

# “O What a Savior”

Lewis Willis

Marvin P. Dalton wrote a song in 1948 which conveys a powerful and beautiful message. Very seldom do we sing the song, but I would like to focus your attention on its words.

Once I was straying in sin's dark valley,  
No hope within could I see;  
They searched through heaven and found a Savior  
To save a poor lost soul like me.

He left the Father, with all His riches,  
With calmness sweet and serene,  
Came down from heaven and gave his lifeblood  
To make the vilest sinner clean.

Death's chilly waters I'll soon be crossing,  
His hand will lead me safe o'er;  
I'll join the chorus in that great city,  
And sing up there forevermore.

(chorus)  
*O what a Savior*, O hallelujah,  
His heart was broken on Calvary;  
His hands were nailscarred, His side was riven,  
He gave His lifeblood for even me.

What a Savior, indeed! All that we need, and all that we are unable to provide, our Savior has provided for us.

The Greek word, *soter*, is translated “savior” and means deliverer, preserver (Vine 322). In classical Greek the term was applied to mighty men or rulers. In the Bible, however, it is applied to either God the Father or to Jesus Christ.

In the O.T. only God was Savior. “I, even I, am the Lord; and beside me there is no saviour” (Isa. 43:11, cf. 45:21; Hos. 13:4). Israel understood that their deliverance could only come through God. As a matter of fact, their greatest problem manifested itself when they sought to save themselves, or when they relied upon someone other than God for their preservation. Also, in the O.T., the term is not so much a *title* as it is a *description* of God's action in behalf of his people.

*see “Savior” on p. 472*

In the N.T. the term is never applied to a mere man. While sometimes

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## The Call of Isaiah

Mike Willis

As one reads the prophets of the Old Testament, admiring their faith, sometimes he is unaware of the struggles they experienced in life. Jeremiah is not called “the weeping prophet” without reason. His life was hard. Hosea experienced the marital conflicts common to many others who have lived with an unfaithful spouse.

Isaiah is one of God’s most admired prophets. We are impressed with the messianic revelations given to him such as the prophecies of (a) the virgin birth (Isa. 7:14); (b) the miracles of Jesus (Isa. 35); (c) the harbinger of Jesus (Isa. 40:3) and (d) the suffering servant (Isa. 53). However, we may forget what a heavy burden he was called upon to bear when he was called by God.

### The Call of Isaiah

The call of Isaiah came in the “year that Uzziah died” (6:1). Uzziah was the king of Judah who became so filled with pride that he entered into the Temple to offer worship to the Lord, in place of the High Priest, and was smitten with leprosy (2 Chron. 26:16-21). As a result of his leprosy, he had to appoint his son Jotham to take care of official business, serving as his co-regent. Isaiah was called to his work in the year of Uzziah’s death. How often God’s call through the preaching of the gospel (2 Thess. 2:14) leading to one’s conversion or his decision to become a preacher is so momentous that one can remember exactly what circumstances surrounded it!

The call of Isaiah came in a vision of God (6:1-4). He saw the Lord on his throne (6:1). His throne was lifted up. His train filled the Temple. He was attended by six-winged seraphim (6:2). The seraphim cried, “Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory” (6:3). The thrice repeated “holy” has been thought from ancient times to be a reference to the Trinity, as also indicated by the plural pronoun “us” to refer to God in 6:8. It is the Bible text from which the song, “Holy, Holy, Holy” was written. The foundations of the thresholds were shaken and the house was filled with smoke (6:4).

### Isaiah’s Consciousness of Sin

The call of Isaiah made him deeply conscious of his sin. When God appeared to Isaiah, he said, “Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts.” On the oc-

*See “Isaiah” p. 472*

# The Unteachables

Connie W. Adams

Jesus taught that there are some who are unteachable. They have imposed certain obstacles in their own way and until they remove them, the truth will not be appreciated by them. "Therefore speak I to them in parables: because seeing they see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. And in them is fulfilled the prophesy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see and shall not perceive: For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed: lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them" (Matt.13:13-15).

With stopped ears, closed eyes and hardened hearts these were unteachable. They had the capacity to learn, but not the willingness. It is unfortunate that we yet have unteachables.

1. Prejudice has so blinded the minds of some that they will not be taught. Through campaigns of misinformation which dwell upon themes which are known to trigger definite reactions against those who preach the truth, the minds of some are closed. During the period of rapid growth of the church in this country in the decades from 1820-1850, the advocates of denominational error coined a term which automatically incited an adverse reaction with some. "Campbellite" was the term. A further prejudicial appeal was made to the religion of the "fathers." Some could not hear the sound of the truth for thinking, "This man condemns my parents."

In the present hour prejudice is yet incited by some within the church by the use of epithets and the circulation of rumors which distort what honest brethren believe. The fear of being called "anti" has prompted some to align themselves with popular movements or causes among brethren. Have you closed your eyes to truth because of prejudice?

2. A conglomeration of errors and half-truths has congested the minds of some. Until these can be removed, such people are unteachable. Some of our brethren become unduly exercised over what they call too much "negative" teaching. Of course, all negative teaching would leave no time or occasion for impressing the positive elements of the gospel. Before a field can be plowed, planted and cultivated, it must be cleared of trees, roots, stumps, or rocks. I have tried to talk with Jehovah's Witnesses or

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others whose minds were filled with such an abundance of misinformation or such a hodge-podge of half-truths that very little was accomplished.

Through the years an ignorance has beclouded the minds of many brethren and the minds of some are cluttered with concepts of denominationalism. Even basic principles, such as the way to establish scriptural authority, the realm of generics and specifics, the difference between collective and individual action, and elementary rules for the interpretation of Scripture, are commonly misunderstood. In order to teach some the truth it is necessary to start from "scratch," lay again the foundation and step-by-step build thereon.

3. Know-it alls are unteachable until they decide that wisdom will not perish with them and that there just might be some truth they have not perceived or some truth which

they have not fully comprehended. As one matures in Christ, his appreciation even of truths he has already known should be deepened and enhanced. Anytime we think we have no further need of study, and that we have a corner on truth, we need to study once again what humility is. "For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself" (Gal. 6:3).

We all need to study the Bible with open and honest hearts that the full light of truth may guide our feet. Let us not be of the number who are "ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth" (2 Tim. 3:7).

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# Bible Baptism and the Blood of Christ

John Isaac Edwards

Bible baptism and the blood of Christ go together. They are so closely related that one is of no value without the other. This writing is designed to help us see the connection between Bible baptism and the blood of Christ.

1. *For The Remission Of Sins.* In instituting the Lord's supper, Jesus declared, "For this is my *blood* of the new testament, which is shed for many for the *remission of sins*" (Matt. 26:28). Why did Jesus shed his blood? For the remission of sins. On the day of Pentecost, Jews convicted of sin asked, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" (Acts 2:37). They were instructed, "Repent, and be *baptized* every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins . . ." (Acts 2:38). Why be baptized? For the remission of sins.

2. *Washes Away Sins.* Revelation 1:5 records, "Unto him that loved us, and *washed us from our sins* in his own blood." How is a person washed from his sins? In the blood of Christ. On the road to Damascus, the Lord told Saul of Tarsus, "Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do" (Acts 9:6). In the city, Saul was told, "And now why tarriest thou? Arise, and be *baptized, and wash away thy sins*, calling on the name of the Lord" (Acts 22:16). According to this verse, how is a person washed from his sins? By being baptized. Therefore, in order for a person to have his sins washed away by the blood of

Christ, it is absolutely essential that he be baptized. If not, why not?

3. *Saves.* Bible baptism and the blood of Christ are both said to have saving power. Paul wrote, "Much more then, being now justified by his *blood*, we shall be saved from wrath through him" (Rom. 5:9). The blood saves. But, baptism is also said to save. Jesus said, "He that believeth and is *baptized* shall be saved" (Mark 16:16). The apostle Peter penned, "The like figure whereunto even *baptism* doth also now save us . . ." (1 Pet. 3:21).

4. *Connecting Bible Baptism With the Blood of Christ.* Paul reminded the Romans, "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were *baptized into his death*?" (Rom. 6:3). It was in his death that Jesus shed his blood (John 19:34). Bible baptism puts us into contact with the blood of Christ by putting us in his death where he shed his blood. It is in Bible baptism that a person reaches the blood of Christ and receives the remission of sins, has his sins washed away, and is saved. See the connection?

A failure to see the connection between Bible baptism and the blood of Christ has caused some to overlook the importance of Bible baptism. Have you been baptized?  
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# Three “Musts”

Larry Ray Hafley

## **Must Number One: Jesus “Must” Die On The Cross**

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so *must* the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life (John 3:14, 15).

In order for man to be saved, Jesus had to die, for “without shedding of blood is not remission,” no forgiveness of sins (Heb. 9:22). Hence, he “*must*” be lifted up on the cross. It was only by being lifted up that he could draw all men unto himself (John 12:32). Indeed, he “was delivered for our offenses, and was raised again for our justification” (Rom. 4:25).

## **Must Number Two: “Ye ‘Must’ Be Born Again”**

Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God (John 3:3). Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God (John 3:5). *Ye must* be born again (John 3:7).

To be born again is to be saved, to be delivered from the power of darkness (Col. 1:13). To be born again is to be obedient to the gospel, baptized into Christ (1 Cor. 12:13; 1 Pet. 1:22-25; 3:21). The Colossians were in the kingdom, hence, they had been born again (John 3:3, 5; Col. 1:13). They had been “baptized into Christ,” having been “buried with him in baptism” and made alive in the forgiveness of their sins (Col. 2:12, 13).

We “*must*” obey the gospel in order to be saved, for God shall take vengeance on them “that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ” (2 Thess. 1:8; cf. Rom. 2:8, 9). If you are not in the kingdom of Christ, you are in darkness (Col. 1:13). If you die in that condition, you will be cast into “outer darkness,” into everlasting torment (Matt. 25:30, 41, 46). Therefore, “*Ye must* be born again”!

## **Must Number Three: Worship “Must” Be In Spirit And In Truth**

God is a Spirit: and they that worship him *must* worship him in spirit and in truth (John 4:24).

God, the right object of worship, must be worshiped with the proper attitude in accordance with his word. This has always been true (Josh. 24:15). Man cannot determine his own way (Jer. 10:23). The ways of man are not God’s ways (Isa. 55:8, 9). Though man’s ways of worship may appear holy and devout, they are the ways of death (Prov. 14:12; Matt. 7:22, 23; 15:9, 13, 14).

We are not under the law, the fleshly covenant and kingdom, of Moses; rather, we are under the law of the Spirit, the gospel of Christ (Rom. 1:16; 8:2). We walk not in the shadow but in the substance (Col. 2:14-16). In the true tabernacle, the sure and certain sanctuary of God, we “*must*” worship God, observing all that he has commanded through his Son, Jesus Christ (Matt. 17:5; 28:18-20; Heb. 1:1, 2).

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# Developing Character in Our Children

Jarrod Jacobs

In our last article, we discussed the fact that people needed to change their character if society is to truly change for the better. We learned that this was the only true way to stop so much of the sinful behavior that is prevalent today. Jail terms and tougher sentences may have an effect (and there is no question that there are those who belong in jail, never to return to society; and others who rightfully deserve to die for their crimes, Rom. 13:4), but at best we are merely treating the *symptoms* of society's problems, and not the real cause of the problem. Thus, a change in character is needed. When people change their character, what God says will be enough. They will respect and follow God's word both morally and doctrinally. They will respect God's will and will follow it as closely as possible, not asking "where's the line?" In this article, we wish to discuss developing the proper character in our children.

Why is this study necessary? Consider the fact that this last school year, a teacher had her students do a role play. In order for them to better understand about society and our economy, etc. she had her students use "pretend" money to "buy" certain things as needed. They would learn to budget, and learn that once the money is gone, then it is gone (just like in the real world!). Before they began, one little girl asked if there was going to be any "child support" for them (keep in mind, this is a young girl, 7-8 years old!). When the answer was an emphatic "No!" she then asked if there would be any "welfare." Again, the answer was "No!" While we may chuckle at this at first, the question is, where did this young girl come up with the idea for "child support" and "welfare"? Answer this question and you'll see why it is so important that we discuss develop-

ing character in our children! One would have to be blind and deaf to not know about the shootings that have gone on in schools all over this country in recent months. What is the problem? Is it the guns? No, sir! The problem is character! There have been many people in this country who have grown up with guns in the house (this author being one) who would never have thought about using a gun to kill another person! Parents and grandparents are shirking their responsibilities, and are allowing others to teach and train their children! (This includes the schools, peers, and even the TV!) This just furthers the problem.

What does the Bible say? God teaches that parents have a God-given responsibility to teach and train their children (especially fathers, Eph. 6:1-4). Timothy was a man who knew the Scriptures "from a child" thanks to the training of his mother and grandmother (2 Tim. 1:5; 3:15). Teaching right from wrong is not only the responsibility of parents to children, but also older men and women must

teach the younger. Please read Titus 2:1-8 and see that the elders among us have a responsibility to teach the younger, not just anything, but holy and good behavior, speaking sound words, doing good works, being obedient, sober minded, etc.

In truth, this has always been God's plan. Adam and Eve had to teach their children to love and respect God (Gen. 4:1-3). Moses told the Israelites: "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach

them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates” (Deut. 6:5-9). Believe it or not, this is practiced today by all parents, and truly they are teaching their children when they are walking, resting, rising up in the morning, etc. The question is *what* are they teaching their children? Many are not teaching children the values and standards laid out by God!

Friends and brethren, what are your children being taught? Are they being taught that revenge is acceptable, or are they being taught “Whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also” (Matt. 5:39)? Are they being taught “Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord” (Rom. 12:19)? Are we taking responsibility, or are we shirking our responsibility by allowing others to teach and mold these young minds who will take our place in the future? Keep in mind that if we are guilty of shirking our responsibilities, what do you think our children are learning to do?

Are our children being taught that there is punishment for wrong doing? So many, including Christians, refuse to reprimand and discipline their children. Some are more worried about harming their self-esteem, than they are about that child losing his soul! Where are the boundaries/barriers that children need? When do *you* tell *your* child “No!”? God, as a Father tells us, his children, that there are boundaries and barriers. We cannot do “anything” (not even in the “free” USA!). God tells us that we are “fenced in” by his word, and cannot go beyond what he has said (2 John 9). It is acceptable and reasonable to expect a parent to spank a child at times for his unruly behavior. God says that it is necessary for him to “spank” (i.e., reprimand/correct) us at times (Heb. 12:5-12). Therefore, physical parents also have this responsibility toward their children (Heb. 12:9-10). God says: “Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him” (Prov. 22:15). “He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes (i.e., diligently, promptly, early)” (Prov. 13:24). When parents correct their children (through spanking, scolding, depriving of privileges, etc.) then the children learn how to behave in civilized society. Parents need to show love for their children, not only through positive reinforcement, but also through negative actions which show that they love their children too much to just let them go and “sow their wild oats.” (Remember: Gal. 6:9; Hos. 8:7.) “The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame” (Prov. 29:15). “He that wasteth his father, and chaseth away his mother, is a son that causeth

shame, and bringeth reproach” (Prov. 19:26).

Developing character in children does not start when they are fifteen or sixteen years old. It doesn’t start when they are five, six, or seven years old, either! It starts from day one! It is said that the way a child behaves when he is nine or ten is a direct result of how he was brought up from ages one-five! I believe that. It is not enough to “sire” a child, you must be a *parent* as well! Too many, even among our brethren are shirking this great responsibility. Children cannot be left to themselves to raise themselves. When this happens, we end up with adults who are unruly, who do not know how to follow rules, are selfish, and will not respect any type of authority (including God’s authority)! Why should they? They didn’t have to respect authority when they were growing up; why should they respect authority now that they have become adults and are on their own? I understand that there are some exceptions, but they are too few and far between for someone to say, “See, this works.”

### Conclusion

Brethren and friends, what are you doing to help develop the character of the younger generation? Have you already given up? I hope not! There is much work to do, and we must not be lax in our duties. Neglect is what has gotten us into this situation today. Let us do what we can to remedy the situation!

For all that has been said, it is clear that people will make their own choices. We are all free-moral agents, so some may turn away from that which is right because they want to do so despite what has been done for them. At the same time, doesn’t it make sense that if you train up a child in the right ways of the Lord, when the time comes, he will make the right decisions (Prov. 22:6)? Of course, this is true. Let us be found doing all we can to develop the proper character in our children, not by following pop-psychology or other foolish things, but by going to the Bible, and letting God tell us how to raise our children. God, our Father, has told us the best way to raise our children if we will just listen to him. Will you listen to God?

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## Signs Of Indifference

How can I tell if I am indifferent? Furthermore, how can I see that there is indifference within the local church? Let's

Donnie V. Rader

consider four signs that point to apathy.

*1. A loss of zeal.* Dedicated people have a burning zeal. They are fervent in spirit (Rom. 12:11). Their hearts burn within them as the two who were on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:32). However, it is possible to lose that fire of enthusiasm. The church at Ephesus had left its first love (Rev. 2:4-5).

Judah, both before and after the exile, let their service deteriorate into a weary routine that demanded no real effort. Isaiah said their fear toward God had become "tradition learned by rote" (Isa. 29:13, NASV). Malachi rebukes the remnant for offering inferior sacrifices (blind, lame, and sick) to God (1:6-2:17).

When a church has some members who have either lost or never had zeal, it has a problem with indifference. Some Christians are not excited about the salvation they have in Christ. Some are not enthused about worshipping the Almighty. Some are not fired up about the hope of eternal life. When your service to God is a "ho-hum, no big deal" thing, your fire has gone out!

In C.S. Lewis' *Screwtape Letters* (a fictional account of one devil's instructions to another on how to destroy a Christian) Screwtape instructs Wormwood: "If you can once get him to the point of thinking that 'religion is all very good up to a point', you can feel quite happy about his soul. A moderated religion is as good for us as no religion at all."

*2. A loss of spiritual interest.* Waning interest in spiritual matters easily follows a loss of zeal. There are several indicators that our desire for the spiritual has decreased.

**A lack of desire for the word.** All Christians ought to have the same thirst for the word that babies have for their milk (1 Pet. 2:1-2). David wrote at length about his love and desire for God's word (Ps. 119). When Christians have no

real interest in studying and learning, make little or no effort to come to Bible study, don't care to know what the text means or how it applies, indifference is a problem. Every person that I have talked to who has quit serving the Lord, has said that they quit studying their Bibles long before.

**Not bothered by sin.** Those who fear God hate sin (Prov. 8:13) and depart from it (Prov. 16:6). When Christians are not disturbed by sin in their own life or that of others, indifference is indeed a problem.

**Not bothered by false doctrine.** David said that rivers of waters ran down his eyes because some had not kept the law of God (Ps. 119:136). God's people, who love the law of God, are bothered when false doctrine is taught. However, there are Christians who are not bothered by uncertain sounds being given. Furthermore, they don't want to hear any warning about it. Indifference indeed!

**Not concerned about the lost.** When we care little about approaching the lost about the gospel of Christ, apathy is well under way in our lives (cf. Mark 16:15).

*3. Missing services.* It may begin with an occasional absence. Maybe we start with allowing our work schedule to keep us away. It may bother us at first, then we adjust to the idea. Later we may miss once in a while to do something else we want to do. It is now becoming easier to miss even more. It may start with missing Bible study or Wednesday evening, then Sunday night and so on.

Every service we miss, we miss out on that much spiritual growth. Thomas missed what the other disciples gained when he was not there (John 20:20-28). If by being present we are built up and edified (Heb. 10:25; Eph. 5:19), then if we miss, we are made that much weaker.

Do you forsake the assembling (Heb. 10:25) for reasons that are within your control? If so, you are indifferent.



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# “What Shall We Say Then?”

Glendol McClure

Recently, a preacher who was invited to hold a gospel meeting was asked by the preacher of the congregation inviting him what he thought about having the meeting in a neutral place and not mentioning the name of the church due to prejudice on the part of denominational people. Is such a method boldly preaching the gospel of Christ to a lost and dying world as Jesus and his apostles did? Consider this:

“What shall we say then?” If a Jew is in the audience; shall we avoid preaching “Jesus Christ and Him crucified” because of the prejudice of Jews (1 Cor. 2:2)? “God forbid” — Mark 8:38; Romans 1:16; 9:33; 2 Timothy 1:12.

“What shall we say then?” If a Muslim is in the audience, shall we avoid teaching the Deity of Christ because of the prejudice of Muslims? “God forbid” — Matthew 10:32, 33; Acts 8:37; Romans 10:17; 1 John 4:2, 3, 15; 5:1.

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4. *Consumed with secular interest.* This life is merely a land we are passing through (Heb. 13:14). That means that secular things are temporary and rank far below spiritual matters.

When our secular concerns overshadow and crowd out the spiritual, it indicates that we have a problem with indifference. When we don't have time to worship or study our Bibles, we are plagued with indifference. When making money is more important than spiritual concerns, we have a problem. When having fun is pushed ahead of serving the Lord, indifference is taking its toll.

These principles will help us as we examine ourselves (2 Cor. 13:5).

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“What shall we say then?” If members of denominations are in the audience, shall we expect the preacher to avoid preaching on the identity and purpose of the Lord's church because the denominational world teaches, “one church is good as another,” or for fear of “embarrassing our visitors” or being *accused* of “blasting denominations”? “God forbid” — Matthew 16:18; Acts 20:28; Ephesians 2:21, 22; 4:1-16; 5:22-33.

“What shall we say then?” If we have evolutionists or atheists in the audience, shall we avoid teaching that God exists and that He is the creator of all things, because of the prejudice of evolutionists and atheist? “God forbid” — Genesis 1-2; Psalms 8:3, 4; 40:5; 74:17; 95:5; 100:3; 104:24, 30; Isaiah 40:28; 43:7; John 1:3; Acts 17:24-29; Romans 1:19, 20; Colossians 1:16.

“What shall we say then?” If immoral people are in the audience, shall we avoid preaching “repentance for the remission of sins” because they may be prejudiced regarding certain moral issues such as adultery, fornication, homosexuality, polygamy, abortion, drinking alcohol, stealing, etc.? “God forbid” — Matthew 5:32; 19:9; Romans 1:21-32; 1 Corinthians 6:9-20; 7:1, 2; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 4:28; Colossians 3:1-10; 1 Peter 4:1-4.

“What shall we say then?” We must declare “*all* the counsel of God” (Acts 20:27). We must “preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke and exhort with all long suffering and doctrine” (2 Tim. 4:2). If we seek to please men, we will not be the servants of Christ (Gal. 1:10). We must “speak the *truth* in love” and teach all things commanded by God for man to do (Eph. 4:15; Matt. 28:19, 20; John 14:15, 21; 15:10; 1 John 5:1-3; Rev. 22:14). Now, what will *you* say then?

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# Belizean Briefs

Bobby L. Graham

The following brief meditations were prompted by experiences the writer had in a recent fifteen-day trip to the Central American country of Belize, the former British Honduras. The Lord's work is going well there, guided by Dana Whisler and Jesse Hightower, its pioneer who soon will move to Guatemala to proclaim the gospel to its people. Dana and his family remain there as dedicated and beloved servants of God. Remember them in prayer and in financial support as you can.

## **Fear of Exile**

One of the early contacts with whom we studied after arriving in Corozal, Belize, was Felipe Cruz. Felipe is from Guatemala but lives near Orange Walk, which is south of Corozal. His little abode is quite humble compared to our American style of residence. It consists of numerous tree-trunk poles gathered from the bush and placed side-by-side with a thatch roof overhead, making a quite cool residence for those hot Belizean days.

Quite content with his meager possessions in this foreign land, to which he had brought his family to escape an earlier Guatemalan conflict, Felipe was very much concerned about a threatened exile of non-citizens to their native countries. In his latter years such an upheaval in life could be quite upsetting and unsettling. It should be reported to his credit that Felipe, not yet a Christian, did not allow this fear of exile to hinder his study of the Bible and his travel to the meeting place of the Corozal congregation to study more.

The Christian is not unlike Felipe in his unsettled condition in relation to this world and to his own country. Here he has no permanent abiding place; he is an alien, a stranger, and a pilgrim. He looks for a city, whose builder and maker is God. All of his hopes and confidence relate to the heavenly land, not to this passing scene. He must abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul (Heb. 11; 1 Pet. 2:11). When the child of God does have to disembark in death (for such is nature of his departure, 2 Tim.

4:6), he can loosen his grip on this earthly existence in the confidence that a better one awaits.

## **Rejection of Jesus' Deity**

Late on a hot Sunday afternoon we stopped at a roadside store to buy soft drinks and found Ernest Will the proprietor sitting outside, interested in talking. He immediately made known his belief in "Jehovah" but not in Jesus as divine. He made confusing reference to some of the tenets of Islam, but he also betrayed non-Islamic convictions. Ernest did refer to Isaiah's majestic description of Jehovah in Isaiah 44:6: "Thus saith Jehovah, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, Jehovah of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; besides me there is no God."

After his confusing statements, which made it clear that he was unclear in his beliefs, I asked him about Isaiah's attribution of deity to Jesus in 7:14. Did not Jehovah call the Messiah here Immanuel (God with us) through the prophet? Could not the prophet speak credibly concerning Jesus, just as he did about Jehovah? If we can believe his testimony about one of these matters, why can we not also accept it on the other matter? Think about this matter, friend, and understand that your faith in Christ is well supported by the testimony of God himself, who knows better than the skeptic, the agnostic, or the atheist. He also is the One who thundered from heaven, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him" (Matt. 17:5). Ernest said that he would study this passage. Will you?

## **Divorce — A Serious Matter**

Gregorio Huerera seemed anxious to find Dana Whisler after seeing his car along the side of the road. He located him in a nearby house, where some of us were studying the Scriptures with some new converts. He was happy to be able to ask about a marriage that the Adventists were advising him to finalize to the woman with whom he had been living. Gregorio knew enough of the Bible to be skeptical of their advice, for he wanted to know more about marrying this Adventist woman who had been previously

married and divorced.

When Dana referred him to Matthew 19 and he read some of the verses for himself, particularly verse 9, he seemed to chuckle a bit and remarked, "This is serious." It is dead serious, so much so that Jesus advised becoming a eunuch for the sake of the kingdom a bit later! Is it a serious matter to you? Would you ask about marriage before planning it? Does it make a difference to you that God has declared some people ineligible for marriage? Are you that concerned about pleasing God? God has spoken on this matter, and doing right demands pleasing him, not just going through some forms or observing some externals. We serve God and honor Christ only from the heart (Matt. 22:37).

### Security

Johnny Mash is not a Christian, but he and his wife have shown some interest in God's will and Word. During a study in his tiny, elevated house I noticed a deadbolt lock on the front door. He obviously wanted to secure his residence as much as possible in a country where thievery abounds. Jose Morales slept in his unfinished, one-room, concrete-block house to guard what he already had.

Protecting one's investment, keeping what one has: it sounds familiar, doesn't it? For this reason people insure their houses, cars, voices, and other things valuable to them. Ought we not to exercise even more care for our spiritual possessions?

Our faith, hope, and salvation far outweigh any earthly belonging, but we frequently disregard them in the decisions and choices we make. Warnings to take heed, beware, and hold on are sounded in the Bible to urge people to protect their spiritual security. Salvation can be lost (1 Cor. 9:27; 10:12). The Lord also admonished such spiritual guarding in Revelation 3:2 and 11. "Establish the things that remain, that were ready to die."

"Hold fast that which thou hast, that no one take thy

crown." Which do we value more highly, as reflected in our spiritual alertness and diligence — our material possessions or our soul's salvation?

### The Day When Everything Went Right

On our first trip into Mexico from Corozal, just nine miles from the border, we experienced the typical hassle of border crossings on a hot and sultry day, bumpy and dusty roads part of the way, a car filled with passengers, poor driving, the distrust of the moneychangers who waited at the border to give us pesos for our dollars, and a traffic ticket in Mexico for making an improper turn. All of this was but a precursor of what was coming — no Little Debbie products at the Chetumal grocery store, which is supposed to have those American products that so many of us want. On the way home there were additional problems — a locked gas cap which would not come off at the gas station (it had to be forced off back in Corozal), forcing us to drive some 15 miles with little gasoline in the tank, and then locking the car keys in the trunk after getting back close to home. The thought did occur to me that nothing was going our way on that day.

Upon further thought, I realized that no one/nothing had really been hurt, lost, or stolen. The problems all related to things that didn't matter very much. Things that matter the most went right that day. In reality, a day when much seemed to go wrong was a day when everything went right.

After refusing to become a judge in an inheritance dispute between two brothers, Jesus warned us all: "Take heed and beware of covetousness: for a man's life does not consist of the abundance of his possessions" (Luke 12:15). If we keep ourselves from this and other excessive material concerns, we will be able to focus on what really counts in life — God, his Word, our faith and practice, and helping others along the heavenly journey (Matt. 6:33).

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## New Testament Difficulties and Alleged Contradictions

Jerry Moffitt, editor  
(The Second Annual Gulf Coast Lectures)

**\$10.00**

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# Use And Abuse

Irvin Himmel

## God's Word Has Valuable Use:

- It is a lamp and a light.
- It produces faith.
- It is for doctrine (teaching), reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness.
- It is the Spirit's sword to combat sin and error.

Anything that has legitimate and beneficial use may be subjected to abuse. By abuse is meant improper treatment, harmful employment, mishandling, or inappropriate application.

The Israelites became discouraged when they had to detour around the land of Edom. They spoke against God and against Moses. The Lord punished them by sending fiery serpents among them. Many people were bitten and died. Moses prayed and the Lord told him to make a fiery serpent and set it upon a pole. Anyone bitten by a fiery serpent could look on the serpent of brass and live (Num. 21:4-9). The brazen serpent had appropriate use. God appointed it to test the faith of the people. It is referred to in John 3:14,15. As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up. By looking to Jesus in trusting faith we are promised eternal life.

Hundreds of years after the time of Moses the good king Hezekiah initiated needed reforms in the Kingdom of Judah. He removed the high places, destroyed images, and attempted to clean out idolatry. The brazen serpent had been kept as a relic but was subjected to abuse. The people were burning incense to it, treating it as an idol. Hezekiah correctly broke it in pieces (2 Kings 18:1-3). That which had been divinely authorized for a particular use long before had been employed improperly.

The temple in Jerusalem had valuable use. It was the center of Jewish worship and God put his name there (1 Kings 9:3). In the days of Christ's earthly ministry the temple was treated with abuse. Our Master cast out all who were buying and selling, overthrew the tables of the money changers and the seats of them that sold doves, reminding them, "It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves" (Matt. 21:12, 13).

Let us now consider the subject of use and abuse as it applies to other things.

### The Bible

Use of the Bible: God's word has valuable use in a number of ways.

1. *It is a lamp and a light.* Darkness is a fitting emblem of ignorance, wickedness, and the whole realm of evil. We need light to guide us in a world that lies in darkness. With the psalmist we can say, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." "The entrance of thy words giveth light . . ." (Ps. 119:105, 130). The Bible should be used to enlighten our understanding and to guide our footsteps.

2. *It produces faith.* Signs performed by Jesus were written "that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing

ye might have life through his name” (John 20:30, 31). Faith comes by hearing the word of God (Rom. 10:17). Faith is not dependent on a direct outpouring of the Spirit or some mystical operation. God designed that we use the Bible to produce faith.

3. *It is for doctrine (teaching), reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness* (2 Tim. 3:16, 17). When the God-breathed Scriptures are put to use, the man of God is thoroughly equipped for all good works. There is no need for human creeds, catechisms, confessions of faith, church manuals, etc.

4. *It is the Spirit’s sword to combat sin and error.* Every Christian needs to use the sword of the Spirit “which is the word of God” (Eph. 6:17). Study Hebrews 4:12 and be reminded that God’s word is living and active. The fight against evil must be relentless.

Abuse of the Bible: It is regrettable that some people abuse the Bible.

1. *Some speak evil of the way of truth.* Peter forewarned that false teachers would bring in damnable heresies, “and many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of” (2 Pet. 2:1, 2). When Paul and Barnabas preached in Antioch of Pisidia, unbelieving Jews contradicted and blasphemed (Acts 13:45). Today, some abuse the Bible by openly contradicting it, by belittling it, by ridiculing those who attempt to teach it and live by it, and by scoffing at it as a book outdated and filled with legends and myths.

2. *Some wrest the Scriptures.* Peter acknowledged that in Paul’s epistles are some things hard to be understood, “which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction” (2 Pet. 3:16). To “wrest” means to twist, torture, or distort. Some modern preachers are skilled at Scripture twisting. Instead of such abuse of the

word of God, there should be a careful rightly dividing or handling aright of the word (2 Tim. 2:15).

3. *Some alter the word of God.* Moses warned, “Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish aught from it . . .” (Deut. 4:2).

The same principle is taught in Revelation 22:18, 19. It is an abuse of the Bible to add the doctrines and commandments of men, to subtract what one may dislike, or to substitute human philosophy, theological speculations, and man-made traditions.

### **The Name Christian**

Use of the name Christian: The name has legitimate and meaningful use when properly applied.

1. *It identifies one as an adherent of Christ.* At Antioch in Syria, Paul and Barnabas assembled themselves with the church and taught much people: “And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch” (Acts 11:26). Later when Paul preached to King Agrippa, he asked, “King Agrippa, believest thou the prophets? I know that thou believest.” Agrippa answered, “Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian” (Acts 26:27, 28). Although Agrippa may have spoken in derision, Paul was in earnest about converting the king. He wanted Agrippa to be a Christian. The name signifies that one is a follower of Christ, an adherent of Christ.

2. *It is a badge of honor and glory.* Peter told the suffering saints, “If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye . . .” There is neither honor nor glory in suffering because one is a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or a busybody. “Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf” (1 Pet. 4:14-16). James alluded to those who “blaspheme that holy name by the which ye are called” (Jas. 2:7).

Abuse of the name Christian: No name is subjected to more abuse than the name Christian.

1. *“One born of Christian parents.”* This is one of the definitions of the name Christian given in *Webster’s Unabridged Dictionary*. The fact that one’s parents were Christians when he was born does not make him a Christian. Being a Christian in the Bible sense is an individual matter.

2. *Some apply the name to any neighborly, decent, respectable person.* If one is morally upright and acts in a civilized manner toward others, some would pronounce him a fine Christian. If that is the case, Cornelius, the centurion, was a Christian before he ever heard the gospel! It takes more to be a Christian than being neighborly and respectable.

3. *Some abuse the name Christian by applying it to nations, cultures, denominations, camps, schools, charities, music, bookstores, journals, radio and TV stations, publishing companies, burial services (“He is entitled to a Christian burial,” whatever that is), performing groups, associations, conventions, counseling services, day-care centers, hospitals, and numerous other human organizations and arrangements.* This wide spread abuse has made the name Christian rather vague and meaningless, whereas it had definite meaning in the apostolic age.

### **Prayer**

Use of prayer: According to the word of God, prayer is useful.

1. *It is to express praise and thanksgiving.* Jesus taught the disciples to pray, “Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name” (Matt. 6:9). The name of God is to be revered and exalted. Paul cautioned against anxiety, urging that “in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God” (Phil. 4:6). It is fitting that prayer be used for giving

praise, adoration, and thanks to God.

2. *It is to make known our requests unto God.* Prayer is our open line to the throne of grace. Our Father wants us to bring our petitions to that throne.

3. *It is for intercessions.* “I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men” (1 Tim. 2:1). When Peter was in prison “prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him” (Acts 12:5). It is right to use prayer to make intercession on behalf of kings, rulers, brethren in the Lord, and others for whom we should pray.

4. *It is to ask forgiveness.* Simon believed and was baptized after Philip preached Christ in Samaria. He later sinned by attempting to buy the special power that the apostles had. Peter rebuked him and entreated him, “Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee” (Acts 8:22). Jesus taught that we should pray for forgiveness of our sins (Luke 11:4). When a child of God sins, prayer is to be used as the means of confessing to God and asking for pardon.

Abuse of prayer: It is certainly possible that one might abuse prayer.

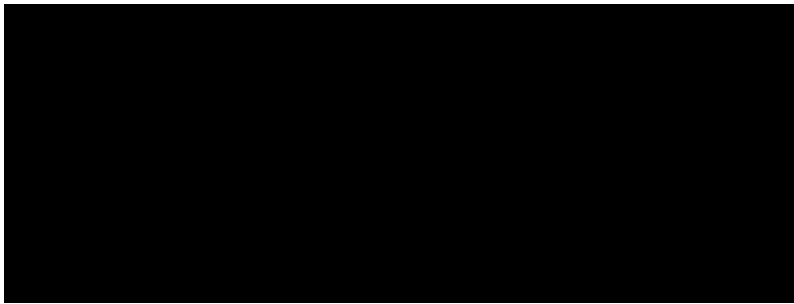
1. *Praying to be seen of men is an abuse.* Christ warned that we should not be as the hypocrites. They loved to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets. They prayed to be seen of men. Their full reward was whatever satisfaction they may have derived from the attention and applause of men. The correct aim in prayer is to be heard of God, not to be seen of men (Matt. 6:5, 6).

2. *Some use vain repetitions.* “But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him” (Matt. 6:7, 8). Prayer is abused when vain repetitions lengthen the prayer as though much speaking is essential.

3. *Some consider prayer for emergency only.* A door in a public building may be marked “EXIT — FOR EMERGENCY ONLY.” That means do not use that door unless there is a fire or some crisis out of the ordinary. It is an abuse of prayer to use it only in an emergency. “Pray without ceasing” (1 Thess. 5:17).

### The Eldership

Use of the eldership: The New Testament reveals that there should be elders in every church (Acts 14:23) when men are qualified.



1. *Elders are to tend and oversee the flock.* Paul taught the Ephesian elders “to feed the church of God” (Acts 20:28). Peter, writing as a fellow-elder, exhorted the elders to “feed (tend or shepherd) the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof . . .” (1 Pet. 5:1, 2). Each flock needs shepherds.

2. *Elders watch for souls.* “Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account . . .” (Heb. 13:17). Spiritual watchmen guard the flock. This is a highly important use or purpose of an eldership.

3. *Elders are to teach.* Qualified elders are “apt to teach” (1 Tim. 3:2). To what extent should they be equipped to teach? They are to “be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers” (Tit. 1:9). They also teach by example. Such men are useful and engaged in a good work.

Abuse of the eldership: There are brethren who have a bad taste when they reflect on elders because they have seen the eldership abused.

1. *Some are coerced and pressured to serve.* Arm-twisting should never be employed when selecting elders. The words of Peter (“not by constraint, but willingly”) are to be taken seriously. The eldership is abused when men serve only because they were pressured. Their hearts are not in the work that they are supposed to be performing.

2. *Some are domineering and bossy.* Peter warns elders, “Neither as being lords over God’s heritage, but being ensamples to the flock” (1 Pet. 5:3). It is sad that some elders have the attitude exemplified by Diotrephes; they love to have preeminence (3 John 9). Having served as an elder for more than a decade, I am aware that some will falsely accuse elders of “lording it over the flock” if they happen to disagree with the judgment of the overseers.

3. *Some act as lawmakers and dictators.* When elders appear as though they are “little gods,” the eldership is grossly abused. Elders are not authorized by the Scriptures to make laws and rules to bind on the flock. We need to remember that “there is one lawgiver” (Jas. 4:12).

## Preaching

Use of preaching: In the divine scheme of things preaching is useful.

1. *It is to save them that believe.* “For after that in the wisdom of God, the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe” (1 Cor. 1:21). It is not the preaching of foolishness, but the foolishness of preaching, that is, some men regard preaching as foolishness, but God designed it to save lost souls. Jesus sent the apostles into all the world to preach the gospel to every creature (Mark 16:15, 16).

2. *It is to reprove, rebuke, and exhort.* Paul charged the young preacher Timothy to “preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine” (2 Tim. 4:1, 2.)

3. *It is to discuss and explain Scripture.* Peter on Pentecost quoted from Joel and from David, explaining the fulfillment of their prophecies (Acts 2). Philip found the eunuch from Ethiopia reading Scripture. He began at the same Scripture, “and preached unto him Jesus” (Acts 8:35). Much good results when preachers open the Bible and read and explain what the text is saying.

Abuse of preaching: Most of us have witnessed abuses of preaching.

1. *Some use the pulpit as a whipping post.* They lash out against people constantly, sometimes in a personal vendetta. They employ preaching to cut others down to size.

2. *Some preach to tranquilize the consciences of the*

*hearers.* They never condemn sin or error. They try to make everyone feel good about himself. Unlike Peter’s preaching, their sermons fail to “cut to the heart.” It is an abuse to preach simply to pat folks on the back.

3. *Some preach to amuse and entertain.* They would make excellent standup comedians. They crack jokes and tell funny stories. They keep the audience in laughter. Study the preaching done by Jesus and the apostles and you will find that they made no attempts to tickle funny bones. It is an abuse of preaching to use it for amusement.

4. *It is abusive to preach opinions, speculations, and popular theories.* Some televangelists preach almost exclusively on their speculations about prophecy and the end times. The abuse of thing does not justify our discarding it. Alexander Campbell once remarked that “if any thing was bestowed on man which he could not abuse, it would be of no moral use to him — for he cannot use that which he cannot abuse. Where there can be no vice, there can be no virtue” (*Millennial Harbinger*, February 1833).

## Conclusion

Shall we throw out the eldership because some have abused it? Shall we quit praying because the hypocrites abused prayer? Shall we quit preaching because some abuse preaching? Why be deprived of the profitable use of a thing merely because there can be abuse? We can guard against abuse without going to the extreme of eliminating appropriate use.

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# The Impact of Hospitality

David A. Beck

It was Thursday morning and my wife, Marti, and I were at the bus station waiting for her bus to come and carry her to her mother's house in Florida. I really didn't want her to take the bus, but it was spring break week and there were no available flights that we could afford.

I was trying to be upbeat knowing that Marti always worried about me while she was gone. We had been married for over 33 years and had always been best friends. We cherished every moment we could be together and couldn't stand to be apart. We made small talk until finally we saw the bus coming. I kissed her good-bye another time and watched her get on and the bus pull away. I sighed deeply. This was going to be a long week.

Marti had been hinting for a new refrigerator. The only thing wrong with the yellow one was . . . well, it was yellow. We had bought a new white stove a couple of years ago, and she wanted matching appliances. She knew it was an extravagance, however, and wouldn't really press for a new one. While she was away I was going to get her that new refrigerator. By midweek I found just the buy . . . last year's model (it was really marked down!); 25 cu. ft. side-by-side, and it was white. I had it delivered Friday morning.

Marti and I talked every day while she was away. I kept reassuring her that I was doing OK. She told me of an ear ache that started sometime Wednesday. I told her that if she was feeling bad to go ahead and try to get a flight out of Florida instead of taking the bus back. No . . . she knew we really couldn't afford it. And besides, could you imagine how an ear ache would feel as the cabin of the plane pressurized? I left it up to her.

It's Friday and the new refrigerator came. She was going to love it! I couldn't wait for her to see it. It was all that I could do not to pick up the phone and tell her. We never kept secrets from each other. I was so anxious to see her face when she saw it.

I got all of my work done and came home a little earlier Friday to make sure *everything* was ready for Marti's return. I had left quite a bit of housework for the last minute. I also wanted to hang that light fixture that my sister had given to us that had now sat in the garage for the last year. Everything was going to be just perfect.

Then the phone rang. Marti had left Florida that morning to come home. It was probably her calling as the bus stopped for supper.

It was not Marti. "Mr. Beck?" (Oh, no . . . it must be a sales call.) "Yes," I replied in a cool tone. "Are you related to a Martha Beck?" "Yes." Then the words that caused my heart to leap into my throat, "This is the Tallahassee Memorial Hospital where your wife is a patient, hold on while I put the doctor on." The doctor explained that Marti had collapsed at the bus station and was in a coma. The ear infection had invaded her brain . . . it was very unusual but, if they didn't operate and remove part of her skull she would be dead within the hour. I gave carte blanche authority to do whatever they needed. Then the words, "Mr. Beck, you need to understand that at best she is working against small odds of survival." I couldn't believe it! This can't be true!

I called my sister who was about four hours away. We have always been so close. She said she was on her way.

This article, however, is not about my grief. It is not about me at all. It is about what happens from this moment on. It is about my brethren in Christ.

I called the elders where I worship. Before I hung up the phone it seemed, my house was full of the people who loved Marti and me more than anyone, my brethren. One was taking all of my calls; the word had spread like wildfire and the phone was ringing endlessly. Another was checking all the airlines for any flights out that night. The ladies were finishing up the cleaning of the house. Some



were upstairs packing my bags. If you knew these folks, you would expect nothing less.

There were no flights out and my sister and I headed out driving all night to get to Tallahassee from Peoria, Illinois. I called every hour on my cell phone. She remained stable through the night. I was by her bedside by Saturday afternoon. She would remain in a coma, I was told, for several days. It was best for her. My heart was broken.

It is Sunday morning. I awoke early and for the first time in over thirty years I questioned whether I was going to church services or not. I wanted to go to the hospital and be by Marti's side; but I knew where she would want me to be. And I knew where I should be. Knowing how badly I needed the Lord's help, how could I forsake him today? I went to worship services.

I went to the Centerville Road church. I was glad to be there among brethren. After services people were very friendly. There was a couple there that Marti and I knew about 20 years ago. Everyone was being so friendly, I hated to just rush out so I let them be hospitable. "What brings you to Tallahassee?" I told them of my reason to be there. Before I knew it people were offering all sorts of help. I explained that I didn't really need anything. Oh, yeah, there is one thing. "Marti would probably have to go through many weeks or months of therapy before she could come home," I explained, "Do you know of any apartments that rented month to month so I wouldn't have to sign a lease?" They said one of the members there had some apartments and that they would check.

Like I said, this article is not about me. It is really about how my grief was taken on by a congregation of God's people and shared. It is about how pain of the worst sort can be diminished when it is smothered by God's love as it is poured out through caring brethren.

The family who owned the apartments graciously provided a very nice apartment for me and the many family members who joined me. What I couldn't believe is how that empty apartment was filled with such love by Monday night. Many brethren participated in moving in appliances, couches, chairs, tables, sleeping facilities for all of my family, food, linens, etc. Nothing was overlooked.

I kept trying to put into words my gratitude. It was impossible. They kept telling me that I was helping them! They told of those who were moved by my experiences who had not previously been party to this type of endeavor who joined in. They kept assuring me that they were glad to do it. And I know that they were. These brethren, though their hearts were broken for me, were experiencing joy because they were serving Christ, whom they loved most of all.

I was a grown-up man, I thought, at nineteen;  
Though so much of this life was yet to be seen.  
She was a year younger and "naive," they said,  
The day we were married and shared the same bed.

I vowed to take care of her and be her man.  
I, being all we needed, was not God's plan.  
She vowed to submit and "Goest where I go;"  
But she led me into the life I would know.

You see, she raised this small boy of trembling heart;  
Teaching me to follow Jesus from the start.  
She never scolded, belittled, or preached;  
Through humility and love my soul she reached.

Headship of our home was never in question;  
The Lord came first, me next, was her concession.  
At times I was tempted to step from the track.  
She gently took my hand and guided me back.

Thirty-three years I thought I was leading her.  
As I look back now, I should have known better.  
She let me think I was the family's guide;  
The truth is now clear, without her by my side.

In where to go, what to do, and what to say;  
And the mundane decisions of every day.  
She made me look like a true man of wisdom.  
Behind the scenes she helped me make decisions.

Don't think that she wasn't a submissive wife;  
I just loved her so much I'd give her my life.  
She lived the example of Ephesians five  
Where love and submission, balanced, come alive.

I have matured in life since the day we met;  
She taught me to live and love without regret.  
She's gone now and in this life I'm left alone;  
But with her memory to guide me, I'll go on.

My life will be different, I'll hurt for awhile;  
I'll learn how to survive as I paste on this smile.  
I always thought I had control of my life;  
I know now I was nothing without my wife.

Don't feel sorry for me, or shed any tears;  
I've had the best life in those thirty-three years.  
With her strength and courage now, I'll get along.  
Until we're back together in our new home.

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# How Much Leaven Does It Take to Leaven the Whole Lump?

Hal Snyder

Like so many other questions, this one has two answers. The short answer is what Paul observed in 1 Corinthians 5:6: just “a little” bit. The long answer really deals with answering a more complex question: how “much” is “a little”?

The context of Paul’s answer was the sin of fornication (1 Cor. 5:1) that was being sanctioned by the Christians at Corinth — a young man was living as husband-and-wife with his step-mother! That fornication is a sin is obvious from such Scriptures as Romans 1:29, 1 Corinthians 6:18, 2 Corinthians 12:21, Galatians 5:9, and 1 Thessalonians 4:3. Under no circumstances can fornication ever merit God’s approval. It is always wrong.

Most readers can see that Paul is using “leaven” as a metaphor for “sin” and is in essence saying that just a little sin contaminates the local body of Christ and the souls of those who make up the church. Notice that the Greek word for “sin” is *hamartano* (a verb), and it literally means “to miss the mark” (W.E. Vine’s *An Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words*, 1046). When our Marines shoot at targets on the rifle range, the bull’s eye is the ten ring. Everything in the bull’s eye counts ten points towards their marksmanship score. Although the nine ring is right next to the bull’s eye, a bullet through this ring counts only nine points towards their score regardless if the bullet strikes above the bull’s eye or if it falls below (or to either side). Nine is almost ten, but it misses the mark of ten by a single point.

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In the darkest hour of my life I was not alone. Members of the Centerville church came every day. They didn’t hover, they came and expressed their affection and their care. Two of the elders and their wives from the Paris Avenue church, where I regularly worship in Peoria, came and stayed with me through the week. The Paris Avenue church held special prayer meetings for me and Marti, with many from neighboring churches coming as well.

The week that I was in Tallahassee, that ended in my wife’s death, will be remembered with fond memories all of my life. That week could have been remembered only with pain and anguish.

The purpose for my writing this article is to make sure you know, from one who was on the receiving end, brethren, when we serve those who are in trouble, we can truly make a difference in their lives. Don’t ever think that your efforts are wasted. My life has been changed because of the brethren in Tallahassee and my home congregation.

Brethren, we do make a difference in each other’s lives. I expected the church where I worship regularly to do all they can. They knew Marti and me well. It is easy to help those with whom you already have a loving relationship.

I never expected what the brethren did for me and my family while I was in Tallahassee. And I am disappointed in myself for that. I should have thought more highly of my brothers and sisters in Christ.

I write this article for the purpose of letting the “light” shine from the Centerville Road church, not for their glory, but for his. Follow their example as they follow him.

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## **The Impact of a Godly Wife**

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People fail to hit the mark by one of three ways: by failing to do those things which they should do (some folks call this a sin of omission, like not visiting the widows and orphans of James 1:26), by doing those things they shouldn't do (some folks call this a sin of commission; the New Testament term for this is *paraptoma*, which is translated "trespass" and means "a deviation from uprightness and truth" (Vine, 1166), or by going "beyond that which is written" (1 Cor. 4:6), which can also be termed a sin of commission. The New Testament term for this last way is *parabaino*, which is translated "transgress" and means to go beyond (Vine, 1161). "Lawlessness" (*anomia* or "disregard for the law" (Vine, 647) is similar to trespass, but both indicate rejection of God's will and substituting one's own will for God's.

Before making the spiritual application, let's notice briefly what has happened to those who are a part of the Restoration Movement that was stated in the late 1700s and early 1800s in America — a movement that sought to restore the church of Christ to its New Testament purity.

Just prior to the American Civil War, two things happened to influence Christians: the melodeon (or organ) was introduced into the worship service of the church in Midway, Kentucky, and the American Christian Missionary Society was founded (in Cincinnati, Ohio). These two digressions began a division of believers into two groups known as "progressives" and "conservatives." This division became permanent when the 1906 United States census recognized the former group as the Disciples of Christ (Christian Church) and the churches of Christ (which was composed of the "conservative" element of the American Restoration Movement).

While the churches of Christ continued striving to be the church of the New Testament, the Disciples grew into a full-fledged denomination. During the period immediately following World War II through the late 1950s and middle 1960s, faithful "conservatives" resisted the "liberal" digressions of institutionalism and the sponsoring church arrangement.

In a book compiled by Mac Lynn, *Churches of Christ in the United States* (Brentwood, TN: Morrison and Phillips Associates, 1994), conservative congregations are identified as being "Non-institutional: oppose church support of institutions and the sponsoring church concept of benevolence and missions" (93). Lynn does not identify "liberal" congregations, but he provides several identifying marks of an "anti."

Liberal brethren saw (and continue to see) nothing wrong with human institutions doing the work that God gave his church (in such areas as caring for widows and orphans).

Most of those who earlier supported institutionalism also embraced the sponsoring church arrangement, which manifests itself in the areas of benevolence and evangelism. As for the "antis," they see nothing right with having separate Bible classes, using multiple containers for the Lord's supper, or using a located preacher. Both of these digressions have one thing in common — they "go beyond that which is written" (2 Cor. 4:6) and thus "abideth not in the doctrine of Christ" (2 John 9).

Now for the spiritual application. Just as much as the congregation at Corinth was sanctioning fornication, brethren who today sanction the practices of liberalism or anti-ism endanger their eternal souls, for what they teach and practice is not the "doctrine of Christ" and, thus, they have not God (2 John 9). In addition to jeopardizing their souls, they threaten the collective influence of their congregation (Rev. 2:1-5).

In Paul's day, it was quite common for the heathen to practice fornication as a form of religious observance. Even though the fornication at Corinth was identified by Paul as being a "little" thing, since its continued practice would potentially destroy the souls of the Corinthian brethren, Paul directed the Corinthians to "purge out therefore the old leaven" (1 Cor. 5:6a) before others became influenced by the behavior of the fornicators.

Today, some brethren sanction a "little" liberalism (in the form of the sponsoring church arrangement, which is often used as a euphemism for a mini-missionary society, or institutionalism of any sort). Worse yet, when brethren sanction error, they become "partakers" in the "evil deeds" (2 John 11) of those practicing error, and, thus, share in the guilt of their sin. Whenever faithful brethren learn of such digression, our duty is two-fold: warn those practicing error (for they "cause divisions . . . contrary to the doctrine ye have learned") and after identifying them, we are to "avoid them" (Rom. 15:17).

The Holy Spirit, through the inspired apostle Paul, commanded that Christians have Bible authority for the things they do: "Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord" (Col. 3:17).

So long as we do Bible things in Bible ways, and call Bible things by Bible names, we will have God's approval (2 John 9b).

How "much" is "a little"? The answer remains the same as it was nearly 2,000 years ago: just a "little."

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# “The Church Of Whose Choice?”

Steven J. Wallace

You may have been driving down the road and by chance saw a sign on a vehicle which read something like this, “Start the week off right, join the church of your choice.” This saying implies that any church is sufficient, it must only be deemed good by your choice! This saying does not say or give any thought to what God’s choice is. It does not say, “Start the week off right, join the church of God’s choice.”

There is no consideration for what God’s choice is but only that of man. Consequently, those who have this mind set make the choosing of a church equal to the choosing of a flavor of ice-cream. One church is just as satisfactory as another depending on the individual’s choice, like chocolate is just as satisfying as vanilla, depending on choice alone.

If this is true, what difference does it make whether one is a member of the church of Christ or the Baptist Church? And if this is true, what difference does it make whether one is a member of the church of Christ or the church of Satan for members of both have chosen whom they serve. I wonder if those who advocate the standard of “choice” alone will consent to those who follow Satan? I think not! Most will deny that it is acceptable to be a member of the church of Satan, but if they deny it, they have shot down their philosophy of choice. What then makes it right or wrong to be a member of the church of Satan? Is it not the word of God? If it is not the word of God, then what is it? If we agree that the word of God condemns those who are members of Satan’s church, then should we not use the same word to justify our membership? Jesus said, “Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth” (John 17:17).

He also asked, “Why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not the things which I say?” (Luke 6:46).

Does the church where you worship do the things Jesus has asked? Do they teach what Jesus taught and do what Jesus commanded? Concerning salvation, do they teach as Jesus did, “He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned” (Mark 16:16), or do they teach faith only? Does the church of your choice partake of the Lord’s supper on the first day of the week (Acts 20:7), as the first century church did, or does it “choose” to do it once every month, quarter, or year?

Does the church of your choice teach that one must remain faithful to Christ until death in order to inherit life (Rev. 2:10), or does it teach falsely that once someone is saved, he is forever secured for salvation without regard to his conduct (1 Tim. 3:15; Heb. 3:12; 2 Pet. 3:11, 14)? Does the church of your choice have Jesus alone as the head (Eph. 5:23), or do they have some man residing in that position?

The Catholics have chosen the pope to be their governing head; the Mormon’s have chosen their so-called “apostles”; the Episcopal and Presbyterians have their councils, but where in the Bible do we see such positions authorized for mere men to occupy? I ask those who think that we are mean spirited for condemning the Catholic’s pope or the Mormon’s apostles, are you mean spirited when you condemn Satan, the obvious head of the church of Satan? There are some who have openly chosen and confessed Satan as their head! The fact remains; however, that any church which doesn’t submit fully to the authority of the King, Christ Jesus, is headed by Satan (Matt. 12:30; 28:18)! Does the church of your choice hold fast to the written word of God as their standard for authority, or are they governed by some man made written confession or creed? “For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged

sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart” (Heb. 4:12). Why be governed by creeds of men when the Bible says, “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)? Does this sound like you need anything other than God’s word?

Imagine if Jesus came down to earth and wanted to start a church of man’s choice rather than God’s? Imagine if Jesus wanted a church that is more tolerant on perversions like homosexuality and adultery. Wouldn’t this make the church so much more attractive to the masses? Why not have a church that calls drunkenness a disease rather than sin? Why not have a church that justifies stealing (on the grounds that you really need what you are taking)? Why not build a church that tolerates unrighteousness? Why build a church that teaches “. . . the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God . . .” (1 Cor. 6:9ff)?

Imagine if Jesus wanted to build a church that would tolerate religious diversity. He could have enjoyed a longer life, perhaps, if he never stirred up and accused those religious teachers around him of being hypocrites, blind guides, fools, whitewashed tombs, murderers, serpents, brood of vipers (Matt. 23:13ff.). Wouldn’t it have been easier for Jesus to remain silent, concerning their “choice,” rather than openly rebuking their sin?

What if Jesus wanted to build a kingdom of people who were allowed to deny him if they ever need to do so as to promote peace in certain environments? If Jesus would have denied himself as the Son of God, he probably could have lived a longer life (i.e., Luke 22:66-71). But Jesus never did deny himself and he expects us not to either. The inspired apostle Paul wrote, “If we endure we shall also reign with Him. If we deny Him, He also will deny us. If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny

Himself” (2 Tim. 2:12-13).

Finally would not Jesus have rather built a church with a lesser amount to purchase? If it was up to him, would he not have rather purchased the church with his words rather than his life? Could he say, “Father, I want to build the church of My choice with the price of my choice and not yours?” Yet many think they can join a church of their choice and not God’s and still be acceptable. Was it a small cost to be taken by lawless hands, beat on, spit on, stripped, ridiculed, literally nailed to some wood in the form of a cross, and publicly erected so that all who had eyes to see with could witness? Was this Jesus’ personal choice? This was God’s choice (2 Tim. 1:8-9)! Was this not rather a big price to pay for the church of God’s choice? How much would you be willing to pay for it? Jesus purchased the church with his blood (Acts 20:28), yet sadly some will not even sacrifice their own selfish lust for it.

The cross was not fun. In fact the Bible teaches that he despised the shame of the cross (Heb. 12:2), but endured it because of the reward. The reward was worth the price. This is why Jesus so often prayed, “Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will” (Mark 14:36). Is the church of your choice the church of God’s will?

Not all churches are genuine because they are built on sand (man-made doctrines, creeds, opinions, etc.) and not on the holy word of God. Jesus never promised to accept any person or church who fails to do the will of God (Matt. 7:21-23). Jesus never died so people (or churches for that matter) can live the way they want, but he demands that we live the way he wants us to (John 15:14; Rom. 12:1-2). The Bible is clear that there is just one body or church (compare Eph. 1:22-23 with Eph. 4:4). The question is, however, is that one church your choice? “. . . The churches of Christ greet you” (Rom. 16:16).

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# A Better Country

Rufus R. Clifford III

We are living in an age and a country where opportunities for success are bountiful. America is the home of the brave and the free! The land of opportunity where the door to fame and fortune is opened to everyone who would but strive to enter. Yes friends, we live in a wonderful country. In fact, people from other countries are coming to our country because they want to live the American dream! They are in search of “a better country.”

The Hebrew writer (Heb.11:1-16) lists some heroes of faith who we are told in v.13, “These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.”

You and I are just like them! We are pilgrims and strangers on this earth. We have never passed this way before and there are many dangers and pitfalls that may come our way, but we, like them, must remain faithful! Notice what the writer of Hebrews says they were looking for in v.16: “But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly; wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for he hath prepared for them a city.” What is it about this “better country” that makes it better than the country they were in? Why did they desire it? Why do you?

Let’s notice some things about this better country:

**1. It Is A Sinless Country.** Its waters are pure, its skies are blue, there are no gray clouds of despair, the air is not polluted, and there is no darkness there! Sin does not plague mankind there for there is no sin, only holiness! Yes, it truly is a better country.

**2. It Is A Healthy Country.** There are no visits to the doctor, no medicine to take, no pain to cause suffering, no battles to win against our aging bodies! This is a place where all feel good and where all feel fine because there is no sadness or discouragement in this land! There is no sickness, and most of all, there is no death! For this is a

healthy country where no tear or heartache resides. Yes, it truly is a better country.

**3. It Is A Perfect Country.** There are no imperfect beings living there! The Father is perfect, as is the Son! One will not find bitterness, sorrow, anger, envy, or hatred, nor will one find an evil heart or an evil tongue for such things will not be found in this land! The inhabitants of this country are pure and holy and righteous. Yes, it truly is a better country.

I want you to notice what we are told about these great heroes of faith. It doesn’t say in v.16 that they merely thought about this country, nor does it say that they only dreamed about this country!

The Holy Spirit through this writer says they “desire” a better country! When one desires something they are willing to do whatever it takes to achieve it no matter the cost.

We are told in v.13 that they all died in faith! How is it that they all died in faith? Were they merely the lucky ones? I believe the reason that they all died in faith is answered for us in v. 16! They had a “desire.” This word “desire,” according to Vine’s, is *orego* which means “to reach or stretch out, is used only in the middle voice, signifying the mental effort of stretching oneself out for a thing, of longing after it, with stress upon the object desired.”

Their desire was to go to the New Jerusalem, the City of God, Heaven, and because of that desire they lived in such a way that was pleasing to God! They obeyed the Lord while walking through this country and the result was they received a *better country*.

I, like them, am looking for this country too! I know it’s there because (v.16) tells me that God prepared for them a city! If he prepared it for them I know that it’s prepared for me also because my God is no respecter of persons (Acts

*continued top of next page*

10:34). Jesus in fact stated: “Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you” (John 14:1-2).

Some of my loved ones are in that *better country* now! I look forward to seeing them when I get there!

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### “Savior” continued from front page

God the Father is identified as Savior (Luke 1:47; 1 Tim. 1:1), the term most commonly refers to Jesus Christ as Savior.

At his birth an angel announced, “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a *Saviour*, which is Christ the Lord” (Luke 2:11). Though Matthew does not use the term “Savior” in his account of the birth of Christ, he has the angel say, “And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for *he shall save* his people from their sins” (Matt. 1:21). Jesus himself understood his mission as Savior, saying, “For the Son of man is come to seek and to *save* that which was lost” (Luke 19:10).

No man can save himself. We are dependent upon *deity* for our salvation. In the Pauline epistles the deity of Christ is referred to in connection with his role as Savior. Note these passages in Paul’s letter to Titus: “Not purloining, but showing all good fidelity; that they may adorn the doctrine of *God* (deity) our *Saviour* in all things . . . Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great *God* (deity) and our *Saviour Jesus Christ*” (Tit. 2:10, 13). These are references to the deity of Jesus, and they clearly teach that our salvation and deliverance must come from God.

Early in his ministry the role of Jesus as Savior was understood by those whom he encountered. At Jacob’s well, He met the woman of Samaria and taught her of the blessings he sought to give. She went to the people of her city and told them of her conversation with Christ, whereupon many of them went forth to talk with him themselves. The N.T. says “many more believed” when they heard the words of Jesus. Now notice, they said to the woman, “. . . for we have heard him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the *Savior* of the world” (John 4:42).

The term “savior” presupposes a danger or disaster from which the deliverer snatches the one whom he helps. That danger is clearly identified in the Scripture. We need deliverance from the worst affliction and trouble known to mankind — deliverance from sin. When John writes “. . . that the Father sent the Son to *be the Savior of the world*” (1 John 4:14), he was referring to the world’s problem of sin. Jesus came to deliver (save) us from sin (Matt. 1:21).

However, the *cost* of salvation would be great! The *Savior* would go to Calvary, and shed his own blood, to save us. There could be no greater expression of love and grace than that shown when the Father sent his Son to die in our stead (Isa. 53; Rom. 5:8-9), that we might be delivered from the curse of sin. Sin entered the world in the Garden of Eden, and men throughout all ages have continued to practice sin. The apostle Paul declared that “all have sinned” (Rom. 3:23). The Savior could give nothing greater than himself, so he sacrificed himself that we might be saved.

Today the church proclaims the gospel of salvation to men of this world who are lost and dying in sin. Jesus commissioned the church to do so (Mark 16:15; Rom. 1:16). He authored salvation to all of us who will *obey* him (Heb. 5:9). We are seeking to be faithful to our charge, and call sinners to come to the Savior. What a wonderful Savior he is! If you are lost, we are directing you to the *only Savior* you will ever have — *our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ*. Do you realize your need to be delivered from the sin which condemns you before God? If so, we plead with you, obey the Savior and be saved! Your salvation will not occur until you make up your mind to obey Christ.

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### “Isaiah” continued from page 2

casions when man has been in the presence of God, he is made aware of his sins. Consider some of these examples: (a) Moses: “And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground” (Exod. 3:5). (b) Moses: “And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live” (Exod. 33:20). (c) Gideon: “And when Gideon perceived that he was an angel of the Lord, Gideon said, Alas, O Lord God! for because I have seen an angel of the Lord face to face. And the Lord said unto him, Peace be unto thee; fear not: thou shalt not die” (Judg. 6:22-23). (d) Peter: “Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord. Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt his fisher’s coat unto him, (for he was naked,) and did cast himself into the sea” (John 21:7). One can never adequately serve the Lord until and unless he has a vision of his own sinfulness.

Contrast Isaiah’s consciousness of his sin with the attitude of the Pharisees as demonstrated in such passages as Luke 18:11-12; 7:39; 15:1-2, 24-32; 19:7; Matthew 3:7-10. Isaiah had a deep awareness of his own sinfulness



that qualified him to be able to proclaim the grace of God to others. He wrote of the self-righteousness of his own people in that day saying,

I am sought of them that asked not for me; I am found of them that sought me not: I said, Behold me, behold me, unto a nation that was not called by my name. I have spread out my hands all the day unto a rebellious people, which walketh in a way that was not good, after their own thoughts; a people that provoketh me to anger continually to my face; that sacrificeth in gardens, and burneth incense upon altars of brick; which remain among the graves, and lodge in the monuments, which eat swine's flesh, and broth of abominable things is in their vessels; *which say, Stand by thyself, come not near to me; for I am holier than thou.* These are a smoke in my nose, a fire that burneth all the day (Isa. 65:1-5).

These people had to become aware that their own "righteousness" was but "filthy rags" (Isa. 64:6). Isaiah said, "Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the Lord, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward. Why should ye be stricken any more? Ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment" (Isa. 1:4-6). Who was better prepared to make others aware of their sinfulness than one who was first aware of his own?

When men begin to "trust in their own righteousness" and look down their self-righteous noses at those not as righteous as they are, they display the same attitude as did the Pharisees. Isaiah had first to realize his own sinful condition before he could effectively convict others of their sin. The Lord cleansed Isaiah of his sins (6:6-7). *Praise God! There is forgiveness from the Lord* (Exod. 34:6-7). All of God's messengers are forgiven sinners pointing other sinners to the Lord's forgiveness.

### Isaiah's Compulsion to Go

When the Lord appeared to Isaiah, he asked, "Whom shall I send and who will go for us?" (6:8). (Note the plural pronoun "us," as it also appears in Genesis 1:26. The plural pronouns are consistent with the trinitarian nature of God.) God had a mission for Isaiah. However, he wanted a volunteer, not a slave serving against his own will. So, God asked, "Who will go?" rather than ordering Isaiah to go against his will. Men can run from responsibility, like Jonah. Or men can accept responsibility willingly, like Isaiah. Isaiah volunteered to serve saying, "Here am I send me."

Many of God's servants are reluctant servants. Moses made every kind of excuse before accepting the mission that God had for him. (a) "They will not believe me" (Exod.

4:1). (b) "I am not eloquent" (Exod. 4:10). (c) Send someone else: "And he said, O my Lord, send, I pray thee, by the hand of him whom thou wilt send" (Exod. 4:13). Jonah ran from God before accepting his mission.

I am convinced that most of those who preach do so because they cannot do anything else, because the Spirit of the Lord is constraining them to speak. Jeremiah tried to restrain himself, but could not. "Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay" (Jer. 20:9). Job said, "For I am full of matter, the spirit within me constraineth me. Behold, my belly is as wine which hath no vent; it is ready to burst like new bottles. I will speak, that I may be refreshed: I will open my lips and answer" (Job 32:18-20). David said, "I was dumb with silence, I held my peace, even from good; and my sorrow was stirred. My heart was hot within me, while I was musing the fire burned: then spake I with my tongue" (Ps. 39:2-3). The apostles said, "For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20). Friend, if you can turn off and on your desire to preach, like a faucet, you don't need to preach.

### Isaiah's Audience

The sad situation for Isaiah was that he had to preach to an audience who refused God's word. Many of God's prophets were blessed to preach to receptive audiences. Thousands responded to Jonah, so much so that he was angry that God's judgment did not come on Nineveh. On Pentecost thousands obeyed the gospel. In the Philippines hundreds are obeying the gospel.

But, for Isaiah and others of God's prophets and preachers, God's message was rejected. God told Isaiah before he went that the people would not hear (6:9-10). Think of some others who preached to men unwilling to hear: (a) Noah (Gen. 6:1-5); (b) Elijah and Elisha; (c) Jeremiah; (d) Jesus.

Isaiah asked for how long he was to preach (6:11). One would think that his time would be shortened because of their refusal to hear. However, God said that he wanted him to preach until the cities were destroyed.

When God sends men to preach to an unwilling audience, he can give them a "hard head." God said to Ezekiel, "Behold, I have made thy face strong against their faces, and thy forehead strong against their foreheads. As an adamant harder than flint have I made thy forehead: fear them not, neither be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house" (Ezek. 3:8-9). He strengthened men to withstand the people's rejection of the word of God that they preached.

## Conclusion

May the Lord give us "hard heads" to keep on preaching to this generation that is so deaf to God's word, to an audience that is deaf to its saving message. Let us present the testimony of the Lord to this generation that is more interested in its mutual funds than in morality, entertainment than in enlightenment, and sensualism than in salvation. Then, when the Lord's second coming occurs, men will know that the gospel was preached among them.

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6567 Kings Ct., Avon, Indiana 46123 mikewillis1@compuser.com

## Preachers Needed

Easley, South Carolina: The West Main Street church of Christ in Easley is looking for a full time evangelist. Easley is located in the foothills of South Carolina about ten miles west of Greenville in the fastest growing area of the state. The congregation is small with ample potential for growth. At the present time only partial support can be provided. For further information contact Lowell Frazier at (864) 878-1909 (e-mail: frazierlc@aol.com) or 711 Stewart Gin Rd., Liberty, SC 29657.

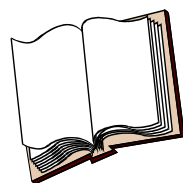
Doniphan, Missouri: The Southside church of Christ in Doniphan is looking for a preacher. Their average attendance is 25. They can supply \$400 per week toward support. If interested, contact Lial Holland (573) 996-7600 (days) or (573) 996-3513 (evenings) or Charles Sebourn at (573) 354-2429 (evenings).

Mobile, Alabama: The West Mobile church of Christ, 129 Hillcrest Road is in need of a full-time preacher. Jeff McCrary is leaving this summer to work with another congregation. Attendance varies from 60 to 85 on Sundays. The prospects for future growth are good. If interested, please send a resume, recommendation, and two audio tapes of sermons to Gary Atkins, 3105 Autumn Ridge Dr. W., Mobile, AL 36695 or call him at (334) 660-8397, or call Ron Rosenberger at (334) 639-7218, e-mail: gatk3373@aol.com.

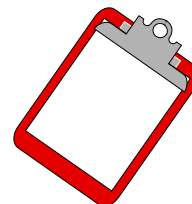
LaVergne, Tennessee: An experienced evangelist is needed to work full-time to help develop the small congregation in LaVergne, Tennessee. This is a rapidly growing area which is both a suburb of Nashville (16 miles away) and a growing industrial area. Support of \$3500 is available from the congregation. They prefer someone who likes to do personal work. If interested, please contact Louis E. Mullen, 104 Hankins Dr., Smyrna, TN 37167, (615) 459-8171.

### A Program To Help Philippine Preachers Build Their Library

Brother Jim McDonald has worked extensively in the Philippines. He relates that many of the men preaching in the Philippines are desperately in need of some books to assist them in their study. He has suggested a program in which someone volunteers to send one book a month to a Filipino preacher to help him build his library. Would you be willing to "adopt" a preacher to help him build his library? If so, contact Jim McDonald (P.O. Box 155032, Lufkin, TX 75915-5032; phone: 1-409-637-0229; e-mail: Jim\_Mc@juno.com) and he will make the arrangements for you pay for books to be sent to a Filipino preacher. The cost should be under \$20-25 per month.



## Quips & Quotes



### Belen, New Mexico Church in New Location

The Rio Grande Valley church of Christ has moved to its new location at 75 Sherrod Blvd. in Rio Communities. We had previously met for the past 12 years in the Rio Communities Valley Community Plaza, Suite 384. Our new building is approximately two miles northeast of our old meeting place. For those of you that might be traveling to our area, here are the directions to the new building. From I-25 North and South take any of the Belen exits to Main Street. From Main Street go east on Reinken (also known as River Road). Pass over the Santa Fe Railroad tracks and then the Rio Grande River. Once past the Rio Grande River, at the intersection of River Road and Highway 47, take a left (north on Hwy. 47). Travel about eight tenths of a mile and then take a right on Sherrod Blvd. (east), and the church building will be about one half mile up the road on your left.

We are a congregation of approximately 50 individuals that are striving to do the Lord's work here in central New Mexico. The Rio Grande Valley church of Christ has a rich history of defending the truth of God's word. It was here in 1988, that the members of the local church defended the truth on marriage, divorce, and re-marriage, against the false teaching of brother Homer Hailey. The church is now made up of mostly very young converts to the faith.

We are so pleased to be able to be in a new building and are now looking forward to sharing the gospel with more precious souls in this community. We thank those of you who have helped work with the church here in the past and have had a part in making it what it is today. For further information about the Rio Grande Valley church of Christ or its location, please write to: Richie Thetford, 47 Juniper Ave., Los Lunas, NM 87031, (505) 565-1285 or E-Mail at: Thetford5@aol.com

#### Drug, Alcohol Use in Media

“WASHINGTON — Musicians sing about guzzling liquor, and movie stars puff cigarettes and take drugs on the big screen. But federal officials ask: Where is the unglamorous side of substance use — like hangovers, slurred speech or getting in trouble with the law?

“A government study released Wednesday says people were depicted doing drugs, drinking or smoking in 98 percent of the top movie rentals and 27 percent of the most popular songs in 1996 and 1997. Fewer than half these movie scenes and song lyrics mentioned any downside to these activities.

“The \$400,000 study of 200 movies — rated from “G” for all ages to “NC-17,” no one younger than 17 admitted — and 1,000 songs was commissioned by the Office of National Drug Control Policy and the Department of Health and Human Services. . . .

“Among the study’s findings:

- Of the movies, 93 percent showed alcohol use, 89 percent tobacco use, and 22 percent drug use.
- Of the songs, 17 percent included lyrics about people drinking alcohol, 18 percent using drugs and 3 percent smoking.
- More than half of the movies and more than 80 percent of the songs that mentioned drugs and alcohol indicated no consequence to users.
- Of the 669 major adult characters in the movies, 5 percent used illicit drugs, 25 percent smoked and 65 percent drank alcohol (*The Indianapolis Star* [April 29, 1999], A5).

#### Oldest Deep-sea Shipwrecks Found in Mediterranean Sea

“Tel Aviv, Israel — Phoenician mariners sailed more than 2,700 years ago into the uncertain waters of the Mediterranean, praying to their storm god for a successful voyage — only to meet death in a fierce tempest.

“Now, American explorer Robert Ballard has located

their two ships — the world’s oldest known deep-water sea wrecks — using the same techniques he used to find the Titanic.

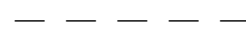
“The vessels’ cargo — large ceramic containers of wine — probably was headed to the pharaoh’s table in Egypt or to the Phoenician colony of Carthage in present-day Tunisia, Ballard said. . . .

“The ships’ contents indicate they set sail from the Phoenician port of Tyre — now a city in Lebanon — about 750 B.C. Both vessels were transporting hundred of ceramic jugs, called amphorae, filled with wine.

“. . . Ballard, a former naval officer and oceanographer, uncovered the Phoenician vessels about 30 miles off Israel with the aid of an underwater robot, deep-water tracking equipment and a global positioning satellite. He was led to the area after a team looking for the Dakkar, an Israeli submarine that sank 35 years ago, photographed what appeared to be the remains of an ancient shipwreck.

“. . . Ballard said the two vessels were the first intact Phoenician ships ever found and will aid historians and archaeologists, who until now had to rely on classical texts and the Bible for an idea about Phoenician shipping. Phoenicians were a seafaring people who lived along the Levantine coast for about 2,000 years, beginning in 2300 B.C.

“Two other shipwrecks found in recent years are older than the Phoenician find, dating to about 1300 B.C. to 1200 B.C. But they were found in shallower waters and were not in as good condition” (*The Indianapolis Star* [June



### The Church of Christ

The church of Christ is on the Rock  
Which never shall be moved;  
Upon the Word she firmly stands,  
A sure foundation proved.

Christ bought her with His precious blood  
To be His holy bride;  
He washed and cleansed her with the Word,  
For 'twas her life He died.

Her pillars hold the mighty walls  
Against the pow'rs of sin;  
The Lord is made chief cornerstone,  
Our shelter, and defense.

Ira Mikell

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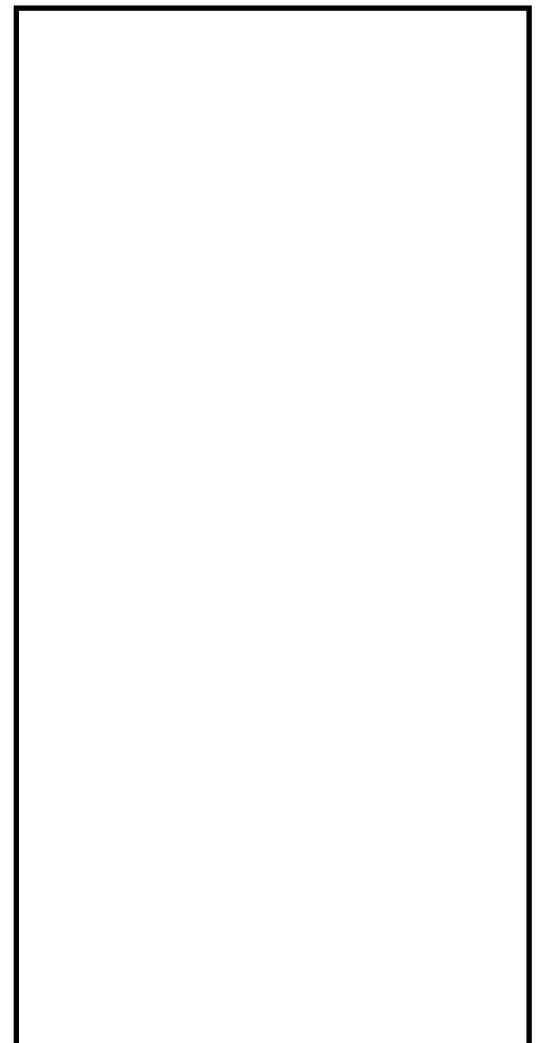
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— **Connie W. Adams.**

“I have read the magazine for years. In fact, I read the *Truth Magazine* back in the 60s and also the *Gospel Guardian* during that same period. I watched the blending of the magazines. I recommend the present magazine very much. I benefit from the articles. Stay the course” — **John Humphries.**



# DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES

*The following congregations have paid for advertising in Guardian of Truth. Inclusion of churches in this list is not an attempt by Guardian of Truth to certify their faithfulness to God. We do believe that you will find the vast majority striving to uphold the word in faith and practice.*

<p style="text-align: center;">KENNETT, MO</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church of Christ 703 Harrison St.</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (573) 888-6778</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">BEATRICE, NE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church of Christ 7th and Bell</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. 233-4102 or 228-3827</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Heights Church of Christ 7801 Zuni Road, S.E.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Dee Lancaster 266-7577 or 293-5635</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Harris Blvd. Church of Christ 5424 E.W.T. Harris Blvd.</p> <p>Worship 8:30 A.M. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Various members of local congregations Don Moeller (704) 532-9242</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Old Hwy. 64 at Warne</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (704) 389-6892 or 389-3097</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Church of Christ 409 McNaughton Rd.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. 868-1375 or 866-4535</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">LILBOURN, MO</p> <p style="text-align: center;">P.O. Box 270 211 Benton St.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Shane Williams (573) 688-2234 or 748-5204</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PORTSMOUTH, NH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church of Christ Anchorage Inn, 417 Woodbury Ave. (Rt.1 Bypass at I-95, Traffic Circle)</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Bible Study 12:00 Noon Jeff Swan — Call for more information (603) 323-9333 or 1-800-841-7857</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ALBUQUERQUE, NM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Westside Church of Christ Sequoia Plaza 3320 Coors Blvd., NW</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (505) 839-9880</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DALLAS, NC</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Deepwood Forest Church of Christ 2002 Lineburger Rd., Hwy. 275 (Between Dallas &amp; Stanley)</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Louis Woollums (704) 922-8985</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LAS VEGAS, NV</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vegas Dr. Church of Christ 3816 Vegas Drive</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: John Robertson (702) 648-4827</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DAYTON, OH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church of Christ 300 Haynes St.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Wayne S. Walker 256-6647 or 256-0127</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">MARSHFIELD, MO</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Brentwood Church of Christ Hwy. 38 East, South on Elm St., 1/2 mile</p> <p>Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: Norman Cass (417) 859-5166</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MT. LAUREL, NJ</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mt. Laurel Church of Christ in the Philadelphia Area</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. (609) 665-2496</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">AZTEC, NM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Aztec Area Church of Christ 304 N. Main St.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 1:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (505) 334-0874 or 334-3913</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FAYETTEVILLE, NC</p> <p style="text-align: center;">West Fayetteville Church of Christ 5272 Butternut Dr.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Phillip Arnold (910) 424-5162</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">BEDFORD, OH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Columbus St. Church of Christ 512 Columbus Road</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Harry Rice Building: (216) 232-2231 Home: (216) 232-9068</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DAYTON, OH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">West Carrollton 23 W. Main Street</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Mike Grushon 856-5162 or 434-3090</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">RAYMORE, MO</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Raymore Church of Christ 107 N. Woodson St.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Mark Wadlington (816) 322-0042 or 318-0838</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PISCATAWAY, NJ</p> <p style="text-align: center;">258 Highland Ave.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:15 A.M. Bible Classes 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Gary P. Eubanks (732) 463-1323</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">BUFFALO, NY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Greater Buffalo Church of Christ P.O. Box 808, W. Seneca</p> <p>Bible Study 2:00 A.M. Worship 3:00 A.M. Tuesday 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: Roy Diestelkamp (716) 627-6546 E-Mail address: edgibson@juno.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FRANKLIN, NC</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Westside Church of Christ 156 Old Murphy Road</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Mid-Week 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: John Gurtler (704) 369-5186 or 369-8216</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CANAL WINCHESTER, OH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Eastside Church of Christ Southeast side of Columbus 7 1/2 N. High St.</p> <p>Worship 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (614) 837-8859</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DAYTON (Beavercreek) OH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Knollwood Church of Christ 1031 Welford Drive</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Keith Greer 426-1422 or 426-3325</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">ST. JAMES, MO</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church of Christ 400 E. James Blvd. (P.O. Box 308)</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Larry Morris (573) 265-8973 or 265-8628</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HELP VACATIONING CHRISTIANS FIND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP THIS SPACE \$25.00 PER QUARTER \$95.00 PER YEAR</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HUDSON, NY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church of Christ P.O. Box 573, Hudson Bldg: 86 Main St., Philmont</p> <p>Worship 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 10:45 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (518) 828-2923, 329-3833, or 672-4904</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">GRANITE FALLS, NC</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church of Christ 24 Park Square</p> <p>Between Hickory &amp; Lenoir Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (704) 396-8107 or 294-6878</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CINCINNATI, OHIO</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Blue Ash Church of Christ</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Russell Dunaway, Jr. 891-3174</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HELP VACATIONING CHRISTIANS FIND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP THIS SPACE \$25.00 PER QUARTER \$95.00 PER YEAR</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">ST. JOSEPH, MO</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church of Christ 2727 County Line Rd.</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (816) 233-2463 or 279-4737</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">VAUXHALL, NJ</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church of Christ Milbourn Mall Suite 6 2933 Vauxhall Rd.</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Harry A. Persaud (973) 378-8999 or (908) 964-6356</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ASHEVILLE, NC</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church of Christ Holiday Inn East (Please call for directions.)</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evangelist: Joe Hickman (828) 254-7332 or 684-3111</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SALISBURY, NC</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Salisbury Church of Christ 1037 Faith Road</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (704) 639-1135 or 279-4324</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HELP VACATIONING CHRISTIANS FIND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP THIS SPACE \$25.00 PER QUARTER \$95.00 PER YEAR</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FREMONT, OH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church of Christ 3261 W. State St.</p> <p>1 mi. West of Fremont on U.S. Rt. 20</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (419) 849-3340 or 849-3686</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">ST. JOSEPH, MO</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Prairie Hills Church of Christ 14273 County Rd. 307 (7 mi. E of Intersection I-29 &amp; Hwy. 169)</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Kyle White (816) 233-6485</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ALAMOGORDO, NM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">25th &amp; Hawaii Church of Christ P.O. Box 2065</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Boyd Jennings (505) 439-9810 or 430-0494</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CARY, NC</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Walnut St. Church of Christ (Raleigh) 217 Walnut St.</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: (919) 467-0012 Jeff Archer: 319-1757</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SANFORD, NC</p> <p style="text-align: center;">West Sanford Church of Christ 202 Westover Drive (1 blk. from US 1 and NW 42W)</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Nay Rieber (919) 775-5107 or 774-6935 Tom Gray, 776-0373</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CINCINNATI, OH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lockland Church of Christ 419 W. Wyoming Ave. Exit 121-75 - W. 2 blocks</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Mid-Week 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Calvin Schabach 821-0410 or 733-3187</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HAMILTON, OH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Westview Church of Christ 1040 Aael Ave.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:35 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: David A. Stansberry (513) 868-9988</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">SPRINGFIELD, MO</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Southside Church of Christ 1517 E. Cherokee St.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:40 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Tim Glover (417) 881-3131 or 886-5304</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ALBUQUERQUE, NM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Albuquerque Church of Christ 1908 Sunshine Terrace SE</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (call to confirm time) 764-9277</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CHARLOTTE, NC</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Charlotte Church of Christ 5327 S. Tyrone St.</p> <p>Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Wendell Powell (704) 525-5655 or 522-9971</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WINSTON-SALEM, NC</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church of Christ 2800 S. Main St.</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening (call 336-784-5058) Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (336) 998-4002 or 785-2475</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CLEVELAND, OH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lorain Ave. Church of Christ 13501 Lorain Ave.</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (216) 476-0660, 651-1689 or (330) 725-3960, 723-0111</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HUBER HEIGHTS (Dayton), OH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Northern Heights Church of Christ 5430 Fishburg Rd. SW cnr. of Rt. 201 &amp; Fishburg</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Bible Study 7:00 P.M. (513) 236-7611</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">ALBUQUERQUE, NM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ALBUQUERQUE, NM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CHARLOTTE, NC</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WARNE, NC</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Warne Church of Christ</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">COLUMBUS, OH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Laurel Canyon</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HILLIARD, OH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church of Christ</p>

# DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES

<p>4840 Cemetery Rd. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (614) 876-4089</p>	<p>386 N. Edgewood Drive Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Randy Yerby</p>	<p>Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: J.T. Smith 627-5670 or 664-6629</p>	<p>Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Friday 6:30 P.M. (803) 553-4970 or 553-4346</p>	<p>Bible Study 9:15 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Mid-week 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Ken Weliever 388-6811 or 381-7401</p>	<p>Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ken Green (615) 868-6078 or 662-8200</p>
HELP	SALEM, OH Church of Christ	TULSA, OK Woodland Hills Church of Christ	COLUMBIA, SC Lower Richland Church of Christ 3000 Trotter Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M.	COLUMBIA, TN Mooreville Pike Church of Christ 417 Mooreville Pike (.8 mi. N. of Hwy. 50/Jas. Campbell)	MARYVILLE, TN Smoky Mt. Church of Christ 2206 Montvale Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M.
VACATIONING CHRISTIANS FIND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP THIS SPACE \$25.00 PER QUARTER \$95.00 PER YEAR	484 Georgetown Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (330) 337-6113	9119 E. 61 St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Mike Pittman (918) 252-1220 or 258-2720	Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: J. David Powlas (803) 783-6059 or 776-0754	Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Kevin Maxey (931) 388-5828 or 380-1226	Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. C.H. Buld (423) 984-4708 Harold Tabor (423) 977-4230 Gary Kirtley (423) 981-1885
MANSFIELD, OH Eastside Church of Christ 326 Grace Street Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Evangelist: James Bond 526-2868 or 526-4739	UHRICHSVILLE, OH Church of Christ 638 Parrish Street Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Mid-week 7:00 P.M. (614) 254-4066, or (216) 339-3032	AVONDALE, PA Avondale Church of Christ Glen Willow Rd. P.O. Box 421 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Daniel Gatlin, Evangelist (610) 268-2088, 869-2194	SUMTER, SC 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 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: A.A. Granke, Jr. 773-0828	DIXON SPRINGS, TN Dixon Springs Church of Christ Old Hwy. 25 (between Hartselle & Carthage) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (615) 868-9266	MCMINNVILLE, TN West End Ave. Church of Christ P.O. Box 37110 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David Young (615) 668-7453
MANSFIELD, OH Southside Church of Christ 687 Mansfield-Lucas Road Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Evangelist: Leon Bond (419) 525-3684 or 522-8982	WAVERLY, OH 4th & Mullins Church of Christ Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (614) 947-7122 or 947-1718	CARLISLE, PA Walnut Bottom Rd. Church of Christ 2637 Walnut Bottom Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Tim Hawk (717) 776-6122	TAYLORS, SC (Greenville Area) Taylors Church of Christ 400 E. Main St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Bill Mosely (864) 268-5224 or 877-2728 www.taylors church of christ.com	ERWIN, TN Church of Christ N. Erwin Hwy. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jerry A. (Tony) Sayre (615) 743-8251 or 743-4142	MEMPHIS, TN Burlington Church of Christ 3825 S. Germantown Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Doug Seaton (901) 754-2765 or 853-7840
MARIETTA/RENO, OH Jct. St. Rt. 7 & County Rd. 20 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Mid-week 7:00 P.M. Wed. - 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th weeks Thurs. - 1st week 614-374-9827	ALTUS, OK Southeast Church of Christ 1105 Navajo Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (580) 535-4767	EXTON, PA Exton Church of Christ 217 N. Whitford Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. 363-8042	WARRENVILLE, SC (Aiken/Augusta Area) Warrenville Church of Christ P.O. Box 98 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (803) 648-9451 or 649-0439	FRANKLIN, TN Cedarport Church of Christ Arno Rd. & Hwy. 96E (P.O. Box 682042) (1 mile East of I-65 South) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jim Gambill (615) 790-2075	MEMPHIS, TN Rocky Pt. Road Church of Christ 516 E. Rocky Point Rd., Cordova Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Dick Blackford (901) 388-2474 or 757-9001
NEW CARLISLE, OH Church of Christ 235 Funston Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jim Lee (937) 235-2470	MIDWEST CITY, OK Fifth St. Church of Christ 6512 SE Fifth St., Box 30544 (Near Tinker AFB) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Robert Bond (405) 737-5858 or 737-8272	PHILADELPHIA, PA Church of Christ 45 W. Durham St. P.O. Box 4985 Bible Study 10:15 A.M. Worship 11:15 A.M. Tues. night 8:00 P.M. Evangelist: James H. Baker, Jr. (215) 248-2026 or 753-1362	WEST COLUMBIA, SC Airport Church of Christ 4013 Edmund Hwy. (Hwy. 302) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (803) 755-0023 or 894-6471	GOODLETTSVILLE, TN Millersville Church of Christ 1158 Louisville Hwy. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Mid-week 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jason Malham (615) 859-1841 or 859-5941	MEMPHIS, TN Hunters Run Church of Christ 6590 Stalene Road (west of Germantown Rd. Ext.) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Julian R. Snell (901) 853-6726 or 363-9133
NEW LEBANON, OH Church of Christ 1973 W. Main St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Glen Murphy, Jr. 687-2985	OKLAHOMA CITY, OK Broadview Heights Church of Christ 3536 NW 38 St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: James B. Lusby 946-6301 or 728-3058	VANDERYRIFT, PA Church of Christ 1564 Farragut Ave. Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:30 A.M. Thursday 7:30 P.M. (412) 337-4488	RAPID CITY, SD Church of Christ 1302 E. Fairmont Blvd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Matt Allen (605) 348-7990 or 688-9170	JACKSON, TN Old Hickory Church of Christ 841 Old Hickory Blvd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Gary Kerr 668-1794 or 664-5295	MURFREESBORO, TN 663 Compton Road (1 mi. E. of VA Hospital) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Assembly 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. David Arnold (615) 896-6550 or 896-9474 Web page: <a href="http://www.mtsu.edu/~arnoldd/bible.html">http://www.mtsu.edu/~arnoldd/bible.html</a>
HELP	PURCELL, OK Jackson & Green Ave. Church of Christ 407 Jackson Street (Mailing address - Rt. 1, Box 80A) Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. 527-3538 or 872-3596	BEAUFORT, SC Church of Christ 2107 King St., P.O. Box 4 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Paris Island, 8:00 A.M., Sunday Evangelist: Ronald Nelson (843) 524-4400 or 524-4652	CHATTANOOGA, TN North Hixson Church of Christ 5484 Old Hixson Pike Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Bill Walton (423) 870-8029 or 842-5526	JOHNSON CITY, TN Brookmead Church of Christ 2428 Lakeview Drive Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Kevin Kay 615-928-4000 or 753-9865	MURFREESBORO, TN Northfield Blvd. Church of Christ 2091 Pitts Ln. at Northfield Blvd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Kyle Campbell and Bill Cavender (615) 893-1200
NORTHWOOD, OH (Toledo Area) Church of Christ 4110 Frey Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Donald Jarabek 893-3566 or 691-0688	STILLWATER, OK East 6th Ave. Church of Christ 2417 E. Sixth Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ron Eppler (405) 743-2603, 377-2847	BEAUFORT/BURTON, SC Church of Christ 170 Robert Smalls Pkwy. (Hwy. 170) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (803) 524-4281 or 525-1483	CLEVELAND, TN Highway 64 Church of Christ 111 Durkee Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (423) 344-7259, 479-6990 or 339-1068	KNOXVILLE, TN 7604 Chapman Hwy. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Roger D. Williams (423) 573-6638	MURFREESBORO, TN South Ridge Church of Christ 488 Barfield-Crescent Rd. (Exit 81 off I-24, south 1 1/2 miles on 2315, turn right) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (615) 848-0303 or 893-5070
NORWALK, OH Church of Christ State Rt. 250 & 13 North	TULSA, OK Church of Christ 1702 S. Memorial Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M.	CHARLESTON HEIGHTS, SC Ashley Heights Church of Christ 2605 S. Oakridge Cir. Bible Study 9:30 A.M.	COLUMBIA, TN Jackson Hts. Church of Christ 1200 Nashville Hwy., Hwy. 31N	MADISON, TN Church of Christ Kemper at Tuckahoe Dr. (10 min. from Opryland) Bible Study 9:00 A.M.	MURFREESBORO, TN University Heights Church of Christ 1412 East Main St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M.

# DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ALLEN, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church of Christ 303 E. Main St.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Foy W. Vinson 424-5766</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ALVARADO, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">I-35 Church of Christ (E. Service Rd. of I-35, North of Alvarado)</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (817) 783-6308 or 790-7253</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CLEBURNE, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church of Christ 404 South Caddo St.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (817) 645-3588</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>DUMAS, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Central Church of Christ 424 E. First St.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: David M. Bonner (806) 935-5363 or 935-6883</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>HOUSTON, TX (Southwest)</b> Murphy Rd. Church of Christ</p> <p>in Oak Forest 1333 Judway</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Mid-week 7:30 P.M. (713) 686-0788</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>HOUSTON, TX (East Dallas)</b> Westlake Church of Christ</p> <p>427 Gross Rd., 75149</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Bobby Holmes (817) 277-9186 or (972) 262-3818</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NASHVILLE, TN</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Bell Road Church of Christ 1608 Bell Road</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Bill O'Neal (615) 833-4444 or 941-1134</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ALVIN, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">House St. Church of Christ 516 W. House St.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Harry R. Osborne (713) 331-4953 or 331-9305</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CLEVELAND, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church of Christ 310 E. Houston</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Raymond Meaux 281-592-1581</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>EDNA, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">301 South Robison</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (512) 782-5506 or 782-2844 Elders: S.A. Mercer &amp; S. Wilson Evangelist: Boyd Jennings Web Page <a href="http://kycc.com/cofc/">http://kycc.com/cofc/</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>HOUSTON, TX</b> Spring Woods Church of Christ</p> <p>9955 Neuens Rd. at Witte Rd.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Church Phone (713) 973-6667 Elders: 468-4753, 461-2222, or 863-1927</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MIDLAND, TX</b> Midland Church of Christ</p> <p>3416 Thomson</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Mid-week 7:30 P.M. 694-3482 or 683-6725</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NASHVILLE, TN</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Hillview Church of Christ 7471 Charlotte Pike</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jim Mickells (615) 356-7318 or 952-3433</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ANGELTON, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Kiber St. Church of Christ P.O. Box 1162</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Rick Moore (409) 849-6246</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CLUTE, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church of Christ 343 S. Main</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Ron Lloyd 265-5283 or 265-2933</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>EL PASO, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Eastridge Church of Christ 3277 Pendleton Road</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Ken Looper (915) 821-1084 (915) 855-4327</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>HUNTINGTON, TX</b> Church of Christ</p> <p>P.O. Box 858 One block north of U.S. 69</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (409) 422-4623</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NACOGDOCHES, TX</b> Mound &amp; Starr Church of Christ</p> <p>1439 N. Mound St.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Randy Harshbarger</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NASHVILLE, TN</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Perry Heights Church of Christ 423 Donelson Pike</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:55 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Daniel H. King (615) 883-3118 or 366-5009</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>AUSTIN, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cedar Park Church of Christ Brushy Crk. Rd. &amp; Mustange Cedar Park, Texas</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jim Everett (512) 259-0924 or 219-6816</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>COLLEGE STATION, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church of Christ 810 Southwest Pkwy.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Wayne Moody 764-6562 or 693-1758</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FORT WORTH, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Woodmont Church of Christ Altamesa at Landview ("at the overpass")</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Tom M. Roberts 292-4908 or 294-9706</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>IRVING, TX</b> Westside Church of Christ</p> <p>2300 W. Pioneer Dr. (closest to D/FW Airport)</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Mark Roberts 258-8527 or (214) 986-9131 <a href="http://www.flashnet/~westside">http://www.flashnet/~westside</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ODESSA, TX</b> Crescent Park Church of Christ</p> <p>1415 Royalty</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Paul Smith (915) 362-1777 or 366-5071</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NASHVILLE, TN</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Riverside Dr. Church of Christ 1530 Riverside Dr. (Close to Opryland and new stadium)</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Wilson Adams (615) 262-0241</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>AUSTIN, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wonsley Dr. Church of Christ 507 E. Wonsley Dr.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jeff Smith (512) 990-7158 or 836-8532 Wonsleycoc@aol.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>COLUMBUS, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">West Oaks Church of Christ 214 FM 806</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Herbert Thornton Jr. (409) 732-3001</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FORT WORTH, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">West Side Church of Christ 6110 White Settlement Rd. 76114</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Stan Cox (817) 738-7269</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>LANCASTER, TX</b> Dallas Avenue Church of Christ</p> <p>601 N. Dallas Ave.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:25 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Charles Boshart (972) 227-2910 or 227-1119</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SPRING CREEK CHURCH OF CHRIST</b></p> <p>2100 W. Spring Creek Pkwy.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (972) 398-3221 or 231-3748</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ROCKWOOD, TN</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Post Oak Rd. Church of Christ 1227 Post Oak Valley Rd.</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Evangelist: Glen Moore (423) 354-9416 or 354-0489</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BAYTOWN, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pruett and Lobit Church of Christ 701 North Pruett St.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:40 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Larry Hafley (281) 422-5926 or 421-7367</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CORPUS CHRISTI, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Hwy. 9 Church of Christ 5853 Leopard St.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Clyde Carter (512) 777-0606, 241-0818, 289-1559, 853-8637 or 289-1439</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>HARLINGEN, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church of Christ 1625 Morgan Blvd.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Earl Dale (956) 423-4690 or 423-6225</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>LANCASTER, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pleasant Run Church of Christ 831 W. Pleasant Run Rd. 4302 SW Loop 410</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (972) 227-1758 or 227-2598</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CHURCH OF CHRIST IN VALLEY-HI</b> (Near Lackland AFB)</p> <p>4302 SW Loop 410</p> <p>Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (210) 674-4188 or 628-1018</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ROCKWOOD, TN</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church of Christ Highway 70 East</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (423) 354-2557</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BAYTOWN, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">East Side Church of Christ 2100 James Bowie</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Tony Mauck (281) 427-8729 or 837-9259</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>DALLAS, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">College Park Church of Christ 701 Centennial Blvd. Richardson, Texas</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Rickie G. Jenkins (972) 783-9777</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>HOUSTON, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fry Rd. Church of Christ 2510 Fry Road (77084)</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Mark White (281) 578-1897</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>LUFKIN, TX</b> Church of Christ</p> <p>4th &amp; Groesbeck 401 E. Groesbeck</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (409) 632-1771 or 634-7515</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SAN ANTONIO, TX</b> Pecan Valley Church of Christ</p> <p>268 Utopia (H 37 S.E.) Exit Pecan Valley)</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Byron Gage (210) 337-6143 or 662-9336</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SHELBYVILLE, TN</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">El Bethel Church of Christ Hwy. 41-A North</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Donnie V. Rader (615) 685-1113 or 684-9099</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BEAUMONT, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dowlen Rd. Church of Christ 3060 Dowlen Road</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Max Dawson &amp; Edwin Crozier (409) 866-1996</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>HELP VACATIONING CHRISTIANS FIND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP THIS SPACE \$95.00 PER YEAR \$25.00 PER QUARTER</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>HOUSTON, TX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Bellaire Church of Christ 8001 South Rice Ave.</p> <p>Worship 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: David O. Lanus, Jr. (713) 668-4810</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>LUFKIN, TX</b> Timberland Dr. Church of Christ</p> <p>912 S. Timberland Dr.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Harold Hancock &amp; James W. Adams 634-7110 or 632-7070</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SAN MARCOS, TX</b> San Marcos Church of Christ</p> <p>2660 Hunter Road P.O. Box 669</p> <p>Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Afternoon 2:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: George W. Slover (512) 396-2399 or 353-0364</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>WAVERLY, TN</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Eastside Church of Christ 1412 E. Railroad St.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (931) 296-5217 or 296-4657</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BEAUMONT, TX</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>DICKINSON, TX</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>HOUSTON, TX</b> Church of Christ</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MANSFIELD, TX</b> Northside Church of Christ</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SHERMAN, TX</b></p>

# DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES

OGDEN, UT Westwood Village Church of Christ 314 N. Tolbert	OGDEN, UT Ogden Church of Christ 910 23rd St.	RICHMOND, VA West End 4909 Patterson Ave.	VANCOUVER, WA Church of Christ Temp. at Sara J. Anderson School, 2215 N.E. 104th St. P.O. Box 2488, Zip 98668	Greenbay Road Bible Study Worship Evening Wednesday	Barrio Colon Bible Study Worship Evening Wednesday
<p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>Evangelist: Fred Watkins (903) 868-2809, 893-3637</p> <p>TAYLOR, TX South Loop Highway 79</p>	<p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M.</p> <p>(801) 394-1397 Bilingual English and Spanish</p> <p>ANNANDALE, VA Annandale Church of Christ</p>	<p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>Evang.: Michael W. McLemore (804) 358-7933, 320-3948 or 750-2873</p> <p>RIDGEWAY, VA Church of Christ (Rd. 750)</p>	<p>Worship 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 11:00 A.M.</p> <p>(360) 687-9196 (360) 263-2168</p> <p>HELP</p>	<p>9:30 A.M. 10:20 A.M. 6:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M.</p> <p>Evangelist: Jeremy Joy (304) 292-3276 or 296-9793</p> <p>MOUNDSVILLE, WV Church of Christ 210 Cedar St.</p>	<p>10:30 A.M. 11:15 A.M. 6:00 P.M. 8:00 P.M.</p> <p>(54) 51-561645 or 219123 Evangelist: Carlos Gatti</p> <p>CANADA Calgary, Alberta Northside Church of Christ</p>
<p>Church of Christ Route 2, Box 136B</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>Evangelist: John H. Crow (512) 365-7058</p> <p>HELP</p>	<p>Washington, D.C. Area 4709 Ravensworth Rd.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>Contact: Floyd Chappellear 256-5543 or 830-0164</p> <p>CHESAPEAKE, VA Tidewater Church of Christ</p>	<p>2273 Old Leaksville Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 7:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>Tom Knight - 956-3637 Webster Ford - 956-3093 Jamie Hinds - 956-4651</p> <p>ROANOKE, VA Blue Ridge Church of Christ</p>	<p>VACATIONING CHRISTIANS FIND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP THIS SPACE \$25.00 PER QUARTER \$95.00 PER YEAR</p> <p>YAKIMA, WA W. Washington Ave. Church of Christ</p>	<p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Mid-week 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>Evangelist: Brian Price (304) 845-2820, 845-4940</p> <p>MOUNDSVILLE, WV Roberts Ridge Church of Christ Rd. 2 - Box 368-A</p>	<p>805 - 20th Ave. N.E. 12E 1st Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M.</p> <p>Evangelist: Derek Chambers (403) 276-8088 Services in English and Spanish</p> <p>CANADA Jordan, Ontario, Loriso Jordan Church of Christ</p>
<p>VACATIONING CHRISTIANS FIND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP THIS SPACE \$25.00 PER QUARTER \$95.00 PER YEAR</p> <p>TEMPLE, TX Leon Valley Church of Christ</p>	<p>217 Taxus St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>Evangelist: Steve Schlosser (757) 479-5658 or 436-6900</p> <p>CHESTER, VA Chester Church of Christ</p>	<p>Blue Ridge Mall, Unit 16 9 mi. E. of Roanoke, Rt. 460</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>Call: Larry Powell (540) 992-5912 or Building (540) 977-1277</p> <p>STAFFORD, VA Ruby Church of Christ</p>	<p>902 W. Washington Ave. Conservative</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>(509) 248-8190 or 248-5614</p> <p>BECKLEY, WV Church of Christ 100 Carriage Dr.</p>	<p>Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>Sam Wood (304) 845-2202 Ray Crow (304) 845-8098</p> <p>HELP VACATIONING</p>	<p>2863 Regional Road 81 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>(905) 562-4739, 685-3896</p> <p>CANADA Hamilton, Ontario 33 Highcliffe</p>
<p>4404 Twin City Blvd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>Evangelist: Joe Stroud (254) 939-0682 or 774-7551</p> <p>TEMPLE, TX Southside Church of Christ</p>	<p>12100 Wintree St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>Evangelist: Charles Crowder 796-2374 or 530-2285</p> <p>CHESTER, VA Rivermont Church of Christ</p>	<p>5 mi. S. of Stafford US Rt. 1 - P.O. Box 1524</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>(540) 373-9466 or 972-2598</p> <p>VIRGINIA BEACH, VA Virginia Beach Church of Christ</p>	<p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>Evangelist: Weldon E. Warnock (304) 252-8108 or 255-1136</p> <p>HELP VACATIONING CHRISTIANS</p>	<p>CHRISTIANS FIND YOU PLACE OF WORSHIP THIS SPACE \$25.00 PER QUARTER \$95.00 PER YEAR</p> <p>PARKERSBURG, WV Marrtown Church of Christ 825 Marrtown Road</p>	<p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Monday 7:00 P.M.</p> <p>Closest Church to Toronto Steve Rudd, Evangelist (905) 575-8437</p> <p>JAPAN Okinawa, Japan Mid-Island Church of Christ</p>
<p>2003 S. 5th Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>Evangelist: Bill Haynes 773-0931</p> <p>HELP</p>	<p>2316 E. Hundred Rd. (2 mi. W. of Hopewell on Hwy. 10, 5 1/2 mi. E. I-95, exit 61A)</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>Evangelist: Robert S. Swain (804) 530-1764</p> <p>NEWPORT NEWS, VA Harpersville Rd. Church of Christ</p>	<p>Pembroke Manor Recreation Building 4452 Hinsdale St. P.O. Box 8693 (23450)</p> <p>Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M.</p> <p>(804) 486-6639 or 486-6245 www.vb-churchofChrist.com</p> <p>BELLINGHAM, WA Northside Church of Christ</p>	<p>FIND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP THIS SPACE \$25.00 PER QUARTER \$95.00 PER YEAR</p> <p>CHARLESTON, WV Church of Christ 522 Daugherty St.</p>	<p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>(304) 861-0342 or 422-7458</p> <p>RAVENSWOOD, WV Church of Christ 1101 Gallatin St.</p>	<p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M.</p> <p>Call 645-6334, 622-5163 for information</p> <p>WEST GERMANY Kaiserslautern Area Ramstein Church of Christ</p>
<p>VACATIONING CHRISTIANS FIND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP THIS SPACE \$25.00 PER QUARTER \$95.00 PER MONTH</p> <p>WEST COLUMBIA, TX</p>	<p>315 Harpersville Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>Evangelist: Aaron Burleson (757) 877-6264 or 838-5374</p>	<p>5201 Northwest Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M.</p> <p>Evangelist: Joe Price (360) 354-7867 or 384-1807</p>	<p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>(304) 346-2112</p> <p>CHARLESTON, WV Church of Christ</p>	<p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M.</p> <p>Evangelist: Rick Christian 273-0261 or 273-3267</p> <p>MILWAUKEE, WI Metropolitan Church of Christ</p>	<p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M.</p> <p>(06371) 17049 or 44529</p> <p>HELP VACATIONING</p>
<p>Church of Christ 306 E. Jackson</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M.</p> <p>Evangelist: David Weaks (409) 345-3818</p> <p>THE WOODLANDS, TX Woodlands Church of Christ</p>	<p>Church of Christ U.S. 23, 3 mi. S. of Pound</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M.</p> <p>Evangelist: Daniel Holloway (703) 796-5767</p> <p>HELP</p>	<p>Church of Christ 500 Pleasant Drive</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M.</p> <p>Elders: Howard Reagan Harold Trimble, Otto Spieth, Scott Saario 377-5622</p> <p>HELP</p>	<p>873 Oakwood Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>(304) 342-5637</p> <p>CLARKSBURG, WV Westside Church of Christ Davison Run Road</p>	<p>1029 S. 58th St., P.O. Box 14187 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>Evangelist: David Girardot 257-3035 Church: 258-8520</p> <p>ARGENTINA, Cordoba Iglesia de Cristo Pasaje Alicante 2431</p>	<p>CHRISTIANS FIND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP THIS SPACE \$25.00 PER QUARTER \$95.00 PER YEAR</p>
<p>P.O. Box 7664-77380 3987 Wellman Road</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>367-2099 or 367-1235</p> <p>KAYSVILLE, UT 137 S. Flint St.</p>	<p>VACATIONING CHRISTIANS FIND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP THIS SPACE \$25.00 PER YEAR \$95.00 PER QUARTER</p> <p>RICHMOND, VA Forest Hill Church of Christ</p>	<p>VACATIONING CHRISTIANS FIND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP THIS SPACE \$25.00 PER QUARTER \$95.00 PER YEAR</p> <p>TACOMA, WA Manitou Church of Christ (P.O. Box 7523, 98407)</p> <p>Sunday 9:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (253) 759-7875 (425) 557-9242 Voice Mail: (253) 752-5616</p>	<p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M.</p> <p>(304) 782-2132</p> <p>FAIRMONT, WV Eastside Church of Christ 934 East Park Avenue</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ADVERTISING RATES</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>On Church Ad Pages</b></p> <p>Rates on the church ad pages are \$25 per quarter or \$95.00 per year (when paid in advance). The ads are run once each month — 12 times a year. Billing is done quarterly.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Would the church where you worship like to be listed on the church ad pages?</p>	
<p>Bible Classes 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>For info, call (801) 544-1401 or 451-4582</p>	<p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>Jack Bise, Jr. (804) 233-5959</p>	<p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M.</p> <p>(304) 366-4523 or 449-1495</p> <p>MORGANTOWN, WV Glen Oaks Church of Christ</p>			





