both ways.

Evidences Doubt and Double-mindedness

Hear the dual warnings of James about the danger of doubt and double-mindedness (Jas. 1:5-8; 4:3-10). In this context, doubt means “to be uncertain, be at odds with oneself, doubt, waver.” When messengers came from Cornelius, summoning Peter to Caesarea, the Spirit said, “Get up, go downstairs and accompany them without misgivings, for I have sent

them Myself” (Acts 10:20). Regarding the promises of God, Abraham “did not waver in unbelief but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God” (Rom. 4:20).

The word translated “double-minded” is descriptive of one who is “of two minds, i.e., wavering.” We must not waver, being tossed here and there like a piece of driftwood, or stagger like a helpless drunk, being uncertain about our spiritual convictions and commitments (Jas. 1:8; 4:8).

The Solution

By Joshua

Decisiveness requires full commitment (Josh. 24:14-28). At the end of his life, Joshua challenged the nation of Israel, “Choose this day!” Fear the Lord. Serve Him in sincerity and truth. Put away your foreign gods. Show genuine commitment.

The people affirmed, “We will serve the Lord.” However, Joshua said, “You will not be able to do so. He is a holy and jealous God. If you forsake the Lord, He will punish you.” The people responded, “We will serve the Lord.” Joshua said, “You are witnesses against yourselves.” They said, “We are witnesses.”

By Deborah

“The Song of Deborah and Barak” reminds us that decisiveness requires trust and demands prompt action (Judg. 5). What was the secret to this great success?

Each Must Do His Part: The leaders led; the people volunteered; the

Lord is to be blessed because He alone gives the victory (v. 2)!

Praise and Power: For all this, Deborah said, “I will sing praise to the Lord, the God of Israel” (v. 3). When the Lord marches forth, the earth and mountains quake, the clouds and the heavens drip water (vv. 4-5).

The Effects of Apostasy: During the days of oppression, highways were deserted, and travelers went by roundabout ways (v. 6). The peasantry ceased until Deborah arose as a mother in Israel (v. 7). Israel fell into idolatry: new gods were chosen. As a result, war was in the gate; no shield or spear was seen among 40,000 in Israel (v. 8).

Gratitude and Thanksgiving: Deborah said, “My heart goes out to the commanders of Israel, the volunteers among the people; Bless the Lord!” (v. 9). Let the wealthy and the wayfarers sing! Let those who divide the flocks at the watering places recount the righteous deeds of the Lord and remember what He has done for Israel (vv. 10-11).

A Call to Action: Awake, awake, Deborah; Awake, awake, sing a song! Arise, Barak, and take away your captives, O son of Abinoam (v. 12).

Fearless Volunteers: Survivors from the twenty years of severe oppression came to the nobles. According to Deborah, the people of the Lord came down to me as warriors. The tribes of Ephraim and Benjamin rallied. Commanders came down from Machir, along with those who wield the staff of office from Zebulun. The princes of Issachar were with Deborah; as was Issachar, so was Barak.

Fainthearted Deserters: Why did Reuben sit among the sheepfolds, to hear the piping for the flocks? Gilead remained across the Jordan. Why did Dan stay in ships? Asher sat at the seashore and remained by its landings.

Heroic Valor: Zebulun was a people who despised their lives even to

death, And Naphtali also, on the high places of the field (v. 18).

An Assembled Enemy: The kings came and fought; then fought the kings of Canaan at Taanach near the waters of Megiddo; they took no plunder in silver (v. 19), despite the beating of horses’ hoofs and the dashing of his valiant steeds (v. 22).

Divine Victory: The stars fought from heaven, from their courses they fought against Sisera. The torrent of Kishon swept them away, the ancient torrent, the torrent Kishon. O my soul, march on with strength (vv. 20-21).

Divine Judgment: “Curse Meroz,” said the angel of the Lord, “Utterly curse its inhabitants; because they did not come to the help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord against the warriors” (v. 23).

Divine Pronouncement and Peace: The song of Deborah concludes: “Thus let all Your enemies perish, O Lord; but let those who love Him be like the rising of the sun in its might.” And the land was undisturbed for forty years (v. 31).

By Jesus

Decisiveness requires pressing forward, despite difficulties and obstacles (John 12:1-29). Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany (vv. 1-2). The next day, He entered Jerusalem (vv. 12-15). Some Greeks who were going up to worship at the feast said to Philip, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus” (vv. 20-21). When this was reported to Jesus, He responded in the following manner:

The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit... Now My soul has become troubled; and what shall I say, ‘Father, save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose I came to this hour. Father, glorify Your name (vv. 23-28a).

At that juncture, a voice came out of heaven: “I have both glorified it, and

will glorify it again” (v. 28b). When the crowd heard it, some thought that it had thundered; others said, “An angel has spoken to Him” (v. 29). However, Jesus answered, “This voice has not come for My sake, but for your sakes. Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out. And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself.” He said this, indicating the kind of death by which He was to die (vv. 30-33)

By Paul

Decisiveness requires single-minded purpose and passionate preoccupation (Phil. 3:12-16). Paul said, “Not that I have already obtained it or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus” (v. 12).

The apostle maintained singular focus: Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead (v. 13). Finally, he was also goal-oriented: I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus (v. 14). Furthermore, he urges us to join the team: Let us, therefore, as many as are perfect, have this attitude (v. 15-16)! 🏆

Sources

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DeVries, Simon J. *Word Biblical Commentary: 1 Kings, Vol. 12. Second ed.* Dallas: Word, Inc, 2003.

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Contentment in Marriage

by Kyle Pope

“Many people lose the small joys in the hope for the big happiness”— Pearl Buck. What applications of this principle can be made to marriage?

Marriage was created to provide happiness, contentment, and companionship. When God saw that man was alone, He said in Genesis 2:18, “It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him” (NKJV). In spite of God’s provision, this is not always what happens. Divorce and adultery are common, leading many to unlawfully test relationships first by “living together” before making the full commitment of marriage. Far too often, we refuse to be content with what God has provided for our happiness.

The Lord’s church is not immune to this problem. Sadly, even Christians face broken marriages and try to justify unlawful unions. In the church, couples who were once happy face depression, fighting, or growing alienation from mates toward whom they should feel the closest. For Christians, this is a spiritual issue that can affect where we spend eternity. Because of this, we need to consider how we may attain contentment in marriage.

God Intends for Us to be Content

When couples are unhappy, we must remember that this is not how God wants it to be. Husbands are commanded to live contently with their wives. The wise man taught the husband to find satisfaction in his wife “at all times” and to be “enraptured by her love” (Prov. 5:15-20). Paul commanded husbands not “to be

bitter toward” their wives but to love them (Col. 3:19). Wives, too, are to be content with their husbands. Like husbands, wives are commanded to “love their husbands” (Titus 2:4). After her sin, God told Eve, “Your desire shall be for your husband” (Gen. 3:16).

In Bible times many marriages were arranged. Things are different now, but the charge to contentment is no different. Proverbs 31:18 describes the virtuous woman who serves her family, but we note “she perceives that her merchandise is good.” This may refer to the quality of the goods she makes or prepares, but I suspect it also refers to her attitude toward what she has. She is not discontent with her husband, his provision for her, or the things she possesses. She sees them as “good.” That is contentment.

What Causes Discontentment?

Unfortunately human beings often disregard God’s commands and intentions for us. In marriage why is this? What leads us to be discontent? Many things contribute to this:

The Entertainment Industry

Movies, television shows, novels, magazines, and the internet make money by portraying the most handsome men and the most beautiful women in ways that encourage discontentment. This is not a new problem. Older shows were equally guilty of this. By portraying ideal husbands and wives always making

the right choices, a godly, healthy self-image and proper view of our mates becomes damaged by unfair comparisons. Real life is more complicated. No mate makes all the right choices. Real people have flaws, blemishes, and wrinkles.

Now the thrust is often anti-marriage. When the media presents joy, happiness, and excitement, it usually does not place these things within marriage, but outside it, before it, after it, or when one is liberated from it! In truth, the grass is not “always greener on the other side.” This is a lie Satan convinces the world to accept. If all joy is outside of marriage, why do people continue to seek permanent companionship?

A Wealthy Society

In the past marriage was not just a decision of affection and companionship, but often a matter of necessity. How could you maintain a house to live in while you were working all day in the fields? How could you provide an income if you were taking care of your children all day? The wealth of our culture has presented us with options that were not available in the past. We see this in the care of widows. In Bible times, church support of widows was vital to the survival of Christian widows with no remaining family (cf. 1 Tim. 5:3-16). Now Social Security and generous retirement accounts make it rarer for this need to arise. While

this is fortunate, in many ways, it also contributes to attitudes in our culture as a whole that lead us to look at one another as if we don't need each other. A wife may not feel as if she needs a husband. A husband may not feel any responsibility to provide for his wife. This can contribute to discontentment.

The Feminist Movement

When the feminist movement began, it attempted to address abuses. It advocated equal pay for equal work, and to end mistreatment of women. Now it has become a pulpit for "anti-men" viewpoints. Modern feminism advocates pro-homosexual causes and opposition to traditional families. This has led to a mindset within both genders that says, "If I have problems in my marriage, I don't have to work them out, I'll take care of myself!" When these attitudes come into marriage, it leads to discontentment. Sadly, this has left many alone, bitter, unhappy, and struggling, both financially and spiritually.

Selfishness

The heart that is focused solely on its own needs, desires, and welfare is never content. It screams, "I want it my way!"—"I'll do my own thing." Men seem to have more trouble with this than women. I saw a study done some years ago that reported that for every 100 hours of leisure enjoyed by women men enjoy 141. What does that tell us? No matter how much they work, or how hard their job, men make sure they find time for themselves. It also shows (at least in marriage situations) they do this for themselves, but they do not seek to make sure their wives have time for themselves! That does not contribute to contentment.

This is not always a male problem. Men or women who come from homes where they have everything given to them when they get married find it hard to cope with a relationship that isn't like the home of their childhood.

Selfishness can manifest itself in how we treat our children. Are we more interested in our work than our family? Are we unwilling to give our family the attention they need? This spirit leads to discontentment.

What Is Contentment in Marriage?

How do we define what it means to be content in our marriage relationships? What does the Bible teach?

It is Not Acceptance with No Desire for Improvement

Christians are to, "consider one another in order to stir up love and good works" (Heb. 10:24). This is true of our relationship to our spouse as it is true of our relationship to our brethren. We should constantly work for the improvement of one another, but this is not accomplished by...

- *Bitterness.* Remember, husbands are commanded "do not be bitter" toward their wives (Col. 3:19).
- *Nagging.* The Holy Spirit declares, "A continual dripping on a very rainy day and a contentious woman are alike" (Prov. 27:15).
- *Unfavorable comparisons.* Paul taught that the speech of a Christian should be "good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers" (Eph. 4:29). The husband or wife who would say, "You sure aren't like so and so!" does not edify and does not impart "grace."
- *Withholding intimacy.* The Holy Spirit commands husbands and wives not to withhold affection from each other (1 Cor. 7:2-5). Using intimacy for manipulation and vindictiveness is wrong.
- *Threats and violence.* To threaten, "If you don't do it my way, I'll leave you!"—To tell a mate, "If you do that you won't touch me for a month!"—To raise a hand

against a companion is sinful, contemptible, and unjustifiable!

- *Talking bad about one another.* The virtuous woman was said to have had the trust of her husband because "she does him good and not evil all the days of her life" (Prov. 31:12). We do not help a mate to be better by spreading gossip about shortcomings to others.

Instead, we truly help each other do better by calm, objective communication with one another. We help by positive reinforcement of good qualities and actions, and loving, patient help to overcome behavior that is wrong. Husbands and wives must continue their courtship of one another. Paul taught that husbands and wives seek to please one another (1 Cor. 7:33-34). This can't end when the vows are said!

It is a Cheerful Adaptation to a Situation Even if It Cannot Be Changed

Paul taught that the Christian, by his relationship with Christ, can find contentment in all circumstances (Phil. 4:10-13). This must be true of marriage as well. When improvement cannot be accomplished, contentment must be a quality within us rather than some ideal situation in which to live. This is a world of tribulation and hardship (John 16:33). If that must characterize our marriages, the Christian is in a unique position to be able to bring good things out of very difficult circumstances, and in so doing, bring glory to our God. **TL**



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I Am Resolved

by Shereilyn Mayberry

“I Am Resolved,” a hymn written by Palmer Hartsough in 1896, challenges us—not only to obey the gospel, but to be more devoted disciples of the Lord.

In the hymn, “I Am Resolved” (#818, *Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs*), the lyricist speaks of being firmly determined to follow a course of action. This resolution involves a decision to walk worthy of God’s calling and “fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith” (2 Thess. 1:11, ESV). In Psalms 17:3, David says, “I have resolved that my mouth will not sin.” How will I resolve to come to Jesus?

I must set my sights on a heavenly goal versus worldly charms.

In Hezekiah’s day, a decree was sent throughout Israel proclaiming that the people should all come to celebrate the Passover to the Lord. This observance had been neglected (2 Chron. 30:5). They needed to manifest resolve and return to God. Israel’s sights had been on worldly delights and their focus needed to change to higher and nobler matters. Daniel also resolved that while he was in captivity, he would not defile himself with the king’s choice food or wine, but he would be given vegetables and water (Dan. 1:8, 12). He set his mind on God, instead of on earthly things.

I should resolve to follow Jesus.

No other one is a worthy Savior to whom I should be faithful and true. Paul determined to know nothing except Jesus Christ and to proclaim only the testimony of God (1 Cor. 2:1-2). We should emulate Paul. Also, I must listen to the Lord’s instructions and obey them, or like Israel, I will be

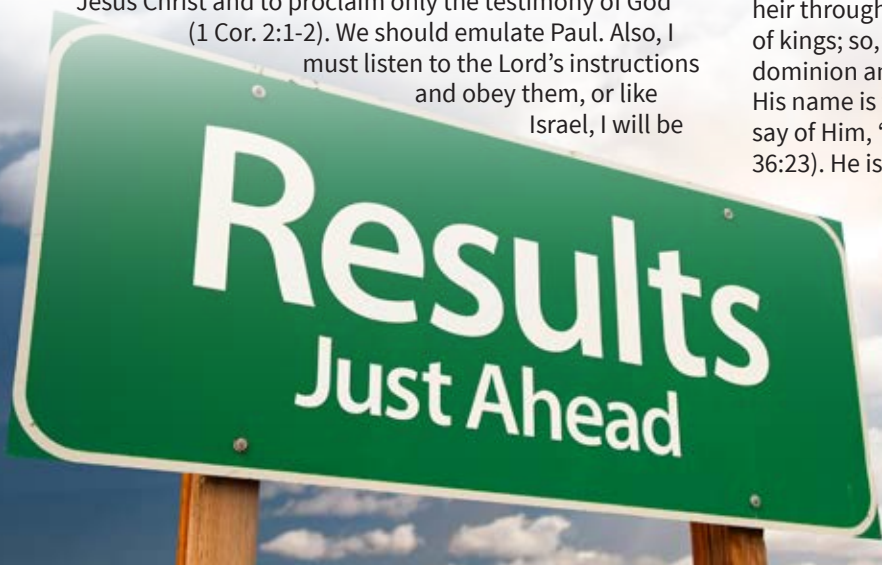
cursed (Deut. 28:58-59). Finally, doing the Lord’s will and following in His footsteps place me on the pathway to heaven. Whatever I do in word or deed, it will be done in the name of the Lord Jesus, for He is the living way (Col. 3:17).

Resolving to enter His kingdom, I must determine to deny Satan, evil friends, and enemies of the cross.

Unlike Israel of old, I must not follow the path of sin, and instead, should turn and repent. They pursued sin as a “horse charging into the battle” (Jer. 8:6). Wicked friends from our past may find it strange that we no longer run with them in their sin (1 Pet. 4:4). Enemies may speak evil of us and tell lies about us (Psa. 41:5-6). Let us count the cost of discipleship and not commit rashly, and then afterward reconsider (Prov. 20:25). Being willing to forsake all that I possess to enter the kingdom, I will press forward with resolve (Lk. 14:25-26, 33).

Resolving to follow Christ, I will hasten to Him without delay.

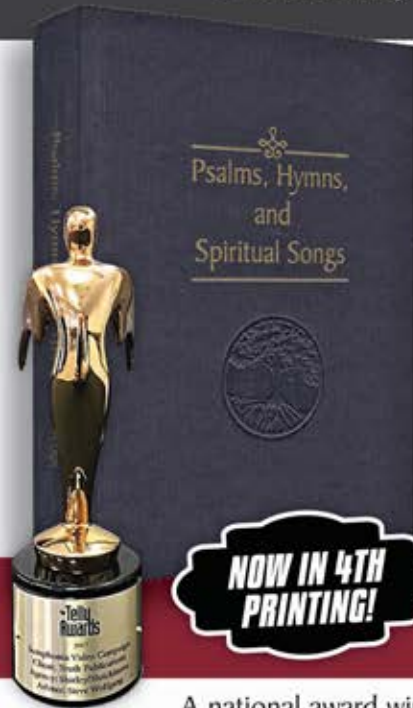
Turning my ways in obedience to the law of the Lord, I can find joy and freedom in Christ (Psa. 119:59-60). I am no longer a slave to the Old Law or sin, but a son and thus an heir through God (Gal. 4:7). Jesus is the Great I AM and King of kings; so, like Nebuchadnezzar, we should recognize His dominion and supremacy (Dan. 4:34-35; 1 Tim. 6:15-16). His name is to be revered among all nations, so all should say of Him, “I am the Lord,” declares the Lord God” (Ezek. 36:23). He is “Jesus, greatest, highest.” Come to Him! **T**



Shereilyn Mayberry

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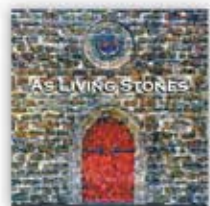
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Sermon on the Mount: Materialism

by David Flatt

Focusing upon Jesus' teaching concerning materialism, David encourages us to examine how the desire for wealth and possessions is a form of idolatry and recognize how such prevents us from getting to the kingdom.

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness! No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon (Matt. 6:19-24).

At this point in Jesus' sermon, He identifies an idol which has lured the hearts of people for many generations: wealth. He warns against the perils of devoting our lives to the pursuit of wealth.

Finding Contentment

Where can we find contentment in this life? At the beginning of this sermon, Jesus used a word which implies contentment: blessedness. We look for contentment, peace, and joy in many places. Some seek fulfillment through false religion and worldly philosophy. Some seek fulfillment through pleasure. Others seek fulfillment in wealth and

possessions. None of this satisfies the deep craving of our hearts.

The Bible is filled with warnings against the deceitfulness of wealth and possessions to bring contentment. The wealthy King Solomon wrote, "He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity" (Eccl. 5:10). This was as true in Solomon's day as it was in the time of Jesus.

Warning against the perils of wealth and possessions was a common thread of Jesus' teaching. For example, He told a hungry crowd, "Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled. Labor not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed" (John 6:26-27).

On another occasion, Jesus was rudely interrupted while teaching. A man asked Jesus to mediate in an inheritance dispute between him and his brother. Imagine having Jesus standing in front of us. Would we ask about something as trivial as money? This man did. He asked, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." Jesus replied, "Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does

not consist in the abundance of his possessions" (Luke 12:13-15).

Sadly, many have been deceived into believing that their lives do consist of the abundance of their possessions. As Americans, we dream for the day when we will be rich. The pressures of our materialistic society are quite profound. We will often drown ourselves in debt to have the latest and greatest, the biggest and the best. Typically, we measure success in materialistic terms. What is sadder is how our culture has corrupted the gospel of the kingdom with the hopes of earthly wealth.

The Fundamental Problem with Materialism

As has been previously discussed, humans were created to be the image bearers of God. However, idolatry has always hindered men from fulfilling this vocation. Idolatry, choosing to worship that which is not God, is expressed through specific acts of sin. The practice of idolatry deteriorates our humanness and ultimately culminates in death.

Materialism is idolatry. Materialism stems from misguided desire: covetousness. Remember the first commandment? God spoke all these words, saying,

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall have

no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments (Exod. 20:1-6).

The first commandment was a prohibition against idolatry. This commandment is the foundation of the other nine. Without abiding by the first, none of the others matters. Jesus makes the connection between materialism and idolatry clear: no one can serve two masters. We cannot serve God and mammon.

When reading this section of the sermon, we will typically say, “mammon is riches” and quickly move on to our next point. This is true; however, why did the scholars of King James use the term “mammon”? The scholars essentially left the word untranslated; however, mammon was the personified form of the evil deity of riches during the Middle Ages: the devil of greed and covetousness (Geller). These translators recognized that Jesus was teaching that materialism is a form of idolatry.

In what ways does this form of idolatry deteriorate our humanity? Paul explained, “But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs” (1 Tim. 6:9-10).

As Paul describes, serving the idol of money depreciates our

humanity by depreciating the image we have been made to bear in life: the image of the Creator (Gen. 1:27). This form of idolatry stems from an insatiable craving. People have allowed unrestrained desire to drive them to commit all sorts of mischievous sin to gain wealth. Remember, sin is the means through which idolatry is expressed. Sin causes decay which culminates in death. This certainly is what Paul indicated to Timothy regarding the result of the love of money.

Of course, Jesus was not teaching us that having money is sinful. Money is necessary for life. No one would dispute this. He identifies a specific form of idolatry which will keep us from fulfilling the purpose for which we have been created. He is warning us of an idol which will keep us out of the kingdom of God.

To what are we devoting our hearts? Where are we directing our love and desire? Is it God or mammon? With Jesus, it is all or nothing. Either we devote every part of our heart to God, and bring Him glory, or we devote nothing to Him. Our treasure reveals our heart.

Bearing God’s Image in a Materialistic Society

Unquestionably, we live in a materialistic society. The temptations of wealth are strong and relentless. What can we do to reflect the image of God into the world, while not being consumed by the idol of mammon?

Live Within or Below Our Means

Our materialistic society pressures us to buy. It is a bit ironic that we are referred to as “consumers.” We consume but are never satisfied. Often, we buy what we do not need, and what we cannot afford. Debt is a major problem within our nation. Jesus expects us to be responsible stewards of our blessings. Living beyond our

means is proof positive we are failing in our stewardship: proof positive we are being swallowed up by mammon.

Share and Serve

Covetousness is the height of selfishness. Citizens of the kingdom are to share what they have and help those in need. They should serve the needs of others. Worshipers of the idol of mammon are not concerned about the welfare of others. They are obsessed with themselves. If ever we plan to tear down the idol of mammon, we will have to learn to share and serve. This is what Jesus was trying to impress upon a rich young ruler (Matt. 19:16-22).

Trust God

In the battle over who we will worship, God or mammon, trust is at the heart of the struggle. In our society, we are told to trust in our wealth. Yes, money can help in many situations of life. It can soften the shock of traumatic events. However, money cannot be relied on to find and experience the blessedness of which Jesus spoke in this sermon. Only through trust in God can we know true blessedness. Paul wrote,

As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life” (1 Tim. 6:17-19).

This passage sounds like a commentary on Jesus’ sermon. To know true life, we must learn to trust in the true and living God.

Learn Contentment

Yes, contentment is a learned condition. Paul explained to the Philippians how he

had learned contentment throughout his turbulent life:

Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me (Phil. 4:11-13).

Living within or below our means, sharing and serving, and developing trust in God are all part of the learning process of contentment. This state of being is the product of focusing and harnessing our hearts. The heart of materialistic individuals focuses on that


which is not God and is unrestrained in how he vainly attempts to satisfy lustful cravings. Like Paul, our circumstances in life are constantly changing. There are times when we may have a lot. There are times when we may have a little. Those circumstances may be the result of hard work or time and chance. Regardless of the circumstances, we can always find contentment by being a citizen in God's kingdom.

Conclusion

Try as we might, no one can serve two masters. We will devote ourselves fully to one at the expense of the other. The devil tries to deceive us into thinking we can serve two. Jesus demands we wake up to the reality in which we are living and

make a choice. The influence of the idol of mammon in our society is strong and ever-present. We must constantly guard our hearts and minds against its pervasive influence; otherwise, we will find ourselves outside the kingdom of heaven.

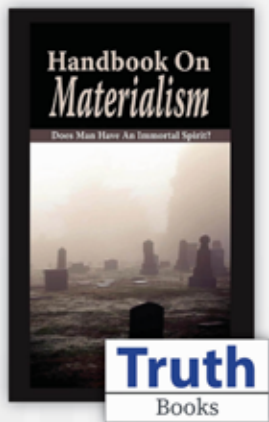
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David Flatt

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What About My Family?

by Mark Mayberry

While families bring great joy, they can create heartache. How should we react when sin and sadness invade the home?

Families are potentially a great blessing, but they can also be a source of considerable heartache. God instituted the family relationship, along with its roles and responsibilities, and His word should regulate our conduct (Gen. 2:18-24; Col. 3:18-21).

Rejoicing in Unity

How marvelous it is when members of a household share the same faith and devotion (Ps. 127 & 128). How blessed it is when faith is handed down from one generation to the next (Ps. 78:1-4). How wonderful it is when the wife/mother reflects the qualities of a worthy woman (Prov. 31:26-31), and the husband/father evidences sacrificial and sanctifying love for his wife (Eph. 5:25-27), and together, they raise their children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord (Eph. 6:4).

We should be very thankful for the love and encouragement that is shared in such godly families. Consider the devotion of Ruth toward Naomi (Ruth 1:15-18; 4:13-17), and contemplate the guidance that Timothy received from Lois and Eunice (Acts 16:1-2; 2 Tim. 1:3-5; 3:14-15).

Reality of Division

Some families are divided because of covetousness. Someone once said to Jesus, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” Our Lord reminded this petitioner about what constitutes an abundant life (Luke 12:13-15).

Some families are ripped asunder because of strife. It is better to live

in the corner of a roof (or in a desert land) than with a contentious and vexing companion (Prov. 21:9, 19; cf. 27:15-16). Husbands should love their wives and not be embittered against them (Col. 3:19).

Some families are destroyed by divorce. By dealing treacherously against their wives, the men of Malachi’s day thus covered the altar of the Lord with tears, weeping, and groaning (Mal. 2:13-16; cf. Matt. 19:3-9).

Some are shattered by infidelity: the adulteress leaves the companion of her youth and forgets the covenant of her God (Prov. 2:16-19). Job describes the sly conduct of an adulterer, saying that he scurries about like vermin (Job 24:15-16).

Sadly, members of a family do not always share the same faith and devotion (Matt. 10:34-39; Luke 12:49-53). In times of tribulation, many will fall away (Matt. 24:10), and families may even betray one another (Mark 13:12-13).

Regret over Loss

In reality, most families are affected (directly or indirectly) by sin, and some are destroyed as a result (Josh. 7:10-15; Prov. 14:1). In such circumstances, may we understand that the problem is Satan and sin, not God or His word (Mic. 7:1-6).

Heartache and Hope

Unbelief may be evident among our kin (Mark 3:20-21; John 7:1-5). However, we should never

lose hope, because with changing circumstances, faith may replace unbelief (Acts 1:14; Gal. 1:18-19).

What about the “worst case” scenario? In times of prosperity, many see no need to serve the Lord—until it is too late. However, if any of our loved ones die in a lost condition, they do not want us to follow them into torment (Luke 16:19-31).

How can we be happy, knowing that some whom we love are lost? Perhaps the answer is found in another question: How can God be happy, knowing that many of His children are disobedient and defiant? Let us, therefore, leave such matters in the hands of the Lord: “Trust and obey, for there is no other way to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey!” “God is love” (1 John 4:7-18). He is the God of all comfort (2 Cor. 1:3-4) who promises to wipe away all our tears (Rev. 7:16-17; 21:3-4).

Conclusion

Men and women are creatures of choice. We choose the path of obedience or rebellion, resulting in either a blessing or a curse (Jer. 6:16-19; 32:36-41). Yes, there is a high cost to discipleship (Matt. 10:37-39), but faithful followers of Jesus Christ gain far more than they lose (Mark 10:28-31). **TL**



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Editor

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Bobby L. Graham

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QUESTION:

Should We Bribe People to Attend?

Answer:

“Is it right to bribe people to come to congregational assemblies with the offer of money, food, or anything of value?” Our querist identifies a practice employed by a majority of religious people. Most of our religious neighbors, whether they recognize it or not, use carnal rewards to entice people to come to their gatherings. In many instances, the gatherings to which they draw them have precious little resemblance to the gatherings of New Testament congregations and amount to little more than glorified recreation events or entertainment sessions. Without biblical authority they seek to bring them to events like *Upward Basketball* or *Upward Soccer*, hoping to slip in some moral principle which will change their lives. Others use their fellowship meals as a drawing card for Bible teaching. A few others indicate a play time or a free meal, which they, thankfully, state is provided by individual Christians, to lure young people to study the word of God. What is the common element in all such efforts? Is it not the offer of something physical to generate interest in the spiritual? Is there a significant difference between any of these reported practices? While some represent congregational efforts and congregational spending, and others do not, the truth is that they are alike in that they depend on offering the carnal for stimulating people to participate in spiritual work.

At the risk of being labeled as old-fashioned and behind-the-times, let me state that this is not the right way to draw anybody to Christ. It was not the way He used

to draw them to Himself. It was not the way used by the apostles or New Testament churches to draw the lost to salvation in Christ. You will search your Bible in vain to find even one instance of such a lure or an attraction.

The gospel is the only power God gave for such work (Rom. 1:16). The teaching of that Word is what Jesus identified as useful for such an end (John 6:44-45). Even when Jesus was using miracles, He never used them as a carnal lure to draw a crowd, though crowds did hear of them and seek Him out. He used them to produce faith in Him (Mark 16:20; Heb. 2:3-4). When there was evidence that some were following for the loaves and fishes, Jesus admonished the guilty ones to “clean up their act” (John 6:26-27). Many today need to “clean up their act,” because they are encouraging people to follow for the wrong reasons.

It might be true that larger crowds come when there is a physical draw to bribe them, but it will take more of the physical—in ever-changing form and ever-growing measure—to keep them, and they will still stay for the wrong reasons. Only when the gospel is used as the sole filter through which hearts must pass to enter the kingdom of God will hearts intent on loving and serving God be drawn and strengthened to continue in service to God (Luke 8:11-15). Trust in the Lord’s Word is sorely lacking in many quarters. God’s people ought to have enough faith in Him and trust in the gospel of Christ to do the work for which He designed it that they will depend on it alone!

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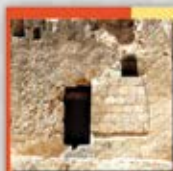
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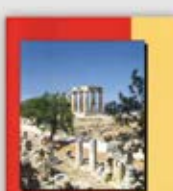
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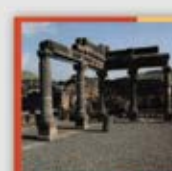
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Sling Stones

by Luke Chandler

“David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone, and he struck the Philistine and killed him; but there was no sword in David’s hand” (1 Sam. 17:50, NASB).

Sling stones are well-known weapons from biblical times—easy and cheap to make. With a sling, these stones could be hurled at high velocity. Since ancient times, Middle Eastern shepherds have carried slings and stones to protect flocks from predators.

Slingers were ancient snipers, pelting an enemy with large-caliber rounds that impacted at up to 60 or 70 miles per hour. At this velocity, sling stones could break bones and damage weapons, creating fear and disrupting formations. Groups of slingers could concentrate on specific sections of an enemy line, creating gaps for infantry or cavalry to exploit.

The Bible mentions military units that were composed of slingers. David had a number of ambidextrous slingers among his men while living in Ziklag (1 Chron. 12:1-7). King Uzziah of Judah prepared weapons, including “stones for slinging” for his army (2 Chron. 26:14). Jehoshaphat’s forces contained a corps of slingers when he attempted to put down the Moabite rebellion (2 Kings 3:25).

Details from the Benjamite War indicate how effective ancient slingers could be. A unit of 700 experienced, left-handed slingers from Benjamin helped to inflict some 40,000 casualties on the opposing Israelite forces (Judg. 20:15-25). Slingshotting with the left hand may have offered a tactical advantage under certain conditions since the stones

would have an angle of attack toward the defenders’ unshielded right side.

Enemies of Israel and Judah also utilized slingers. The Assyrian king, Sennacherib, portrays them attacking Judah in the famous “Siege of Lachish” panels that decorated his palace. The Assyrian slingers would have sniped defenders on the walls and provided covering fire for advancing infantry and siege equipment.

The best-known slinger in history is likely David, who not only showed faith and courage against Goliath but also was tactically smart. Goliath was equipped with weapons and heavy armor for close-in combat, so David turned the fight into a ranged battle with his sling. David stayed outside the range of the Philistine’s long thrusting spear and fired his large-caliber stone with deadly accuracy. Ironically, this most famous of slingers substituted brook pebbles in place of properly worked sling stones (1 Sam. 17)

Sling stones are common discoveries in Mediterranean archaeology. I have personally seen more than three dozen unearthed at in the past nine years. In the Israelite period, sling stones were usually around the size of a tennis ball. Soldiers shaped them with tools to be spherical and balanced, which helped them fly straight and fully direct kinetic energy into the target upon impact. In Goliath’s case, a sling stone cracked the bones in his forehead and concussed, or even damaged,

his brain, causing him to collapse. Goliath was helpless when David neared to finish him off with a sword.

Archaeology provides glimpses into the history of sling technology. Centuries before Israel, Canaanite warriors sometimes battled by slinging small clay balls. We have excavated ancient walls and door frames covered with these high-velocity clay rounds, evidence of some long-forgotten battle. Archaeologists nicknamed them “Hershey’s Kisses” for the way the high-speed impact altered their shape

In Greek and Roman times, soldiers upgraded from worked stones to lead bullets made in standard molds. Some Greek and Roman soldiers inscribed their sling bullets with taunts, in the same way, modern airmen write messages on bombs, which made them double as psychological weapons. Examples of sling bullet inscriptions in Greek are DEXAI (“take this”), AIMA (“blood”), and PAPA! (“ouch”).³

Archaeology provides a sharper understanding of biblical people and events. In light of what we learn about sling stones, the story of David and Goliath emphasizes our need for wisdom. David faced his opponent with faith and courage, but he also made responsible decisions on how to act. In the same way, our faith in God must be joined with wise actions. “Look carefully how you walk, not as unwise but as wise” (Eph. 5:15, ESV).



Assyrian slingers on Lachish panels.

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Luke Chandler

Luke has worked with the North Terrace Church of Christ in the Tampa, Florida area for 12 years and has worked with archaeological expeditions in Israel for 9 years. He and his wife, Melanie, have 5 children. His website is lukechandler.wordpress.com. He can be reached at lukechandler@verizon.net.



Sling and sling stones from the British Museum.



Laura Grace Chandler with newly excavated sling stone.

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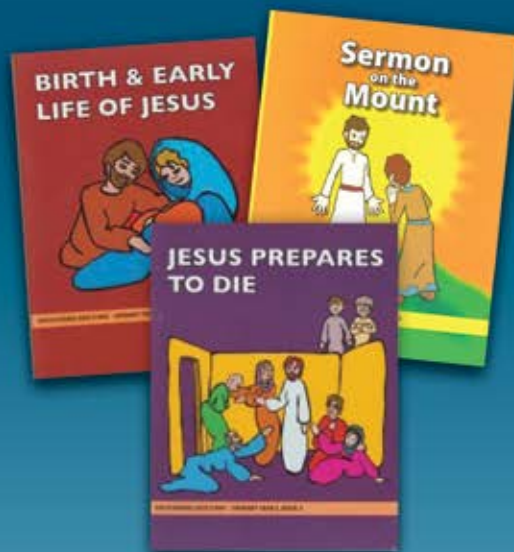


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Discovering



To Serve

by Allen Dvorak

Serving others is required for greatness in the kingdom and involves selflessness, sacrifice, and humility.

During His public ministry, Jesus taught His chosen disciples many things about being citizens of the coming kingdom, but it seems that they had difficulty with one basic concept—the nature of greatness in the kingdom.

On one occasion, Jesus and the twelve passed through Galilee from the mount of transfiguration to the city of Capernaum. On the way, the twelve argued among themselves. When they reached the house in Capernaum, Jesus asked them about the subject of their discussion. Perhaps embarrassed, they didn't answer because they had been arguing about who would be the greatest in the kingdom (Mark 9:33-37). Jesus answered their question for them: "If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all" (v. 35). It is probable that His answer surprised them!

However, that wasn't the end of the matter. As Jesus traveled to Jerusalem with His disciples for the last time, the mother of James and John brought her two sons to Jesus and requested a favor from Him. She wanted her sons to sit

closest to Him, on His right hand, and His left hand, in the kingdom, i.e., she wanted her sons to have positions of honor in the coming kingdom (Matt. 20:20-28). When the other ten apostles heard of the request, they were indignant with James and John who were apparently behind their mother's request. Likely, the other apostles were upset that the sons of Zebedee had "beaten them to the punch!" Mark's parallel account shows that Jesus used the occasion to emphasize to the apostles how their relationship to one another was to differ from the way that "the rulers of the Gentiles" lorded it over their citizens. "Whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all" (Mark 10:43-44). In that way, they would be like their Master who "came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (v. 45).

During the passion week, Jesus pronounced several woes against the scribes and Pharisees (Matt. 23). He described them as loving the attention of others and seeking honor for themselves. In contrast, Jesus

instructed the disciples not to seek titles/accolades that elevated them above their fellows. He said, "The greatest among you shall be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted" (vv. 11-12).

A few days later, Jesus observed the Passover with His apostles on the night of His betrayal. In the previous weeks, Jesus had informed the apostles of the events soon to transpire—His betrayal to the Jewish leaders, His death at the hands of the Gentiles and His subsequent resurrection (Matt. 20:17-19). The mood at the supper appears to have been somber. Jesus informed the apostles that one of them would betray Him (Luke 22:14-23). It is amazing that, in these circumstances, the apostles once again disputed among themselves "as to which of them was to be regarded as the greatest" (Luke 22:24)!

John's gospel doesn't record this Passover observance, but tells the story of Jesus washing the apostles' feet on that same night (John 13). The apostles' surprise at His action is seen in Peter's initial refusal to



allow his feet to be washed (v. 8). That was a task usually reserved for servants or slaves—not appropriate for the Master! I suspect that Jesus’ actions were prompted by the continuing competition among the apostles to be considered the “greatest” in the kingdom. When He had finished washing their feet, Jesus said to them,

Do you understand what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him (John 13:12-16, ESV).

It certainly seems that the apostles were slow to learn the lesson of greatness in the kingdom. Yet, perhaps we shouldn’t judge them too harshly; it seems that disciples today sometimes have trouble with the same principle. In the business world, the person who climbs the corporate ladder to a position of authority over many people is considered a success. Although we definitely can find public examples of people who serve others, common opinion in our culture is that serving someone else is humiliating or degrading. “I want to be served, not to serve.” In contrast, as kingdom citizens, we need to use what God has given us to serve others, “as good stewards of God’s varied grace” (1 Peter 4:10, ESV).

Serving Involves Selflessness

Every moment of time, every ounce of energy, every cent spent in the service of another is just that much that cannot be spent on oneself. Those committed to serving others have decided to put the needs of others before their own. I am not suggesting that disciples must neglect themselves, but Paul (the Holy Spirit!) said it well, “Let each of you look not

only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others” (Phil. 2:4).

The planned evening at home may end up being a visit to the hospital or taking food to someone who is sick. A Saturday off from work may turn into a day of work for someone unable to do yard work. A shopping trip may have to be postponed in order to babysit the young children of a harried mother, or one who is sick. Instead of several relaxing hours at one’s favorite hobby, it may be that a troubled marriage needs immediate help in the form of counsel.

Serving Involves Sacrifice

Serving others is often inconvenient. It doesn’t just cut into the time, energy and money that we might expend upon ourselves, but we often have to “extend” ourselves. In the scene of the final judgment pictured by Jesus, the “sheep” are commended for having provided food, drink, hospitality and clothing to the Lord and for having visited Him when sick and in prison (Matt. 25:31-36). Providing for the physical needs of others consumes time and assets. We must remember, however, that when we serve others, we are also serving the Lord (vv. 37-40).

Serving Involves Humility

Someone has said that the most difficult instrument to play in the orchestra is second fiddle. Everyone wants to be “first chair” (just like the apostles during Jesus’ public ministry). Yet, service to others means accepting the role of a servant. Because the proud man finds it difficult to serve others, the Scriptures often link the concepts of service and humility (e.g., Phil. 2:3-8; Matt. 23:11-12). Jesus “emptied himself” and took the form of a servant to provide salvation for mankind.

These three facts about serving others also apply to our service to God; serving one another is simply one aspect of our service to Him. Let

us be resolved to serve one another. There are innumerable ways that we can show our love for others by serving them. If it becomes known that we are willing to serve, it may not be necessary to *look* for opportunities; opportunities will *find* us! **T**



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To Stand

by Joe R. Price

Disciples of Christ stand fast, not by standing still, but by fighting the good fight of faith; let us, therefore, resist evil and defend what is good.

Jesus Christ used clear language to describe the high cost of discipleship: “If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple” (Luke 14:26-27). To be faithful disciples, we must love Christ first and preeminently. Only then can we “watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong” (1 Cor. 16:13).

With ready, responsive resolve the apostle Paul crucified himself to live by faith. “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me” (Gal. 2:20). Like Paul, we must resolve to stand fast, live by faith, and pay the price of discipleship.

Stand Firm Against the Schemes of the Devil

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God,

that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand (Eph. 6:10-13).

The deceitful schemes of the devil are designed to distract, discourage, and destroy souls. The ability to stand against his devices comes from the strength of God’s power, not the power of our personal prowess. The whole armor of God gives us the protection and power we need to do all, and thus, “to stand” (Eph. 6:13-17).

Standing against the schemes of the devil demands fighting with the sword of the Spirit, the word of God (Eph. 6:17). We cannot stand if we will not fight. We are in a spiritual battle, wrestling against forces of evil and wickedness. The progress of the gospel of Christ is onward and upward, fighting the good fight of faith to lay hold on eternal life (1 Tim. 6:12; 2 Tim. 4:7-8). We will falter in defeat when we resist and refuse the combative nature of the gospel. Discipleship cannot be passive, for our adversary, the devil, is always on the prowl to attack (1 Pet. 5:8). We must engage the enemy with full faith that the word of God accomplishes God’s purposes as we trust and obey (Isa. 55:10-11; Phil. 2:12-13).

Oppose What Is Wrong

The rejection of absolute truth must be opposed. Satan’s schemes are too numerous to catalog, but this

particular scheme drives to the heart of many others. The gospel, God’s power to save the lost and protect the saved, is planted into hearts by hearing it (Luke 8:11-15). When divine truth is planted in the heart, it convicts the sinner, corrects the sin, and converts the life (Rom. 1:16-17; 12:1-2; John 16:8; Acts 2:37-41; 2 Tim. 3:16-17). So, when the devil convinces people that truth is relative, fluid, ever-changing, unknowable and unattainable, he effectively hardens hearts from hearing and receiving the implanted word that is able to save their souls (Jas. 1:21).

We must resolve to oppose this false view of truth in order to stand fast in the faith. Consider some of the evidence that calls us to battle. For one, the Bible is viewed as mythology by many. It is rejected as the verbally-inspired word of God by most religionists. God’s word is viewed as a dead letter instead of the living oracles of God (2 Tim. 3:16-17; 1 Cor. 14:37; Eph. 3:3-5; Heb. 4:12; 1 Pet. 2:20-21).

Furthermore, God’s absolute standard of morality is being cast aside while immoral diversity is glamorized and glorified. As in Isaiah’s day, evil is called good and good is called evil (Isa. 5:20). Marriage is dishonored by divorce and perverted by ungodly definitions and sinful conduct, such as same-sex marriage, adulterous remarriage, and polygamous unions (Heb. 13:4). God is redefined, as the

creatures attempt to remake the Creator after the likeness of their futile imaginations (Rom. 1:21-23). Christians must resolve to stand fast and fight against such godless redefinitions of God, truth, morality, and holiness.

Additionally, God's absolute standard of authority is held up to derision by those who profess to know Him, but whose works deny Him (Titus 1:16). These enemies of the cross reject Bible patterns and establishing and applying Bible authority by commands, approved examples, and necessary inferences. They disparage and mock "CENI" as of human origin, even though the Holy Spirit guided apostolic use of them to teach truth in Acts 15:6-21. Christians must resolve to stand fast and fight against the innovations of human wisdom that pervert the gospel of Christ and turn the grace of our God into lewdness (Gal. 1:6-10; 2 John 9-11; Jude 3-4).

Resolve to stand in truth demands that we oppose distortions of it and attacks upon it. True disciples abide in the word of Christ and in the freedom from sin it affords (John 8:31-32).

Defend What Is Right

The resolve to stand for Christ also requires us to defend what is good, right, and true. Like Paul, we must not yield in submission to false teachers and their false teachings even for an hour, so the truth of the gospel will continue with us (Gal. 2:5). Standing for truth requires faith in its strength to topple the strongholds of sin and to triumph through obedience: "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ" (2 Cor. 10:3-5). Truth overthrows the bulwarks

of prideful human logic, ignorance, error, and sin. Therefore, to effectively stand and defend truth we must:

Sanctify the Lord God in Our Hearts (1 Pet. 3:15)

The preeminent authority of Christ in the heart prepares us to answer in defense of our hope. When Christ rules our hearts, His word will rule our words and our actions (Col. 3:16-17).

Test All Things (1 Thess. 5:21-22)

Let us scrutinize every attitude, word, and deed by the standard of apostolic truth (1 John 4:1, 6). Then, we can "hold fast what is good" and "abstain from every form of evil."

Preach the Word (2 Tim. 4:2-4)

Only the inspired word of God is profitable for "doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (2 Tim. 3:16). Today's pulpits do not need the "excellence of speech" and "persuasive words of human wisdom"; rather, they need Bible preaching in "weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling" (1 Cor. 2:3, 1-5; Acts 20:27; 1 Thess. 2:1-6, 13).

Contend Earnestly for the Faith (Jude 3-4)

To defend what is right we must intensely agonize for the faith without compromise, fear or favor (Jer. 8:4-12; Eph. 4:1-3; Gal. 4:16). May our love "abound still more and more in knowledge and all spiritual discernment" so that we may "approve the things that are excellent" and be "without offense" until Christ returns (Phil. 1:9-11).

Where Must We Stand?

We must stand for Christ everywhere and always. Let us resolve to stand in our homes, at our schools, on the job, and at play. Let us resolve to stand in our congregations and our communities. Resolve to stand fast

in the faith in every relationship and every endeavor (1 Cor. 16:13; Phil. 4:1).

Conclusion

A resolution is not a wish; it is a purpose of heart to pursue a definite course of action. God said, "So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one" (Ezek. 22:30). Will you resolve to stand in the gap on behalf of the Lord for His will? If not you, then who? If not now, then when? 📖



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To Study

by David Dann

David challenges each of us: “Will you make up your mind to search the Scriptures daily so that you can become what God would have you to be?”

The psalmist writes, “The works of the Lord are great, studied by all who have pleasure in them” (Ps. 111:2). Our English word “study” is defined as: “to read in detail especially with the intention of learning” (*Merriam-Webster*). More than just reading, study involves properly understanding and learning from what you read. It may require looking up the definitions of words that appear in the text, pausing to define concepts, asking questions, and finding the right answers to those questions as we read a passage.

True study of God’s word involves reading, pondering, and seeking to understand and apply what we’ve read (Ps. 119:148). Ezra studied the Scriptures so that he would be prepared to do the will of God and help others to do the will of God (Ezra 7:10). Excuses for failing to follow Ezra’s example range from, “I don’t have time,” to, “I always forget to do it,” to, “I just don’t like to read.” Please consider the following reasons as to why we must put away such excuses and resolve to make personal Bible study a daily habit.

It Will Increase Your Knowledge

The apostle Peter wrote to those who had already become Christians, saying, “But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge” (2 Pet. 1:5). Peter also exhorts Christians to “grow in the grace and knowledge

of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” (3:18). The only way we can grow and increase in spiritual knowledge is by taking the word of God into our hearts and minds, and the only way we can know the truth is to abide in the Lord’s word (John 8:31-32). We are constantly bombarded with lies about religious matters, morality, and man’s origin, along with the lie that there is no such thing as absolute truth, and that all beliefs need to be treated as though they have equal value. How will you know what to believe and what to follow?

God’s word is truth (John 17:17). Spending time in God’s word will keep us from having our thinking shaped by false teachers, deceivers, and godless philosophers. When Paul preached to the Bereans, the Bible says, “These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so” (Acts 17:11). Each of us needs to search the Scriptures daily so that we know the truth and so that we can see the difference between truth and error.

It Will Spiritually Strengthen You

Paul writes that his prayer to God for the Ephesian Christians was “that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man” (Eph. 3:16). We can be

strengthened and built up in the inner man by taking God’s word into our minds and hearts (Acts 20:32). God’s word is able to build up and strengthen us so that we remain faithful to the Lord; yet, for this strengthening to take place, we have to read, study, and apply it. It is important to be reminded that only the faithful will be rewarded with a home in heaven (Rev. 2:10). Since the temptation to turn back from following the Lord or to engage in sin is always present, the study of God’s word is needed to defeat the fiery darts of the devil. Along these lines, the psalmist spoke to God, saying, “Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You!” (Ps. 119:11). Each of us needs to study the Scriptures daily so that we can be strengthened to overcome in the battle against temptation, sin, and error.

It Will Help You to Grow

In his letter to the saints in Rome, Paul writes, “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Rom. 10:17). Our faith grows as we read, study, and apply God’s word in our lives. Peter instructs Christians to “desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby” (1 Pet. 2:2). A Christian who lacks desire for the word of God is one who is spiritually dying. The Lord maintains a relationship with those who put forth the effort to learn and follow His word (John 14:23-24). If you want God to draw near to you, then you need to spend time drawing near to Him by reading and learning

from His word (Jas. 4:7). Each of us needs to study the Scriptures daily so that we can develop a deeper faith and a closer relationship with God.

It Will Equip You to Serve

The life of a Christian is a life of service to the King of kings in which we do those things that are pleasing to Him. Paul instructed Titus, saying, “This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men” (Titus 3:8). We are to constantly serve the Lord by maintaining the good works in our lives that God would have us to do. How do we know what those good works are? Paul writes, “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work” (2 Tim. 3:16-17). We can know what kind of work the church should collectively perform and we can know what kinds of works that we, as individuals, are responsible for carrying out in our lives because the Scriptures provide that information for us. Each

of us needs to study the Scriptures daily so that we will be equipped to do those things that are pleasing to God.

It Will Enable You to Teach Others

Jesus instructed His apostles following His resurrection, saying, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned” (Mark 16:15-16). Nothing in this world is more important than receiving forgiveness of sins from the Lord and becoming one of His people. One of the basic problems with bringing the lost to salvation is that you can only teach someone else that which you already know yourself. Paul instructed Timothy, saying, “Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Tim. 2:15). Just like Timothy, we will need to put forth the effort to study and learn the word of God ourselves so that we will be equipped for the work of teaching others. You can’t give someone a Bible answer if you don’t know what the Bible says. How many opportunities to help lost souls come to salvation

have been squandered because we didn’t study and prepare ourselves to teach others? Each of us needs to study the Scriptures daily to enable ourselves to bring lost souls out of darkness and into the light of the Lord.

Conclusion

The psalmist spoke to God, saying, “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path” (Ps. 119:105). By studying and applying God’s word, we can know that we are following the right path in life. If we ignore our need for Bible study, then we will stumble in the darkness and follow the path the world has set before us. May we resolve to study the Scriptures daily so that we can please the Lord.

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To Submit

by Phillip E. Stuckey

God the Father, Jesus Christ the Son, and the Holy Spirit all expect believers to exhibit a spirit of submission in relationships in this life—in our families, toward government, in the workplace, and especially in the church.

You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel. Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling (Ps. 2:9-11, ESV).

When it comes to our faith in Christ, many things about the gospel appeal to us. The mutual love, honesty, commitment, comfort, and encouragement that we get from one another sounds good to most people—but what about submission? This is something that children of God must do to be pleasing to God (Jas. 4:7; Eph. 5:21).

This concept is difficult for many to accept. Many people, even Christians, have a disdain for authority. They struggle with being told what they must do. Why should the Christian resolve to be submissive in his life, and what does a life of submission in service to God look like?

Submission to God

Long ago, Pharaoh asked, “Who is the Lord, that I should obey his voice?” (Exod. 5:2). This same question is asked by many today, if not in words, then by the way they live. Every human being should submit to the authority of Almighty God.

God the Father, as Creator of all things, has the right to govern our lives (Rev. 4:11). He needs nothing from us,

yet He graciously gives us all things. He pours out His love on all of creation, providing life and sustenance to all. He does this for all, whether we are good or evil (Matt. 5:45). Above all, He graciously offered His Son as a sacrifice for mankind to save us from our sins (John 3:16; Rom. 5:6-8). He has given us His word that tells us how to live and serve Him and how to enjoy the best life possible, both now and in eternity (Deut. 6:24; Jer. 32:39; 1 John 5:3). Even though He has the right to demand our obedience, He graciously allows us to choose whether we will or will not submit to Him. However, since we read in Scripture of His great power, might, and wrath as well as His goodness and severity, would it not be wise and prudent to willingly submit to Him now before it is too late (Matt. 10:28; Jas. 4:7; Rom. 2:1-11)?

Not only should we be submissive to God the Father, but we should be submissive to Jesus Christ. As the Lamb of God and Savior of all mankind, He is worthy of our obedience. He laid down His life for us, and we should lay down our lives in service to Him (2 Cor. 5:14-15). Even though He was with God, Jesus humbled Himself in obedience to the Father's will (Luke 22:42; Heb. 5:7-8). Because of His submission to the Father's will, God the Father has made Him King of kings and Lord of lords (Matt. 28:18; Rev. 17:14; 19:16). Like the Father, the Son does not force anyone to submit to Him but gently entreats

each of us to surrender ourselves to His will (Matt. 11:28-30). Since we read in Scripture that He has also been given the authority to judge us, would it not be wise to submit to His will before it is too late (John 12:48; Acts 17:30-31)?

Submission to God also involves the Holy Spirit. When Jesus returned to the Father, He sent the Spirit to guide the apostles into all truth and to reveal the New Covenant unto man (John 16:12-13; 1 Cor. 2:10-13). Because of His gracious work, we know what sin is, we have learned the way of salvation and truth, and we know the wonders of God and the Lord's love for us (John 16:8-11). His work brings the Christian comfort and peace as we fight the good fight of faith (Rom. 8:14-17). Why would we grieve or anger Him by refusing to yield to His teaching (Heb. 10:28-29; Eph. 4:30; 1 Thess. 5:19)?

Because of the Godhead's power, might, grace, love, mercy, and wrath, the Christian and all humanity should live a life in submission to God the Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

Submission in the Church

Our submission to God should lead us to have a spirit of submission when it comes to our life in the church. After all, the Lord purchased the church with His own blood (Acts 20:28). For this reason, when it comes to the work, worship, and organization of

the church, she must yield to the rule of Christ (Eph. 5:24; Col. 1:18).

What does a life of submission in His church mean? First and foremost, it means submitting to the Word, the will of Christ, in all we do (Jas. 1:22-25; Col. 3:17). Regardless of our feelings, opinions, or beliefs about how the church should function, Christ's word is more important. He knows what is best for us both in our individual lives and our life together as His body.

It also means that we must learn to submit to one another (Eph. 5:21; 1 Cor. 16:15-16). Instead of being selfish and insisting on our way, we should yield to one another out of respect for Christ and in imitation of His example (Phil. 2:3-8). Our Lord was willing to lay down His life for us; therefore, we should be willing to do the same for one another (1 John 3:16; 4:11-17). Can you imagine what your local church would be like if everyone submitted like Jesus?

Submission in the church also means submitting to those whom the Spirit has qualified to watch over our souls (Heb. 13:17; 1 Tim. 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9). Such men are not serving themselves, but the church on behalf of the Chief Shepherd, who is Christ (1 Pet. 5:1-5). Instead of being willful and defiant, we should esteem, respect, and yield to those who imitate and follow the Lord and perform the work of shepherding the flock (1 Thess. 5:12-13).

Submission in the church is a part of God's plan to help the body grow to maturity (Eph. 4:11-16). Defiance and division in the church are unwise and perilous (1 Cor. 3:16-17). Through reverence to God and Christ, we should submit to one another in the church (Eph. 5:21; cf. Rom. 15:1-7).

Submission in All of Life

Our submission to God not only affects our relationships in the church, but it should permeate our entire lives.

In the home, the Christian must exhibit a spirit of submission. Wives should submit to their husbands (Eph. 5:22-24; Col. 3:18). Children should submit to their parents (Eph. 6:1-3; Col. 3:20). The younger should submit to the older (1 Pet. 5:5; Titus 2:1-5). God also expects those who are in authority to lovingly lead and serve those under their care without abusing their authority (Eph. 5:25-33; 6:4).

In the workplace, the Christian must exhibit this same spirit of submission (Eph. 6:5-9; Col. 3:22-24). Even when it comes to the government, as long as we are expected not to violate God's word, the Christian must submit to those who rule over them (1 Pet. 2:13-14; Rom. 13:1). Out of love and respect for God, the Christian must live a life of submission (Col. 3:17).

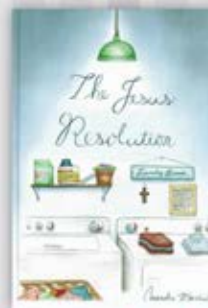
Conclusion

God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit all expect Christians to exhibit a spirit of submission in relationships in this life—family, government, workplace, and especially in the church. God is our loving Father and Creator who knows what is best for us (Heb. 12:9). Who are we to challenge Him or refuse Him (2 Chron. 20:6; Rom. 9:20)? Resolve not to be puffed up with arrogance, but to lovingly trust His judgment and submit to Him in all things before it is too late (Luke 14:31-33). **TT**



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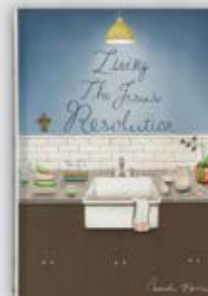
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by Larry McClenny

Those who live godly in Christ Jesus will inevitably suffer persecution, but with spiritual resolve, they can triumphantly overcome.

But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, persecutions, afflictions... what persecutions I endured. And out of them all the Lord delivered me. Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution (2 Tim. 3:10-12).

Paul's Declarations on Suffering

Paul commends Timothy for his spiritual resolve to carefully follow his example in teaching, godliness, spiritual direction, faithfulness, longsuffering, love, and perseverance in the midst of suffering. He reminds Timothy that, with God's help, he would be able to endure and ultimately be delivered from various trials.

Paul shares a truism by emphatically declaring, "All who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution." This is not a negative, pessimistic pronouncement, but a triumphant resolve that, with the Lord on our side, we will be victorious even in suffering. Paul conditions the truism with the reality of his own experience: "And out of them all the Lord delivered me." This reality of deliverance is true, not just of Paul, but of "all who desire to live godly in Christ."

Marshall Patton adds, "What the Christian has that the man of the world does not have is 'grace to help in time of need' (Heb. 4:16); assurance that no

trial will be more than he is able to bear (1 Cor. 10:13); the promise of him who cannot lie: 'I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee' (Heb. 13:5)" (Patton, 215).

Peter's Declarations on Suffering

The apostle Peter makes similar declarations about having triumphant resolve:

Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's suffering, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy. If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified (1 Pet. 4:12-14).

He did not want these brethren to think it foreign, or be shocked, if they suffered persecution. The reality is that if we live for Christ, we will suffer some sort of "fiery trial." This language illustrates the purification process of separating the dross from precious metals. When we go through fiery trials, it is a purification process.

Peter pleads for us to view suffering as a spiritual form of joy and prosperity. This reminds us that people can persecute our bodies, but they will never harm us spiritually

because the Lord is with us. We will fear no man, but continue to have joy, peace, and tranquility in Christ Jesus. We should never feel intimidated by the persecutors.

Guy N. Woods adds, "So far as the sufferings of Christians are of the same kind, originate in the same causes and are prompted by the same motives as those the Savior suffered, they have occasion to rejoice in the assurance that such suffering will secure for them participation in His glory in the by and by" (Woods, 116).

In this life, we can possess this inner spiritual joy and prosperity, even in the clutches of persecution. By continuing to be faithful, we can obtain ultimate joy in the life to come. The glorified Lord will meet His faithful saints in the air, and we shall ever be with the Lord (1 Thess. 4:17).

If we are reproached (verbally abused) for our obedience to the name of Christ, we are blessed, and the glorious Spirit of God is with us. When we study the word of God and make it part of our lives, the God of Heaven, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit are with us through Their providential care.

When we suffer as Christians, we have nothing of which to be ashamed, but we give God the glory that He found us worthy to suffer for His cause.

James' Declarations on Suffering

James declares that our triumphant resolve to suffer for the cause of Christ will bring spiritual joy, endurance, maturity, and completeness in Christ: "Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing" (Jas. 1:2-4). He wanted his brethren to react to trials with joy instead of reacting with disillusionment, discouragement, and abandonment.

With the great knowledge obtained from God's word as well as practical experience, we learn that the testing of our faith produces endurance. Our faith is like gold that stands the test of fire, pure and untainted. Trials become a furnace through which we pass to demonstrate the genuineness of our faith.

The beauty is that we have "absolute confidence in the outcome of the process even in the midst of the trial" (King, 144). We can see the end from the beginning. As we continue to struggle courageously against difficulty and opposition, we develop spiritual stamina (i.e., endurance) by getting into spiritual shape. Endurance that continues to develop with constant spiritual exercise will result in stability and maturity.

Jesus' Declarations on Suffering

Jesus, the perfect example of triumphant resolve in suffering, declares in Matthew 5:11-12, "Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven." Paul Earnhart notes,

Jesus, having now dealt with the attitude of kingdom citizens toward God, themselves, and others, now turns to consider the attitude of the world toward them... the Lord now reveals that they will stir the world to a bitter animosity and hatred. The Son of God has never sought to withhold the realities of suffering from His followers... He has spoken plainly so that when His disciples suffer they can know that it is just as He said it would be and take heart with the assurance that their Master's promises of glory are just as sure... Their crime is simple. They have chosen to be righteous in an unrighteous world (Earnhart, 25-26).

Jesus was the greatest example of triumphant resolve in suffering: "For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in His mouth; and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously; and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross" (1 Pet. 2:21-24).

The One who had no sin suffered death on the cross for our sins. He reacted to suffering with grace, humility, courage, and triumphant resolve. May the Lord give us the same resolve to react to suffering as Jesus did. Paul Earnhart concludes,

The Lord's disciples should rejoice at an opposition which reveals that the spirit and character of their Savior has been seen in them. They should rejoice because they have been granted the privilege of suffering for one who endured such abuse for their sakes (Phil. 1:28-29; Acts 5:41). But, most of all, they should rejoice because their suffering is not empty. They can embrace it joyfully, knowing that it transforms the character (Jas. 1:2-4) and works for them 'a far more exceeding and

eternal weight of glory' (2 Cor. 4:17). No temporal threat can intimidate the one whose true treasure is secured in heaven (Earnhart, 26).

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Larry McClenny

Larry has worked with the Rice Road church of Christ in Tyler, TX for over two years. He and his wife, Cristy have two children. The church website is riceroadchurchofchrist.com. He can be reached at larryjmcclenny@gmail.com.



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To Succeed

by Jim Deason

In the parlance of our agricultural past, Jim reminds us, “If you want to plow a straight furrow, you’ve got to keep your eye on the end of the row.”

Alice in Wonderland is a novel published in 1865 by Charles Lutwidge Dodgson under the pseudonym, Lewis Carroll. Now over 150 years old, it has become a classic in the genre of children’s literature. The story is about a girl who falls through a rabbit hole into a fantasy world inhabited by strange, peculiar creatures like the Mad Hatter, the Jabberwock, the Queen of Hearts, and the Cheshire Cat.

There’s a conversation that takes place between Alice and the Cat that I want to share. Alice asked the Cat, “Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to walk from here?” “That depends a good deal on where you want to get to?” replied the Cat. Alice said, “I don’t much care where,” to which the Cat remarked, “then it doesn’t matter which way you walk.”

There are lots of people in our world—like Alice—who are looking for direction to an unknown destination. Because they have no real goals in life, they are wandering aimlessly, lost in the mass stream of humanity, and certainly lost to usefulness in the kingdom of Christ.

Solomon understood the importance of knowing where you want to go in life, and the importance of setting your mind toward that destination. He said,

My son, give attention to my words;
Incline your ear to my sayings. Do
not let them depart from your sight;

Keep them in the midst of your heart. For they are life to those who find them and health to all their body. Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life. Put away from you a deceitful mouth and put devious speech far from you. Let your eyes look directly ahead and let your gaze be fixed straight in front of you. Watch the path of your feet and all your ways will be established. Do not turn to the right nor to the left; turn your foot from evil (Prov. 4:20-27).

Solomon advised his son to set a goal for himself and resolve to succeed in achieving that goal. “Watch the path of your feet and all your ways will be established” (Prov. 4:26). “The path the Lord guides us in is level and straight (4:11-12). The call is to keep your eyes upon it” (Kitchen). Goals are important to any successful endeavor in life, especially the goal of establishing our ways in the will of God.

Goals Provide Direction

Before you build a building, you need a blueprint. Large corporations have to plan—sometimes years in advance—for expansion and diversification, etc. They know that if they are not adaptable to the inevitable changes that take place in the corporate world, they will become irrelevant and go “belly up.” Seneca said, “When a man does not know what harbor he is making for, no wind is the right wind.”

Goals Provide Motivation

When we attempt to work without plans or goals, our labors become listless and lethargic; we have nothing for which to strive, no measure of success, and no hope to sustain us. With the reward of attaining our goal before us, we are motivated to work diligently to obtain it.

Goals Often Provide a Schedule

Goals reflect priorities, and priorities control our time. A student sets educational goals, so he meets his class schedule. A man sets his goals in the marketplace, so he spends the time necessary to meet those goals. When you choose to follow Jesus, to be successful, you must give your schedule to the Lord (cf. Eph. 5:16).

Goals Provide Focus

One writer unknown to me said, “If you aim at nothing, you invariably hit it.” This sounds eerily similar to what the Cheshire Cat said to Alice. If you don’t know where you want to go, don’t care where you go, it doesn’t matter which path you take. On the other hand, unlike Alice, if you know where you want to go and what you want to accomplish, you can focus on the right path that leads to your destination.

I believe Solomon understood the importance of goals. Consider how often he used certain phrases within

the book of Ecclesiastes: “I set my mind to seek” (1:13), “I set my mind to know” (1:17), and “I have seen and applied my mind to...” (8:9; cf. 2:12; 7:25; 8:16; 9:1).

Like Solomon, most folks have goals. They may not be stated nor necessarily intentional, but we often set our hearts on specific things. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we all, like Ezra, “Set (our) heart to study the law of the Lord and to practice it, and to teach His statutes and ordinances...” (Ezra 7:10). You need to, “Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on the earth...” (Col. 3:2) and, “Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness” (Matt. 6:33). Why? Because, “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matt. 6:21).

Setting “your mind on the things above” (Col. 3:2), and recognizing that the gate that is small and the way is narrow (Matt. 7:13-14) will affect every aspect of your life. It will affect where you work, what you do, what kind of worker you will be. It will affect what you read, the songs you listen to, and the movies you watch. There is no area of life left untouched by your resolve to follow Jesus to heaven. If this sounds like a sacrifice, it is! Jesus said, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me” (Luke 9:23; cf. Rom 12:1-2).

Think about Joshua for a moment. After Moses' death, he was commissioned to lead Israel across the Jordan and into Canaan. He was promised victory, but there was a condition to his success, “Only be strong and very courageous; be careful to do according to all the law which Moses, My servant, commanded you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, so that you will have success wherever you go” (Josh. 1:7).

Then God said, “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the Lord your God is

with you wherever you go” (Josh. 1:9). Gary Henry once wrote, “Godly goals are greater than any other because He is their object—and because *He Himself is the help that will carry us where we need to go*” (Word Points). The apostle Paul said, “To this end we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and may fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by his power” (2 Thess. 1:11, ESV).


So, follow the advice of Solomon, who said, “Let your eyes look directly ahead and let your gaze be fixed straight in front of you” (Prov. 4:25). Constantly keep your godly goals in front of you.

My uncle, Johnny Burton, taught me how to plow behind a mule. He kept reminding me, “Jim, if you want to plow a straight furrow, you've got to keep your eye on the end of the row.” That's more than just a good philosophy of plowing, that's a good philosophy for life!

Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus (Phil. 3:13-14).

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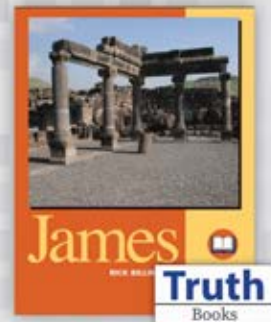
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Jim has worked with the South Cullman church in Cullman, AL, for more than twelve years. He and his wife, Paige, have three children and eleven grandchildren. The church website is southcullmanchurch.com.



James

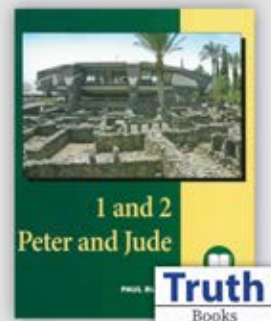
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DAY LECTURES	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
8 a.m. Authority	<i>The Need for Authority in the Church</i> By John Quinn	<i>The Need for Authority in the Home</i> By Jason Garcia	<i>The Need for Authority in Our Individual Lives</i> By Lance Taylor
9 a.m. Helping Each Other in the Church	<i>Starting Right as a Disciple</i> By David Deason	<i>Achieving Spiritual Growth in the Church</i> By Mike Richardson	<i>Overcoming Conflict in the Church</i> By Robert Harkrider
10 a.m. Helping Each Other in the Home	<i>Starting Right as a Family</i> By Shane Carrington	<i>Achieving Spiritual Growth in the Home</i> By Shawn Chancellor	<i>Overcoming Conflict in the Home</i> By Kevin Maxey
11 a.m. (Men’s Track): Helping Each Other with Individual Issues	<i>Overcoming Addictions</i> By Art Adam	<i>Overcoming Depression</i> By Steve Wolfgang	<i>Maintaining Focus</i> By Mark Mayberry
11 a.m. (Women’s Track): Helping Each Other with Individual Issues	<i>Overcoming Addictions</i> By Colleen O’Steen	<i>Overcoming Depression</i> By Bette Wolfgang	<i>Maintaining Focus</i> By Tammy Woodward

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Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: David Deason (205) 425-2352

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2325 Old Columbiana Rd. (near I-65 & Hwy. 31)
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Evangelists: Doy Moyer and Zack Lee
(205) 822-0018 or 822-0082

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College View church of Christ
851 N. Pine St. (Next to University Campus)
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Evangelist: Kenny Moorer (256) 766-0403

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West Mobile church of Christ
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Ken Sils - Minister (765) 307-8048

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Ashburton Drive church of Christ
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70 Ashburton Drive
Sunday Bible Study 9 A.M.,
Sunday Worship 10 A.M. & 5 P.M.
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 P.M.
Contacts: Kirk Moore (334) 546-3788
John Humphries (334) 306-4172

MONTGOMERY

Eastbrook church of Christ
650 Coliseum Blvd.
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Wednesday 6 P.M.
Contacts: Brian Moore: (334) 279-1077
Charles Martin: (334) 283-2983

PARRISH

McArthur Heights
church of Christ, 5082 Hwy. 269
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SCOTTSBORO

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Worship 9 A.M., Bible Study 9:30 A.M.
Worship 10:30 P.M., Wednesday Summer 7 P.M.
Wednesday Winter 6 P.M.
Evangelist: Aaron Andrews
(256) 574-1603 or 575-2664

ARKANSAS

CONWAY

Hwy. 65 church of Christ
271 Highway 65N
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Bruce Reeves, Bldg: (501) 336-0052

CONWAY

Eastside church of Christ
1540 E. Oak Street 72302
Sunday Bible Classes 9:30 A.M.
Sunday Worship 10:30 A.M.
Sunday Worship 6 P.M.,
Wednesday Bible Classes 7 P.M.
www.conwaychurchofchrist.org

CONWAY

Prince Street church of Christ
2655 Prince St., (Hwy. 60)
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(501) 339-6917

FORT SMITH

South 46th St. church of Christ
2323 South 46th Street
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: John Hagenbuch
Bldg: (479) 782-0588

HARRISON

Capps Rd. Church of Christ
407 Bella Vista Dr.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:15 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Norman E. Sewell
www.cappsroad.org
870-741-9104 or 870-741-5151

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Evangelist: Dick Blackford (870) 933-9134
rlb612@aol.com

LITTLE ROCK

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Evangelist: Don McClain, Res. (501) 847-6677
Study (501) 568-1062

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(870) 714-1452 or (870) 338-1833

PINE BLUFF

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4341 S Camden Road
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Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Clarence W. Sell (870) 879-2097

POCAHONTAS

Westside church of Christ
3644 Hwy 90 West • P.O. Box 43
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:45 A.M.
Afternoon 1 P.M., Wednesday 6:30 P.M.

TEXARKANA

church of Christ
2301 Franklin Drive
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:15 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Bryan Garlock

ARIZONA

GLENDALE

church of Christ
6801 N. 60th Avenue
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:40 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Chance Ruffino

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church of Christ
145 N. Country Club Road
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Sunday Worship 10:30 A.M.,
Sunday Bible Study 5 P.M.,
Wednesday Bible Study 7 P.M.
Evangelist: David Posey
(530) 676-9514 or (916) 608-4866
www.folsomchurch.com

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Mark Reeves (562) 377-1674
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Evangelist: Richie Thetford (970) 215-5797
www.poudrevalleychurchofchrist.org

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Grand Junction, CO 81504
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Evening 5 P.M.
www.churhofchristwesternslope.org

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sanjuanchurchofchrist.org

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(850) 622-3817
www.southwaltonchurchofchrist.com

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(239) 433-2838 or 482-2158

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Evangelist: Greg Cruz (352) 629-5505
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Azalea Park church of Christ
6800 Lake Underhill Rd.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(407) 277-7931

ORLANDO

church of Christ at S. Bumby
3940 S. Bumby Ave.
Sunday Worship 9 A.M., Bible Study 10 A.M.
Worship w/ communion 10:55 A.M. (No Evening Service), Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Ken Chapman and Greg Klien
Office: (407) 851-8031

ORLANDO

Pine Hills Church of Christ
890 Hastings Street
Sun. Bible Study 10 A.M., Sun. Worship: 11 A.M.
Sun. Evening Worship: 6 P.M.
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:30 P.M.
(407) 293-2851 or (407) 290-8650

PALMETTO

Palmetto church of Christ
1575 14th Avenue W.
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M.
www.palmettochurchofchrist.com
(941) 722-1307

PANAMA CITY BEACH

Beach church of Christ
8910 Front Beach Rd.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(850) 234-2521

SEFFNER

church of Christ
621 E. Wheeler Rd.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:50 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Bobby Witherington (813) 684-1297
www.seffnercoc.org

GEORGIA

CENTERVILLE

Centerville church of Christ
250 Collins Ave. (Near Robins AFB)
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: J. Wiley Adams (478) 922-1158

COLUMBUS

River City Church of Christ
3900 River Road, Columbus GA 31904
Bible Class 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelists Jeff McCrary & Bo Couchman
(205) 451-9028, rivercitychurchofchrist.com
backtothebible@rivercitychurchofchrist.com

CONYERS

Rockdale church of Christ
East Metro Atlanta, 705 Smyrna Road
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5:30 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Building (770) 929-3973

PINE MTN. VALLEY

church of Christ
Route 116 (near Callaway Gardens)
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Tommy W. Thomas
(706) 628-5117 or 628-5229
www.pmvchurch.com

SAVANNAH

Coastal church of Christ
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
(912) 344-1687
coastalchurchofchrist@outlook.com

VALDOSTA

church Of Christ
4313 North Valdosta Rd.
(Located 1 mile E. of Exit 22 off I-75)
Worship 9 A.M., Bible Study 10 A.M.
Communion 11 A.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(229) 244-8630, www.northvaldostacoc.com

IDAHO

BLACKFOOT

church of Christ
370 N. Shilling • P.O. Box 158-83221
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(208) 785-6168 or 681-1552

IOWA

DES MOINES

church of Christ
1310 N.E. 54th Ave.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:40 A.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M., (515) 262-6799

GRINNELL

church of Christ
1402 Third Ave.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M.
(641) 521-6485, (641) 236-3883
www.grinnellcoc.com

ILLINOIS

CHICAGO

church of Christ
1514 West 74th Street
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: James E. Scott
Bldg. (773) 224-9279, (708) 339-6126

DOWNERS GROVE

church of Christ
1236 63rd St., (1 and 1/2 mile E. of I355)
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:55 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(630) 968-0760 • www.dgccc.org

GLEN ELLYN

Glen Ellyn Church of Christ
796 Prairie Ave.
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
Sunday Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Sunday Evening 5 P.M.
Evangelist: Keith E. Brown
(630) 858-2290, (630) 377-3990

MATTOON

Southside church of Christ
1100 S. 17th Street
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(217) 234-3702

SOUTH HOLLAND

Southeast church of Christ
16224 S Vincennes Ave.
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 4 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Donald Hawkins, (708) 339-1008
www.southeastchurchofchrist.com

INDIANA

CLARKSVILLE

Clarksville church of Christ
407 W. Lewis & Clark Parkway, 47129
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Brian Anderson (812) 944-2305
or (812) 948-9917
www.clarksvillechurchofchrist.org

GREENWOOD

Greenwood church of Christ
371 W. Main Street
Sun. Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 4:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelists: Neil Tremblett
(317) 888-8288
www.churchofchristatgreenwood.org

HOBART

church of Christ
300 N. Liberty Street
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Jerry Cleek (219) 942-2663

INDIANAPOLIS

Castleton church of Christ
7701 East 86th Street, 46256
Sun. Worship 11 A.M., Sun. Bible Study 10 A.M.
Wed. Worship 11:15 A.M., Wed. Bible Study 7 P.M.
(317) 710-1204

JAMESTOWN

church of Christ
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:25 A.M.
Evening 4 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: David McPherson
(765) 676-6404 or (270) 994-4397
www.jamestowncoc.com

OOBITIC

church of Christ
400 Lafayette Ave. • P.O. Box 34
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M. Wednesday 7 P.M.
(812) 279-4332

PEKIN

church of Christ
(First St. & Karnes Ct.)
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Jeremy Goen
(812) 967-3437 or 967-3520
www.pekinchurchofchrist.com

PLAINFIELD

church of Christ West
2028 Stafford Rd., Ste. C., (Marsh Shopping Cntr.)
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:50 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Johnie Edwards
(317) 964-9404 or (317) 839-1769
www.churchofchristwest.org

SAINT LEON, IN

Church of Christ
7140 Hyland Rd., Guildford, IN 47022
174 exit 164 1 mile south on SR 1
Bible study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6:00 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
812-637-1252 or 513-367-7871

SALEM

Westside church of Christ
2000 West State Rd. 56
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(812) 883-2033, www.westsidechurchofchrist.net

TRAFALGAR

Spearsville Rd. church of Christ, 6244 S. 500W.
(1.2 mi. S. of Hwy. 135)
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Charles Wright
(317) 878-5969 or (317) 300-8790
www.trafalgarchurch.com

KANSAS

TOPEKA

17th Street church of Christ
5600 SW 17th St.
Bible Study 9:15 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M.
(785) 235-8687 or 273-7977
www.17thstreetchurchofchrist.org

KENTUCKY

AUSTIN

Peter's Creek church of Christ
856 Thomerson Park Rd.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M.
Evangelist: David Cox (270) 579-8074 or
(270) 646-0498, www.peterscreekcoc.com

BEAVER DAM

church of Christ
1235 Williams St.
Worship 10 A.M., Bible Study After Worship
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Jerid Gunter
(270) 274-4451

BRANDENBURG

Brandenburg church of Christ
612 Broadway
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 6:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Charles J. White (270) 422-3878

CAMPBELLSVILLE

Sunny Hill Dr. church of Christ
A.M. Worship 9:30 A.M., A.M. Bible Study 10:30 A.M.
A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Steve Lee (270) 789-1651
stevelee4510@windstream.net
www.sunnyhillcoc.com

CANEYVILLE

Caneyville church of Christ
103 N. Main St. • P.O. Box 233
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Jarrod Jacobs (270) 589-4167 or
(270) 274-3065

DANVILLE

church of Christ
385 E. Lexington Ave.
Worship 10 A.M., Bible Study 11:15 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Scott Vifquain (859) 236-4204

FRANKLIN

31-W North church of Christ
1733 Bowling Green Road
Bible Study 9 A.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Steve Monts, (270) 586-3978
www.31wchurchofchrist.com

HODGENVILLE

Hodgenville church of Christ
613 S Lincoln Blvd.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Don Brady (270) 358-6053
Dbrady1295@aol.com

LEITCHFIELD

Mill St. church of Christ
733 Mill Street, Highway 62 E.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:55 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Michael Hardin
(270) 259-4968 or (270) 300-3239
www.millstreetchurchofchrist.org

LOUISVILLE

Valley Station church of Christ
1803 Dixie Garden Drive
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Dudley Ross Spears (502) 937-2822

LOUISIANA

GONZALES

Southside church of Christ
405 Orice Roth Road, 70737, (Baton Rouge area)
Bible Class 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: R.J. Evans (225) 622-4587
rjevans@eatel.net

MANY

Lakeside church of Christ
12095 Texas Hwy. (Hwy. 6 W.)
12 miles west of Many
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(318) 256-9396

STONEWALL

N. DeSoto church of Christ
2071 Highway 171 (South of Shreveport)
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(318) 925-2733

MARYLAND

SEVERN

Southwest church of Christ
805 Meadow Rd.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Brandon Trout
(410) 969-1420 or (410) 551-6549
www.swcofchrist.com

MAINE

PORTLAND

church of Christ • 856 Brighton Ave.
Leave Maine Turnpike at Exit 48
(Breakwater School)
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Second service immediately following morning
worship. Mid-week Bible Study. Please call for
times & places. (207) 839-3075 or 839-8409

MICHIGAN

CEDAR SPRINGS

W. Michigan church of Christ
Sr. Citizen Center, 44 Park Street
(Grand Rapids Area)
Worship 11 A.M., Bible Study 12:30 P.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Joseph Gladwell, (616) 975-2778
westmichcof10@yahoo.com

MINNESOTA

DULUTH

church of Christ
4401 Glenwood St.
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Bible Study 5:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Taylor Ladd (218) 728-3233

ST. CHARLES

church of Christ
939 Whitewater Avenue
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Bible Study 2:15 P.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M., call for location
FREE Bible correspondence studies
Evangelist: Robert Lehnertz (507) 534-2905

MISSISSIPPI

BOONEVILLE

Oakleigh Dr. church of Christ
101 Oakleigh Dr.
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 4 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Building: (662) 728-1942

CLINTON

McRaven Rd. church of Christ
301 McRaven Rd. (I20, exit 36)
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Leonard White
(601) 925-9757 or 924-2645

MERIDIAN

Grandview church of Christ
2820 Grandview Ave.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Wednesday 6:30 P.M.
Ron Cooper: (601) 934-3675
roncooper@bellsouth.net
Ricky Ethridge: (601) 737-5778
[rickymarsha@bellsouth.net](mailto:ricky-marsha@bellsouth.net)

MERIDIAN

7th St. church of Christ
2914 7th Street
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
(601) 483-3101

SOUTHAVEN

church of Christ
2110 E State Line Rd. (Exit I-55), (Memphis area)
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: James A. Brown
(662) 342-1132 - church Building

MISSOURI

BLUE SPRINGS

Southside church of Christ
4000 SW Christiansen
Worship 9 A.M., Bible Study 10 A.M.
Worship 11 A.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Brett Hogland (816) 228-9262

BRANSON

Eagle Rock Road church of Christ
432 Eagle Rock Road
Sun. Worship 9:30 A.M., Bible Study 10:30 A.M.
Sun. Evening Worship 2 P.M., Wednesday 6 P.M.
Minister: Philip North (417) 239-1036
Email: primrosenor@suddenink.net
www.eaglerockroadchurchofchrist.org

CAPE GIRARDEAU

North Cape church of Christ
121 S. Broadview St. Suite 2,
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703
Sunday Bible Study 9:15 A.M. & 10 A.M.,
Worship 11 A.M., No Evening Service
Wednesday 6 P.M./CST, 7 P.M./DST
Evangelist: Jerry Lee Westbrook (573) 334-9673

DONIPHAN

Southside church of Christ
Hwy. 142 E. ½ mile (P.O. Box 220)
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(573) 996-3251 or 996-3513

FAIR GROVE

church of Christ
217 N. Orchard Blvd.
Bible Study 9 A.M., Bible Study 10 A.M.
Worship 11 A.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Walter Myers (417) 830-8972 or
(417) 736-2663

KENNETT

church of Christ
703 Harrison St.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(573) 888-6778 or (870) 650-1648
Preacher: Nolan Glover
www.westsidchurchofchrist.us

LILBOURN

church of Christ
211 Benton Street
First Worship 9 A.M., Bible Study 10 A.M.,
Second Worship 10:45 A.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Ben Lawrence, (501) 470-5390

RAYTOWN

Sterling Ave. church of Christ
5825 Sterling Ave. (Near Sports Complex)
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Justin Berss
(816) 356-3096 or (270) 320-6157
www.sterlingavechurchofchrist.org

ST. JAMES

church of Christ
685 Sidney St.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:15 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Lynn Huggins (573) 265-8628

ST. JOSEPH

County Line church of Christ
2727 County Line Rd.
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:50 A.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M.
(816) 279-4737
www.countylinechurchofchrist.com

NEBRASKA

BEATRICE

church of Christ • 7th and Bell
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 6:30 P.M., 233-4102 or 228-3827
www.churchofchrist7bell.com

NEW JERSEY

VAUXHALL

church of Christ
Milbourn Mall Suite 6., 2933 Vauxhall Rd.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Contact: Harry Persaud
phone: (908) 964-6356 • cell: (908) 964-8570

NEW MEXICO

ALBUQUERQUE

Heights church of Christ
7801 Zuni Road, S.E.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evanagelist: Darrel Yontz (505) 266-7577
www.heightschurchofchrist.com

NEVADA

RENO

Central church of Christ
2450 Wrondel Way, Stuite A
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(775) 786-2888

NORTH CAROLINA

CHARLOTTE

Charlotte church of Christ
5327 S. Tryon Street
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Sun. Worship 10:30 A.M.
Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(704) 525-5655
www.charlottechurchofchrist.org

OHIO

BEAVERCREEK

Knollwood Creek church of Christ
1031 Welford Drive
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:20 A.M.
Afternoon 3 P.M., Wednesday Afternoon 1 P.M.
Wednesday Evening 7 P.M.
(937) 426-1422
www.knollwoodchurch.org

CINCINNATI

Blue Ash church of Christ
4667 Cooper Road
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Russell Dunaway, Jr. (513) 891-3174
www.blueashchurchofchrist.com

CLEVELAND

Lorain Ave. church of Christ
13501 Lorain Ave.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(330) 723-0111 or (330) 590-0227
or (216) 322-9392
www.lorainave-churchofchrist.com

COLUMBUS

Laurel Canyon church of Christ
409 McNaughton Road
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(614) 868-1375, www.iccoc.net

DAYTON

West Carrollton
28 W. Main Street, 45449
Early Worship 9 A.M., Bible Study 9:30 A.M.
Worship 10:25 A.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Michael Grushon (937) 866-5162
or 848-3779, www.wc-coc.org

FRANKLIN

Franklin church of Christ
6417 Franklin-Lebanon Rd. 45005
Sun. Bible Study 10 A.M.
Sun Worship 10:45 A.M.
Tues. Bible Study 6:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Josh Lee (937) 789-8055
or (937) 746-1249, www.franklin-church.org

FREMONT

church of Christ
3361 W. State Street, 1 mi. W. of Fremont
on U.S. Rt. 20
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(419) 849-3340 or 849-2980
www.fremontchurchofchrist.com

HAMILTON

Westview church of Christ
1040 Azel Ave.
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:45 A.M.
Evening 6:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Eugene Ford (513) 856-9288

HILLIARD

church of Christ
4840 Cemetery Rd.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(614) 876-4089

MANSFIELD

Southside church of Christ
687 Mansfield-Lucas Road
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 5 P.M.
James Bond: (419) 526-2868
Leon Bond: (419) 525-3684
church: (419) 522-8982

NEW LEBANON

New Lebanon church of Christ
1973 W Main Street
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.,
Evening 5 P.M., Wed. Bible Study 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Bruce Hastings (937) 687-7150
or (937) 478-0367

MARIETTA-RENO

Marietta-Reno church of Christ
80 Sandhill Road
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Daniel Ruegg: (740) 222-9160 or
Steve Foutty: (740) 473-9028

NORTHWOOD

Frey Road church of Christ
4110 Frey Rd. (Toledo Area)
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Donald Jarabek
(419) 893-3566, (567) 694-5062

UHRICHSVILLE

church of Christ
638 Parrish Street
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6:30 P.M., Mid-week 6:30 P.M.

OKLAHOMA

MCALESTER

North A St. church of Christ
2120 No. A Street
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.
Evening 5:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Rob Lungstrum, Cell: (918) 931-1362
Office: (918) 423-3445

OKLAHOMA CITY

Seminole Pointe church of Christ
16300 N. May Avenue
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: John M. Duvall (405) 340-3189
or (405) 513-6691, www.seminolepointe-church.org

OREGON

SWEET HOME

Church of Christ
3702 E. Long Street, Sweet Home, OR
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 7 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Building: (541) 367-1599

PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA

church of Christ
7222 Germantown Ave., 19119
Bible Study 10:15 A.M., Worship 11:15 A.M.
Tuesday night 7 P.M.
Evangelist: James H. Baker, Jr. (215) 248-2026
www.mtairychurchofchrist.org

SOUTH CAROLINA

COLUMBIA

Lower Richland church of Christ
3000 Trotter Rd. (Hopkins, SC)
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(803) 730-0452, <http://lowerrichlandchurch.org>

SUMTER

Woodland church of Christ
3370 Broad St. Extension
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: A.A. Granke, Jr. (803) 499-6023

WEST COLUMBIA

Airport church of Christ
4013 Edmund Hwy. (Hwy. 302)
**OUR WEB SITE DISPLAYS OUR
CURRENT ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE.**
Evangelist: Terry W. Benton, Bldg. (803) 834-6978
<http://airport-church-of-christ.com>

TENNESSEE

COLUMBIA

Mooresville Pike church of Christ
417 Mooresville Pike
(.8 mi. N. of Hwy. 50/Jas. Campbell)
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 3:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(931) 388-5828 or (931) 381-7898
www.moorevillepikecoc.com

COSBY

Cosby church of Christ
4894 Hooper Hwy., 37722
(15 mi. E. of Gatlinburg on Hwy. 321)
Bible Study 10A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday Bible Study 6:00 P.M.
Evangelist: Olie Williamson
(423) 487-5540 or (423) 748-0844

JACKSON

Sunset View church of Christ
3618 Hwy 70 East
(Exit 87 off I-40, 7mi. @ Spring Creek)
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Steve Wilkerson (731) 967-0590
or 968-9851

JOHNSON CITY

Brookmead church of Christ
2428 Lakeview Drive
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Kevin Kay (423) 282-6251 or 426-1836

JONESBOROUGH

11-E church of Christ
240 Headtown Road
Bible Study 10:30 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Evangelist: David Wheeler
(423) 557-9119 or (423) 948-6464
www.christianadmonisher.jigsy.com

KINGSTON SPRINGS

Kingston Springs church of Christ
350 North Main Street
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Steve Walker, www.kscoc.com

MT. PLEASANT

Locust St. Church of Christ
108 Locust Street • Mt. Pleasant, TN 38474
931-379-3704 or 931-964-3924
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Daniel H. King, Sr.
www.lscoc.com

KINGSFORT

Kingsport church of Christ
4938 Fort Henry Dr. • P.O. Box 554
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5:00 P.M., Wednesday 7:00 P.M.
Evangelist: Tom Kinzel, Bldg.# (423) 239-3979
or (423) 579-2002 • www.kptcoc.org

MARYVILLE

Smokey Mt. church of Christ
2206 Montvale Road
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Harold Tabor (865) 977-4230
Lon Spurgeon (865) 388-8749
<http://tinyurl.com/smchurch>

MEMPHIS

Rocky Pt. Road church of Christ
516 E. Rocky Point Rd., Cordova
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10A.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M.
rockypointchurch@gmail.com
www.rockypointchurch.org

MURFREESBORO

Cason Lane church of Christ
1110 Cason Lane
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(615) 896-0090 (Building)
www.casonlanechurch.org

MURFREESBORO

Northfield Blvd. church of Christ
2091 Pitts Ln. at Northfield Blvd.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: David Bunting (615) 893-1200

NASHVILLE

Hillview church of Christ
7471 Charlotte Pike
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(615) 952-5458 or (615) 356-7318
Evangelist: Lee Wildman

NASHVILLE

Perry Heights church of Christ
423 Donelson Pike
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:55 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Johnny Felker (615) 883-3118
<http://perryheights.faithweb.com>

PIGEON FORGE

King Branch Road church of Christ
560 King Branch Road
Worship 10 A.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Facilities available for Sunday evening services
upon request.
Evangelist: Roger Williams (865) 430-5980
www.KingBranchRoadchurchOfChrist.org

SHELBYVILLE

El Bethel church of Christ
1801 Hwy. 41-A North
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:50 A.M.
Evening 5:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Donnie V. Rader (931) 607-9099
dvrader@live.com

SHELBYVILLE

Shelbyville Mills church of Christ
1222 W. Jackson St.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Jeff Curtis (931) 607-9118
djcurtis1963@hotmail.com

TEXAS

ALLEN

West Allen church of Christ
1414 W. Exchange Blvd. (2 miles west of Hwy. 75)
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:50 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Jerry King (214) 504-0443
Building phone (972) 727-5355

ALVARADO

I-35 church of Christ
E. Service Rd. off I-35, N. of Alvarado
Bible Study 10:00 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6:00 P.M., Wednesday 7:00 P.M.
(817) 295-7277 or 790-7253

ALVIN

Adoue St. church of Christ
605 E. Adoue St
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Mark Mayberry (346) 216-1707
www.ascoc.org & www.markmayberry.net

AUSTIN

Schultz Lane church of Christ
Faber Rd. & Schultz Ln., Pflugerville, TX 78660
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 2 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Ron Lehde

BAYTOWN

church of Christ at Pruett & Lobit
701 North Pruett Street
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:40 A.M.
Evening 6:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Jesse Flowers (281) 515-8939
Building: (281) 422-5926, Weldon: (713) 818-1321

BEAUMONT

Dowlen Rd. church of Christ
3060 Dowlen Road
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelists: Max Dawson & Benjamin Lee
(409) 866-1996

CONROE

Woodland Hills church of Christ
410 Woodland Hills Dr., 77303
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
phone: (936) 756-9322
www.conroechurch.com

CLEVELAND

church of Christ
310 E. Houston Street
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Robert Davis (281) 592-5676
www.clevelandchurchofchrist.org

CORPUS CHRISTI

Hwy. 9 church of Christ
Worship 10 A.M., Bible Study 11 A.M.
Worship 12 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Call for location: Keith Kalies (361) 776-2304
or Patrick Frazier (361) 235-1990

DICKINSON

church of Christ
2919 FM 517 Road E.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:50 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 9:45 A.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M., (281) 534-4870
www.dickinsonchurchofchrist.org

DALLAS

Methodist Street church of Christ
211 Methodist St. • Red Oak TX, 75154
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: D. LeRoy Klice
(972) 576-3119 or 363-7672
www.methodiststreetchurchofchrist.com

DUNCANVILLE

Whispering Hills church of Christ
2126 S. Main (South Dallas)
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(214) 874-5701, info@whchurchofchrist.net

EDNA

church of Christ
301 Robison Street
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(361) 782-5506 or 782-2844
Elders: J. Mercer & S. Mercer

EL PASO

Eastringe church of Christ
3277 Pendleton Road
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(915) 855-1524

FORT WORTH

West Side church of Christ
6110 White Settlement Rd. 76114
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(817) 738-7269

GRANBURY

church of Christ
4313 Old Granbury Road
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
817-913-4209 or 817-279-3351

HOUSTON

Fry Rd. church of Christ
2510 Fry Road (77084)
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:20 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Bob Pulliam: (281) 832-4633, www.fryroad.org

HOUSTON

Spring Woods church of Christ
9955 Neuens Rd. at Witte Road
Worship 9 A.M., Bible Study 10 A.M.
Worship 11 A.M., Evening 6 P.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: (713) 419-1750
www.springwoodschurchofchrist.com

IRVING

Westside church of Christ
2320 Imperial Dr. (closest to DFW Airport)
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:50 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Mark Roberts (972) 986-9131
www.JustChristians.com

LANCASTER

Pleasant Run church of Christ
831 W. Pleasant Run Road
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:20 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(972) 227-1708 or 227-2598

LUBBOCK

Indiana Avenue church of Christ
6111 Indiana Avenue
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(806) 795-3377
www.lubbockchurch.com

LUFKIN

Timberland Dr. church of Christ
912 S. Timberland Drive
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:50 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelists: Harold Hancock & Reagan McClenny
(936) 634-7110 or 632-7070

MANSFIELD

Northside church of Christ
1820 Mansfield-Webb Road
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:20 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 5:30 P.M.
www.northsidecoc.us
Evangelist: Tom Roberts (817) 466-3160

NACOGDOCHES

Stallings Dr. church of Christ
3831 N.E. Stallings Drive
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:20 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelists: Randy Harshbarger & Jay Taylor

PLANO

Spring Creek church of Christ
2100 W. Spring Creek Pkwy., (North Dallas Suburb)
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(972) 517-5582, www.planochurch.org

SAN ANTONIO

Grissom Rd. church of Christ
5470 Lost Lane at Grissom Rd.
San Antonio, TX 78238-2700
Bible Classes 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday (Ladies Class) 10 A.M.,
Wednesday (Bible Class) 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Terry Starling
www.grissomroadcoc.org

SAN ANTONIO

Pecan Valley church of Christ
268 Utopia Avenue, (I-37 S.E. Exit Pecan Valley)
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Clyde W. Carter (210) 337-6143

SHERMAN

Westwood Village church of Christ
314 N. Tolbert
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Ronald Stringer

TEMPLE

Leon Valley church of Christ
4404 Twin City Blvd.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Jason Garcia
yourfriendjgar@gmail.com
www.biblemoments.org

WACO

Sun Valley church of Christ
340 E. Warren St. (In Hewitt, a suburb of Waco)
Bible Class 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Marc Smith
(254) 666-1020 or 420-1484

THE WOODLANDS

Woodlands church of Christ
1500 Wellman Road • P.O. Box 7664 (77380)
Bible Class 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:20 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(281) 367-2099
www.woodlandschurchofchrist.org

VIRGINIA

CHESAPEAKE

Tidewater church of Christ
217 Taxus Street
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Steve Schlosser (757) 436-6900

CHESTER

Chester church of Christ
12100 Winfree St., (Central to Richmond,
Hopewell, Petersburg, & Colonial Heights)
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5:30 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
church Building: (804) 796-2374, (804) 385-2725
or (804) 271-0877

NEWPORT NEWS

Harpersville Rd. church of Christ
315 Harpersville Road
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Wednesday 7:00 P.M.

RICHMOND (METRO)

Courthouse church of Christ
Courthouse Rd. at Double Creek Ct.
(2.2 miles S of Rt. 288)
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Gene Tope (804) 790-1629
www.courthousechurchofchrist.com

RICHMOND

Forest Hill church of Christ
1208 W. 41st Street
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6:00 P.M., Wednesday 7:00 P.M.
Evangelist: Jack Bise, Jr. (804) 233-5959

RIDGEWAY

church of Christ
2970 Old Leaksville Road
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 5:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(276) 956-6049
www.churchofchristatridgeway.com

ROANOKE

Blue Ridge church of Christ
929 Indiana Avenue N.E. (5 min. from Roanoke
Convention Center)
1st Lesson 9:15 A.M., Bible Study 10 A.M.
Worship 11 A.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(540) 344-2755

VIRGINIA BEACH

Southside church of Christ
5652 Haden Road
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Robert Mallard (757) 464-4574

WASHINGTON

BELLINGHAM

Mt. Baker church of Christ
1860 Mt. Baker Hwy.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Joe Price (360) 752-2692 or 380-2960
www.bibleanswer.com/mtbaker

SEQUIM

Sequim church of Christ
American Legion Hall
7 W. Prairie St. at Sequim Ave.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Wednesday night Bible study 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Jerry MacDonald
(360) 808-1021 or biblepage@att.net
www.churchofchristinsequim.com

TACOMA

Manitou Park church of Christ
(meets at Gray Middle School)
6229 S Tyler Street
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M.
(253) 242-3098
tacomachurch@gmail.com
www.tacomachurch.com

WEST VIRGINIA

CHARLESTON

Oakwood Road church of Christ
873 Oakwood Road
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:50 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
oakwoodrdcoc@suddenlinkmail.com
www.orcoc.org • (304) 342-5637

CLARKSBURG

Westside church of Christ
Davisson Run Road
Sunday Morning 9:30 A.M.
(304) 622-5433
www.westsidechurchofchristwv.net

FAIRMONT

Eastside church of Christ
1929 Morgantown Avenue
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(304) 363-8696 or (304)844-2437

GLADESVILLE

Gladesville church of Christ
2906 Gladesville Rd., Independence, WV 26374
Sunday Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.
Sunday 7 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(304) 864-3078

MOUNDSVILLE

Moundsville church of Christ
210 Cedar Street
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6:30 P.M., Mid-week 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Tony Huntsman (304) 845-4940

PARKERSBURG

Marrtown church of Christ
825 Marrtown Road
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(304) 422-7458 or 893-5227

WYOMING

RANCHESTER

Ranchester church of Christ
Hwy. 14 West, Ranch Mart Mall
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 6:30 P.M.
Contact: Bob Reich (307) 655-2563

CANADA

CALGARY, AB

Northside church of Christ
803 20A Avenue NE
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday Bible Study 7 P.M.
+1 (403) 452-5116
www.churchofchristcalgary.com

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Redesigning ceibooks.com into truthbooks.com!

Website redesign project

To better serve you, we're in the process of creating a new design for our CEI Bookstore/Truth Publications website.

Our goal is to bring an easy-to-use, mobile-friendly, intuitive framework, with excellent content.

The redesign will take a few months to complete, but we are very excited about revealing the new site in early 2019!

