

# TRUTH

MAGAZINE



## **THEME: THAT'S LIFE (1)**

"I Will Arise and Go to My Father" – P. 8

God and Career – P. 26

Preparing for Marriage – P. 28

# That's Life

By Mike Willis



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With this issue of *Truth Magazine*, we begin a four-issue series dealing with the stages of life. These issues have been jointly edited by Mark Mayberry and me. They are designed to address various temptations and/or problems facing a person in different periods of his life. We hope that this series of articles will be of assistance to families striving to remain faithful to the Lord in the time when a secular world view has become the norm in American society.

The Christian world view could not be more radically contrasted with the secular world view than by an incident that happened the last week in May 2016 when a three-year-old child crawled through the railing of the fence around the Cincinnati Zoo's gorilla enclosure and fell into the pit inhabited by a 400-pound gorilla. The gorilla "was violently dragging and throwing the child." Within about ten minutes, the authorities put down the gorilla in order to save the child's life; fortunately, the child was not seriously injured. Reaction to the killing of the gorilla was immediate and predictable; within hours 100,000 people had signed a petition to pass a law that "the negligent party and or (sic) party's (sic) be held financially and criminally responsible for any harm and or loss to an animal, specifically when said animal is Critically Endangered" ([https://www.change.org/p/denise-driehaus-support-harambe-s-law-for-the-gorilla-killed-in-](https://www.change.org/p/denise-driehaus-support-harambe-s-law-for-the-gorilla-killed-in-cincinnati)

*cincinnati*). No one wants to see officials put down an animal, but when a choice must be made between saving a human life vs. putting down an animal, the choice is undebatable. The Christian perspective is that human life is more valuable than animal life because mankind is made in the image of God (Gen. 1:26; Matt. 10:31). Animals were created for the use of mankind (Gen. 9:3; 2 Pet. 2:12). The secular mindset places mankind in the same continuum as animals, blurring the distinction between man and animals and making that choice doubtful and uncertain.

How can those who believe the secular world view with its skewed value system provide wise guidance through the various stages of life? The fact is that value judgments stem from world views. In Biblical terms, Israel's moral apostasy had its source in her rejecting Jehovah and following after Baal and other gods. America's moral demise emanates from her rejection of the Christian ethic in favor of situational ethics, the ethical system of humanism (also known as atheism, secularism, progressivism, etc.). Unfortunately, most of our children are exposed to 12-16 years of education in which they primarily sit at the feet of those operating within the secular world view. Our children are also endangered by the constant influence of media (TV, songs, books, magazines, etc.). The Christian world view provides the counsel and guidance that will give "length of days, and long life, and peace" (Prov. 3:2). The young person is

inexperienced and unlearned (called "the simple" [פתי] in Prov. 1:4); he is naive and open to new ideas. Because of this, he is vulnerable, in need of parental protection and divine guidance. The Lord's word provides guidance to those who are inexperienced to enable them to make the best and right life choices.

This issue addresses these important topics relating to the early stages of a young adult's life: (1) How to determine when my child is old enough to obey the gospel (Jarrod Jacobs); (2) How to balance faith and recreation (Brent Paschall); (3) How to balance faith and career (Scott Willis), (4) How to prepare for marriage (Sewell Hall), (5) How to act from conviction, not from one's traditional beliefs (Nathan Mayberry); (6) How to keep bad things from happening to oneself (Jerry King).

There are watershed decisions that a person makes which have a monumental impact on the outcome of his life. The friends one chooses for himself, the decision to have sex outside the bonds of marriage, how much to dedicate oneself to getting a good education or specialized training (in order to provide for himself and his family), who to marry, and whether or not to make a personal commitment to love and serve God are decisions with this kind of impact over one's life. It is the hope of these authors and Mark and me, that this special issue of *Truth Magazine* will be used profitably by our readers. **T**



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# A Disciple Named Tabitha: Eulogy for Frances Finley

By Mark Mayberry

to a certain disciple named Tabitha. Of Aramaic origin, Tabitha refers to “gazelle, a graceful animal with large bright eyes.” In Greek, she was called “Dorcas.”

Alvin is a pleasant community of 24,000, located about 31 miles south of

Houston. Among its residents was a disciple named Mary Frances Finley, wife of a faithful gospel preacher, mother of three beloved daughters and one well-respected son, “Granny” to a wonderful group of grandchildren and great-grandchildren, a good neighbor to those who lived nearby, and dear friend of countless fellow Christians, members of the Adoue Street congregation, and those scattered across this great country.

Like the Tabitha/Dorcas of Scripture, Frances Finley was a woman of action, constantly doing things for others, engaged in sewing projects, preparing meals, writing cards, encouraging others, all from a heart of kindness and love.

How do you summarize such a life in one sentence? Kathy Owings recalls, “As a child, I remember our home had an open door to members of the church; mom could put together a meal or refreshments on a moment’s notice, with a minimum of fuss, and a

spirit of welcome that I can still feel.” Anne Stevens relates, “Mother was an encourager.” Sherelyn Mayberry states, “Momma loved God first, and her neighbors as herself; therefore, she served all those she loved with acts of kindness and words of wisdom.” Mark concurred, “She worked as a homemaker, devoting her life in service to her family, her brethren, and her Lord.” Alan affirms, “Mom quietly went about doing good”; Julie adds, “She led a humble and powerful life.”

**It happened at that time that she (Tabitha/Dorcas) fell sick and died; and when they had washed her body, they laid it in an upper room. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, having heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him, imploring him, “Do not delay in coming to us.” So Peter arose and went with them. When he arrived, they brought him into the upper room; and all the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing all the tunics and garments that Dorcas used to make while she was with them (Acts 9:37-39).**

In the first century, the apostles of Jesus Christ were empowered by the Holy Spirit to reveal and confirm the gospel of Jesus Christ (John ►

## Introduction

Mary Frances Finley was born on Tuesday, September 30, 1924 and passed away on Wednesday, May 4, 2016, having lived a total of 91 years, 7 months, and 4 days. How do you calculate the impact of a well-lived life such as that of sister Finley? What can we say to capture the essence of one who was so loving and so loved? God’s Word provides guidance. Let us briefly consider the example of Tabitha, who was also called Dorcas, whose life is recorded in Acts 9:36-42.

**Now in Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which translated in Greek is called Dorcas); this woman was abounding with deeds of kindness and charity which she continually did (v. 36).**

Joppa was an ancient seaport city located along the coast of Palestine, about 35 miles west of Jerusalem. In the New Testament era, Joppa was home

14:26; 16:13; Acts 2:42-43; Heb. 2:1-4). Accordingly, when Dorcas fell sick and died, the disciples sent to Joppa, summoning Simon Peter to come unto them. Arriving at Lydda, they brought him into the upper room, where the body of the deceased was laid. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing all the tunics and garments that Dorcas used to make while she was with them.

Frances was an expert seamstress, talented in sewing, and assorted handcrafts. Many of us have received hand-made gifts from sister Finley, useful and beautiful objects, that were an expression of affection and love. If everyone showed the gifts they have received from Frances, we would need to rent a large room in order to display the quilts and blankets, bags, jackets, wall-hangings, and various crocheted objects.

**But Peter sent them all out and knelt down and prayed, and turning to the body, he said, “Tabitha, arise.” And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up. And he gave her his hand and raised her up; and calling the saints and widows, he presented her alive. It became known all over Joppa, and many believed in the Lord (vv. 40-42).**

Having been baptized with the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, Simon Peter and the other apostles were empowered to perform miracles that served to confirm their message. Signs and wonders were performed so that men and women might believe (John 11:11-15).

We live in an age in which Gospel Truth has been fully revealed. We are earnestly to contend for the faith which was once delivered to the saints

(Jude 3). Accordingly, temporary measures, such as gifts of prophecy and miraculously bestowed knowledge, speaking in tongues, and gifts of healing, have served their purpose, and should be viewed as historical facts rather than present realities. Through the inspired message of truth, we have access to the revelation of Jesus Christ, the perfect law of liberty (1 Cor. 13:8-10; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; James 1:25).

In the New Testament, we also read of the resurrection of Lazarus, the daughter of Jairus, and the son of the widow of Nain (John 11:30-45; Luke 8:41-56; 7:11-17). Yet, each of these individuals subsequently died again. In contrast, faithful Christians hope for a resurrection even greater than that which was experienced by Dorcas, Lazarus, and others who were so blessed. We hope for a resurrection unto eternal life (1 Cor. 15:35-49; Phil. 3:8-16).

What sort of legacy are you leaving? How will you be remembered? Are you prepared, as was sister Finley, to meet the Lord in judgment (Heb. 9:27-28)? If not, please understand that her deepest wish would be for you to be right with God, to walk by faith, to live for Christ, to prepare for that great and glorious day.


When news spread of sister Finley’s passing, the family received an outpouring of love and support. Thanks especially to the beloved members of the Adoue Street congregation for the many ways in which they offered assistance. I wish we could share all the expressions of fond remembrance that came from those who had known Frances.

Richard and Pauline King, life-long friends of the Finleys, said, “Your mother was the finest example of a godly woman we have ever known. She and your father were role models for us. We loved both of them.”

Consider the response from a young preacher’s wife, to the aforementioned statement that I made at Frances’ passing: “She worked as a homemaker, devoting her life in service to her family, her brethren, and her Lord.” She said, “What a beautiful tribute to a woman I’ve never met, but has inspired me, that the same might be said of me when my earthly life is over. Love to all of you.”

Finally, reflect upon a note received from a young Christian who (through a succession of errors) is serving a long prison sentence: “More than a couple of times have I received cards from Frances since my imprisonment. And those very cards I still have. Even in her grief, she reached out to give me hope that God is with me. Though the passing of Ernest saddened her deeply, yet she desired to comfort me! Touched was my heart by the care she has always shown me.”

Frances was, indeed, an inspiration to many. We are all richer in faith, hope, and love for having known her. Younger Christian women especially benefited by her example. We offer these fond reflections, trusting that her godly influence will live on in the lives of those she touched directly or indirectly.

If you wish to listen to the memorial service for Frances Finley, in which the Scripture readings, songs, and prayers were led by her grandsons, see a picture slideshow of her life, or read Jimmy Steven’s personal tribute to this wonderful lady, go to <http://markmayberry.net/?p=2392>. 



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## Christians Under 30

# Babel and Civilization

By Ethan Longhenry

Few things prove as dangerous as “givens,” those things which we just automatically assume are the way things should be and which are good. Yet everything in this creation has a dark side because of the corruption of sin. Civilization is one such “given.” In the modern world we certainly enjoy our “creature comforts,” advances in health, science, and technology which allow for us to live comfortably and thrive. Many among us enjoy urban or suburban life. When humans build on a piece of land they call it “development”; land left as God made it is called “undeveloped.” We might enjoy the outdoors and living “in the wild,” but only recreationally. In history, moments of cultural production are “golden ages of civilization”; periods of difficulty and the breakdown of civilization are seen as “dark ages.”

We might assume that civilization is seen in Scripture as fondly as it is among people today. If so we are in for quite the surprise! The first man to build a city is not Adam, nor Abel, nor Seth, but Cain (Gen. 4:17). Those who developed the tools of technology, instruments of metal and mirth, were Cain’s descendants, Lamech’s sons (Gen. 4:21-22). Nimrod, called a “mighty one” on the earth, was associated with the many cities of Mesopotamia, and he built what would become Assyria (Gen. 10:8-12). Throughout the rest of Biblical history those associated with the “great civilizations” of the ancient Near Eastern and Classical worlds, the Egyptians, the Assyrians, the Babylonians, the

Persians, the Greeks, and the Romans, would each in turn oppress the people of God.

God, meanwhile, made man and put him in a garden (Gen. 2:3-28). Abel was a shepherd; many of the mighty people of God would either be shepherds or own many animals (Gen. 4:2). God called Abram *out of* “civilization,” from Ur of the Chaldees, the greatest city of its time, to live in the relative backwater of Canaan (Gen. 12:1-3). Abram chose well to remain in Canaan, while Lot suffered greatly for choosing the plain around Sodom, a city full of wickedness (Gen. 13:9-13). Throughout the Bible, value is placed on living off the land; the only city which receives great commendation is Jerusalem, the City of David, the place where YHWH made His name to dwell, and which would represent the location of the people of God (Psa. 135:21; Isa. 62:1; Zech. 2:12; Heb. 12:22; Rev. 21:2).

What would be so wrong with civilization? Its difficulties are encapsulated in one city: Babel, also known as Babylon. Babel is the place where all mankind gathered to build a tower to make a name for himself and to avoid being scattered on the earth (Gen. 11:4). While man’s intentions at Babel were frustrated by God, he never forgot that tendency; ever since, when humans come together, they tend to work to build monuments to their own greatness. This same Babel would become the city and empire that would lay siege to Jerusalem and destroy it and the Temple within its gates (2 Kings 25:1-21). The prophets

roundly denounced Babylon for her arrogance and presumptuousness (Jer. 50:1-51:64); not for nothing does John see Rome as Babylon the Great, a harlot, drunk on the blood of the prophets and saints (Rev. 17:1-18:24). Babylon thus represents the human power arrogating itself against God and His purposes, drawing resources from the earth and from other people to its own aggrandizement no matter what the cost. It was true of Babylon; it was true of Rome; it has proven true of every civilization.

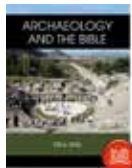
It is not wrong to live in civilization or to enjoy its benefits; early Christians lived in the Roman Empire and took advantage of its opportunities. But we do well to recognize how civilization is used to continually represent Babel. “Civilized” nations think nothing of storming across the land in the ravages of war. “Civilized” nations continually work against God’s purposes and oppress and persecute those who seek His will. Civilization is all about man’s attempt to make a name for himself. Civilization produces some benefits, but “development” is not always the best or greatest. We do well to honor what God has made, and seek to glorify God in the midst of “civilized” nations. May we seek to live as humble servants of God, seeking the heavenly Jerusalem! 📖



Ethan R. Longhenry

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## Book Reviews



**Archaeology and the Bible.** Mike Willis. Guardian of Truth Foundation, 2015. ISBN: 978-1-58427-1710.

What do you think of when you hear the word “archaeology”? Do you think of men and women digging around for ancient objects in a dusty, dirty environment? Do you think both the work and subject of archaeology would be boring? Many people would probably shy away from archaeology thinking that it has little value for Bible study. The opposite, in fact, is true. Biblical archaeology has tremendous value to the study of God’s word. In a new workbook by Mike Willis, the subject of archaeology comes alive and Bible students can learn about the important discoveries that shed light on the truthfulness and historicity of the Bible. This workbook contains 13 lessons with questions for class discussion. The first lesson gives a general overview of the subject of archaeology and the remaining lessons cover the major archaeological discoveries related to the Bible story from Genesis to Revelation. Archaeology gives us a better understanding of the historical and chronological setting of the Bible and it illustrates various Bible events, customs, and practices. Archaeology can also, at times, confirm the truthfulness and accuracy of the Bible. Many archaeological discoveries through the years have confirmed various persons, places, events, and objects found in the Bible. While archaeology is not necessary to “prove” the Bible, it can be faith building and confirming. This workbook would be great for personal study by preachers and teachers seeking to gain a better understanding of some biblical texts. Or, it could be used in a class setting on Bible history or evidences. The material is very informative and the numerous color pictures give an added touch to this workbook.



### Chris Reeves

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**NIV Zondervan Study Bible.** D.A. Carson, Editor. Zondervan, 2015. ISBN: 978-0-310-43833-5.

Zondervan has recently published a study Bible which focuses on helping the student to learn the overall theme of the Bible story: God’s redemption for mankind. (This is an all-new product and not a revision of the 1985 NIV Study Bible which will remain in print.) This study Bible contains a massive amount of material that is helpful in learning the background and subject of each book of the Bible. There are excellent introductions and outlines for each Bible book which will help the student to understand the basic message and structure of the book. There are also many new study notes, maps, charts, tables, illustrations, reconstructions, full-color photos, and articles. This Bible also contains a good cross-reference system, footnotes pertaining to translation issues, and a concordance. As with any study Bible on the market, you have to watch for the theological bias and false doctrine that is inserted into the study notes (and some of the articles) by the committee of writers. Typically, you have to be on guard for comments reflecting denominationalism, Calvinism, premillennialism, or liberalism. This study Bible, like all others, contains theological bias, so be careful. Even if you do not use the NIV (New International Version) as your main Bible translation, the large amount of reference material in this study Bible makes it worth the purchase. Also, if you do not have the NIV at all, this is a great Bible to get for both the NIV text and the large amount of study aids that come with it.



**Vainglory: The Forgotten Vice.** Rebecca Konyndyk DeYoung. William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2014. ISBN: 978-0-8028-7129-9.

The Apostle Paul wrote: “doing nothing through faction or through vainglory...” (Phil. 2:3). Do you know what vainglory is? Would you recognize vainglory in your life if you had it? Vainglory is probably a very unfamiliar and archaic term to many people today. “Vainglory” comes from the Greek word κενοδοξία (used once in the NT) meaning “empty pride” or “cheap pride.” Rebecca DeYoung, in her recent book on “vainglory,” does everyone a great service in reminding us of the sin (vice) of “empty pride” and how prevalent this sin is in our modern society. DeYoung explores the meaning of vainglory and how many today seek to bring attention to themselves through popularity and egocentric behavior (modeling agencies, celebrity status seekers, attention-getting stunts and pranks, some Face book posting, etc.). Are you and I guilty of being vainglorious? Before answering, “No,” read DeYoung’s book. You will learn what vainglory is, in what ways it shows itself in one’s life, and how it is rooted in pride and fear. You will also discover the fruits of vainglory (boasting, hypocrisy, etc.) and what to do to avoid the temptation to be vainglorious. DeYoung seeks to bring vainglory to the forefront and expose it for the sin and vice that it is. This is a very good read on a subject that, unlike vainglory, doesn’t get much attention today.



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# “I Will Arise and Go to My Father”

By Daniel H. King, Sr.

The parable about the “Prodigal Son” has come to be recognized in all languages and cultures as a superlative story which has few parallels and precious few equals. On the one hand the parable is of such a nature that it could happen in most any family, and on the other hand, it is shot through with human drama and emotion. Interestingly enough, the older brother has become as much a study in contrasts as the main character of the story, the younger brother, is a study in profligacy and genuine repentance.

After the young man had abandoned hearth and home for the “far country” where he sought to enjoy life to its fullest, he wasted the fruit of his father’s lifetime of hard work and saving, only to fall upon hard times such as he had never seen before. When he “came to himself” under the rigors of his condition of total loss and exasperating poverty, he formed an inner resolve which became the basis for all of the remainder of the story. The Gospel of Luke records his words thus:

*I will arise and go to my father, and I will say unto him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before thee...” (Luke 15:18).*

The beauty of this moment of keen insight was that it was followed up with absolute abandon. He did get up, and he did head straight for his father, and he did indeed speak these words to him

precisely as he had planned. And that is certainly a good thing, for all of us know that we do not always do many of the things that we resolve to do, and no doubt it was the same with this young fellow as well. But in this case he did, and that is commendable in this instance, and for that matter, in every case. What we resolve to do that is good ought to be done in every instance.

As he rose up and left to return to his Father, he knew several things that all of us ought also to be aware of as we live out our lives in this world.

**1. He knew that his father would still be there when he went back home.** In all of the years he had known him, he had never known his father to abandon the family. If he went home, he was absolutely certain that he would be there. What is, of course, especially interesting about this is that he had done exactly the opposite in his own case. He had abandoned the family and left without thought of how his own unfaithfulness to the family would affect the household and hurt others who depended on him. His father, on the other hand, was steady and dependable. And thus, it never crossed his mind to wonder whether or not he would be there if he returned. And so indeed, he found him there waiting when he got back. Now please understand that God is no different as our Father; we know that He will be there for us if we decide to return to Him. It never enters our minds to think

that maybe He will have somehow disappeared if we go back. He will certainly be there. You can be sure of it.

**2. He knew that his father would have plenty to provide for all of his needs if he went home.** It is clear in this story that the father of this young fellow was a very wealthy man. Apparently in his father’s house he had never known want or gone without. He may have seen poverty from afar but he had never experienced it in the house of his father. As he observed, “How many hired servants of my father’s have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger” (Luke 15:17). If he could just make it back to the house of his father, he knew there would be plenty there for him also. His needs would be met in the house of his father. Dear friend, you need also to know that in the house of your Father in heaven there is everything that your soul needs. God can and will richly supply the needs of both your body and soul. As Paul wrote confidently, “My God shall supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus” (Phil. 4:19).

**3. He knew that he had a merciful father.** The years that he had spent in his father’s house had given him much insight into the man whom he knew would be there when he returned. Although he was not quite sure about how, exactly, his father might respond to him in this particular case, being that he had gone so far away and apparently made no effort at all to let the family ►




know how he was doing up till now, and had squandered all of his father's living in wickedness, there may have been some sense of uncertainty and perhaps even some trepidation about how it would all work out. Nevertheless, he knew some things about his father with absolute certainty. And one of those things was his father's merciful nature. Doubtless he had seen many instances of it played out before his eyes as his father dealt with others. And so he was very confident that when he returned home he would see the same virtue demonstrated to him that he had seen others benefit from. We are no different with our Father in heaven. We have seen His abundant mercy evidenced in His patience with the children of Israel throughout their checkered history with Him. We have read about His patience with the frailties and weaknesses of His children in all of the biblical narratives that have come down to us in the Bible. We know that "the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him" (Psa. 103:17). We can be confident that, if we return to Him, He will be merciful to us, even though we have proven less than faithful.

**4. He knew that his father loved him.** Although he could not have known the depth and profundity of his father's love for him, he knew that the one to whom he returned did not hate him and could not ever have hated him. It is certain that on many prior occasions his father had demonstrated his love for him. His love had been apparent in a thousand kindnesses, large and small over a process of many years. So, it would have been entirely out of character for him to have treated him in any other way than the way in which he did ultimately treat him. Even though he knew that he had disappointed his father severely this time, in point of fact he had disappointed him before, and he

surely remembered how he had been treated previously. He was going home to that same loving father. That he knew beyond all else, and so he arose and went to him. The God to whom we return in repentance is likewise a loving Father. He is always described so in the teaching of Jesus, who was closer to the Father than any other ever could have been or ever will be. He knew this side of His character well. When He prayed from the cross He revealed how much like the Father He was when He said, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." That prayer tells us that he not only loves us who are His children by faith, He even loves a rebellious and cruel world. As John explained: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

**5. He knew that his father would forgive him.** Once more, his entire life prior to his departure into the far country had been lived in a close relationship with his father. He knew him. Undoubtedly he had disappointed his father before. Sons and daughters do that sort of thing. But he had found him to be someone who readily forgave his foibles and his sins. Of course, this was a big one this time, and we do not want in any way to minimize the nature of his sin against the family and against his father. But his father would forgive him, of that much he was sure. And he knew it because he knew his father. It had nothing to do with how big or small his transgression was. It had everything to do with his father's forgiving heart. Now this is no less true in the case of our Father in heaven. We know that He will always forgive us if we will but return to Him. Of that much we are absolutely certain. There are no "ifs, ands, or buts" attached to the promises of God. Our sins may be terrible (and in the eyes of a holy God they always are so), but our

Father will forgive us of our sins if we return to Him, because it is within His nature to do so. If we know Him truly, we have come to know this much about Him. Peter could promise on the day of Pentecost after the resurrection of Jesus from a cruel death on account of the Jewish appeal to "Crucify him, crucify him," that forgiveness and remission of sins was certain on the basis of repentance and baptism (Acts 2:38). The promise was made, not on account of the nature of the sins committed, for they were surely as great as any sins have ever been, but on account of the nature of God the Father who made the promise!

Learn these important lessons about God and you will surely want to return to Him when you have left Him in unfaithfulness and sin. We need never to forget that the same Father waits patiently for our own return to Him when we have finished with sinning! Why would one not arise and go to such a Father? 



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## Women's Section

# Tell His Praise in Song and Story

By Shereilyn Mayberry

Tell His Praise in Song and Story • 5

1. Tell His praise in song and sto - ry, Bless the LORD with heart and voice;  
 2. To the LORD whose love has found them Cry the poor in their dis - tress;  
 3. Taste and see! In faith draw near Him, Trust the LORD with all your pow'rs;  
 4. In our need He walks be - side us, Ears a - lert to eve - ry cry.

In my God is all my glo - ry, Come be - fore Him and re - joice,  
 Swift His an - gels, camped a - round them, Prove Him sure to save and bless;  
 Seek and serve Him, love and fear Him; Life and all its joys are ours;  
 Watch - ful eyes to guard and guide us, Love that whis - pers, "It is I."

Join to praise His name to - geth - er, He who hears His peo - ple's cry;  
 God it is who hears our cry - ing Though the spark of faith be dim;  
 True de - light in ho - ly liv - ing, Peace and plen - ty, length of days,  
 Good shall tri - umph, wrong be right - ed. God has pledged His prom - ised word;

Tell His praise, come wind or weath - er, Shin - ing fac - es lift - ed high,  
 Taste and see! Be - yond de - my - ing, Blest are those who trust in Him,  
 Come, my chil - dren, with thanks - giv - ing, Bless the LORD in songs of praise,  
 So with ran - somed saints u - nit - ed, Join to praise our liv - ing Lord!

Hymn: 8.7.8.7.D • Timothy Dudley-Smith (1976); based on Psalm 34  
 Tune: HOLLINGSWORTH • Matthew L. Harber (2010)  
 Words © 1984 Hope Publishing Co.; music © 2010 Matthew L. Harber

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The fifth selection in *Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs* is based on Psalm 34, which speaks of the happiness of those who trust in God. The Lord's praises should always fill my heart and mouth. I should make melody in my heart and give thanks to God in all things (Eph. 5:19-20). Like Paul and Silas, who were singing praises to the Lord in prison at midnight, I can join with others even under difficult circumstances

in glorifying One who hears His people (Acts 16:25). Am I willing to speak up when I have an opportunity and magnify God? I can let my light shine for the Lord and have a positive impact on others (Matt. 5:16).

Seeking the Lord in my distress, I find deliverance from my fears. As I maintain a close relationship with God, when I ask, seek, and knock, He will answer me (Luke 11:9). His angels will watch over me as I abide in His presence (Psa. 91:9-12). If the Lord is on my side, whom shall I fear, for there is none greater than He? What will I do when the law of our land defies the law of God? Will I stand up and be counted for the cause of Christ? I should, like Judah, be strong and courageous even as the enemy surrounds me (2 Chron. 32:7-8). The Lord has never forsaken His faithful followers, and He is our refuge in time of trouble. Therefore, I can put my trust in Him (Psa. 9:9-10).

As I taste the good word of God and grow in faith, I understand its power to save (Rom. 1:16; Heb. 6:4-5). Seeking and serving Him first, I realize all blessings are found in Him (Matt. 6:33). As I love and reverence God by keeping His commandments, I find the true meaning of life and all its joy (Eccl. 12:13-14). Desiring to love life and see good days, I must keep my tongue from evil and live a righteous life. Peace and length of days are an outgrowth of holy living (Psa. 34:12-14; 1 Pet. 3:10-12). My joy in salvation leads to thanksgiving and the Lord is magnified (Psa. 40:16).

The Lord knows our every need and listens to our cry. Through His infinite wisdom, God realizes our needs even before we ask Him (Matt. 6:8). He guards, guides, and protects me through life's journey. As I lay my cares before the Lord in prayer with thanksgiving, He will give me peace that surpasses comprehension (Phil. 4:6-7). In humility, I must realize that I can do all things by His strength (Phil. 4:13). With this promise of salvation for loyal service, I trust that God will make right all the wrongs that we might suffer. He will triumph over evil (Psa. 145:17-21). He loves us so much that He sent His Son to redeem us all. If I am judged faithful at the end of my days, I will be united with all the ransomed of the ages and praise Him for eternity (Rev. 7:9-12).



Shereilyn Mayberry

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By Bobby L. Graham



Bobby L. Graham

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A brother sent the following questions several months ago. I regret that I am just now dealing with them but trust that the answers will give some help.

**QUESTION 1:** 1 Kings 3:3-5, 12-13. Solomon is sacrificing and burning incense in the high places, yet God sees fit to give him a special blessing. Why was he not called to account for his sin?

**Answer:** The use of the high places, evidently one being the site of the Tabernacle and the altar of burnt offering, was still a vestige of the idolatry of the nations. At this time the location of the tabernacle and of burnt offering, where God willed sacrifices to be offered, was Gibeon (2 Chron. 1:3). Thus this sacrifice must have lacked the full approval of God. On the other hand, this possibly is one of those matters allowed by the Lord because of the “hardness of their hearts” (Matt. 19:8). Why did God allow and acknowledge this offering? It might well have been another instance of divine long-suffering, which was constantly manifested during the time of the prophets. God did sometimes condemn their transgressions, but He did not do so on every occasion. Why? Only God knows! He did give the special gift here requested by a humble Solomon, perhaps because of the king’s great need for such wisdom. The blessing of an understanding heart, by which Solomon could discern justice, is here connected with a long life, which was conditioned on his obedience, which was lacking at times. I suspect that this part of the promise was not fulfilled because the king failed to meet the divine condition (cf. v. 14).

**QUESTION 2:** 1 Kings 8:63. King Solomon offered 22,000 bulls and 120,000 sheep on this one occasion. Many similar incidents of tremendous numbers of animals sacrificed seem rather excessive. Is the Hebrew translation correct in these numbers? Is there possibly a word in Hebrew that is being unintentionally mistranslated?

**Answer:** As far as I know, there is no mistranslation in these numbers; and in comparison with other occasions, when the number of sacrificed animals is known (Passover, as reported by Josephus and others) the number accords. It might help us to consider the magnitude of this event, for the Temple constructed by Solomon was now being dedicated during a two-week feast – Dedication and Tabernacles (v. 65). This was a “first” for the nation, and such a magnificent event called for this lavish outpouring of gratitude and praise unto Jehovah. It might also be useful to note that the sacrifices were not offered for the king alone or by the king alone, according to verses 62 and 64. The people themselves, though forbidden to act in the priestly role by sprinkling the blood and burning the sacrifice, did participate in the slaying of the animals and preparing them for the offering, according to the Law (cf. Lev. 1, 3).

**QUESTION 3:** Genesis 19:4-8. Why did Lot (supposedly a godly man) offer his two daughters to these evil men saying, “Do with them as you wish”?

**Answer:** It does seem to me that Lot was influenced to some degree by the degenerate moral standards of his time and place; but he also demonstrated by his offer of his daughters to the men of the city that he viewed their actions toward his daughters as less serious than the sodomy which they proposed with the men housed by Lot (called “behaving wickedly” by Lot). This being the way of life in Sodom, we conclude that the lowest form of human depravity prevailed there. I believe that Lot’s hospitality also figured into his offer. Notice that when he went to the men outside his house, he closed the door, probably to keep his guests safe. Evidently his regard for hospitality toward these “visitors” was higher than his love for his daughters. It is here that I conclude his thinking had been influenced somewhat by the environment where he had been living. Fairness demands that we also consider his desperation in this offer of his daughters. What else could he do to withstand the unconscionable attempts of these godless men? Desperation has sometimes moved others to do what they would not usually do; possibly Lot was similarly desperate on the occasion of our text. **T**

# Leaving Room for Change

By Kyle Pope

Visitors to modern day Turkey can observe an unusual sight. Many concrete homes that are scattered throughout the country have metal rebar (the ridged steel rods used to reinforce concrete structures) protruding from the top of the houses. This is not due to damage or accident, but it is a deliberate choice made when constructing a house in order to allow for expansion should the homeowner wish to add on in the future.

In writing to the divided church of Corinth in his first epistle, the apostle Paul went to great lengths to stress that the apostles and prophets of the first century were not masters to be honored, but “servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God” (1 Cor. 4:1, NKJV). As “stewards” God expected certain behavior on the part of these men. Paul taught, “it is required in stewards that one be found faithful” (1 Cor. 4:2). This faithfulness was not judged, defined, and determined by man. Paul explained, “with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by a human court” adding, “In fact, I do not even judge myself” (1 Cor. 4:3). What a remarkable statement! As an apostle he would later declare in this very epistle, “the things which I write to you are the commandments of the Lord” (1 Cor. 14:37), yet that did not mean he could not stumble. Even as an apostle he had to constantly examine his own behavior by the standard of God’s word to make certain that he was indeed “faithful.” He continued, “For I

know nothing against myself, yet I am not justified by this; but He who judges me is the Lord” (1 Cor. 4:4).

There are few in Scripture who were as bold and confident as the apostle Paul. When Elymas the sorcerer withstood him, by the Holy Spirit he called him a “son of the devil” and “enemy of all righteousness” (Acts 13:10). When Ananias, the high priest, commanded men to strike him, he boldly told him, “God will strike you, you whitewashed wall!” (Acts 23:3). Paul even rebuked Peter, when he erred by withdrawing himself from social contact with Gentile Christians (see Gal. 2:11-21). Yet, coupled with this boldness was a humility that recognized even he could be wrong! Even though he could say late in his life “I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day” (Acts 23:1), Paul could look back and remember a time in his life when he had “persecuted the church” (1 Cor. 15:9; Gal. 1:13). So, he would acknowledge to the Corinthians, although he knew nothing “against” himself, that it was God who was the judge of his behavior (1 Cor. 4:4).

We are not all as well-balanced as the apostle Paul. We often find it hard to be bold and stand strong for what we believe to be right while maintaining a humility that recognizes the possibility we could be wrong. We either present ourselves with arrogance, and over-confidence or become so timid that we are unwilling to stand-up for anything.

How can we avoid such extremes?—By always conducting ourselves in a way that leaves room for change on our part and on the part of those with whom we interact. We must do this...

## 1. When Reaching a Conviction.

The Bereans are set forth in Scripture as such a wonderful example. They did not simply accept every doctrine that was set before them. Instead, they “searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so” (Acts 17:11). This should be our attitude also! The apostle John commanded that we must not “believe every spirit but test the spirits, whether they are of God” (1 John 4:1). Only when we find that a doctrine or practice conforms to the teaching of Scripture should we accept it. So let’s say we have become convinced that we have *rightly divided* the word of truth (2 Tim. 2:15). What then? Does the searching stop? Paul taught that we should “test all things; hold fast what is good” (1 Thess. 5:21). We should never be so confident of our present condition that we are unwilling to continually test our convictions. Every Christian at one time was a soul lost in sin. Only by testing our lives by the pattern of Scripture can we make certain we are not deceiving ourselves about our present condition. We must also, however, leave room for change...

**2. When Arguing Our Case.** What must be our attitude when we reach a conviction about something? Do we become so sure of our convictions ►

that we act with arrogance? In arguing our case with others, do we refuse to consider even the slightest possibility we could be wrong? The Bible teaches that Christians should not act with doubt. In discussing the eating of meats, while Paul taught the Divine revelation on the matter, he ended his discussion to the Romans with the bold declaration, “But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because he does not eat from faith; for whatever is not from faith is sin” (Rom. 14:23). If I leave room for change in arguing some conviction, or acknowledge that I could be wrong, does that reflect timidity or doubt? Not necessarily! It can reflect prudence.

Before the Lord spoke to Saul of Tarsus on the road to Damascus, he had obviously studied the validity of the claims made by Christians about Jesus. He was convinced in his conviction that Jesus was a fraud. He said to King Agrippa years later, that at that time, “I myself thought I must do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth” (Acts 26:9). What if Paul had been so convinced of his conviction, that even in the face of the miraculous blinding he received on the road, his pride prevented him from recognizing his error? The Holy Spirit teaches, “Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall” (Prov. 16:18). If I become so proud of my understanding of Scripture that I am unwilling to continually test it, what happens if further study of God’s word shows I was wrong? If I don’t leave myself room to change when arguing passionately for some conviction, my pride might actually prevent me from ever being willing to acknowledge that I was wrong. Thankfully, Saul of Tarsus left himself room to change in spite of the personal humiliation and shame this surely brought to him. Finally, we must also leave room for change...

**3. When Rebuking Error.** We sometimes speak of someone being “backed into a corner.” What we mean by this is that circumstances have forced a person into a bad position with no good way out. When Paul addressed the disciplinary action the Corinthians had taken toward a brother in the church in Corinth he urged them after the man’s repentance, “to forgive and comfort him, lest perhaps such a one be swallowed up with too much sorrow” (2 Cor. 2:7). Paul acknowledges here that even efforts to confront sin and error, if approached with the wrong attitude, can result in consequences that are counter-productive. Because of this danger, it shouldn’t surprise us that, when Paul commanded the Galatians to “restore” the brother or sister who “is overtaken in any trespass,” he commanded that they do so “with a spirit of gentleness” (Gal. 6:1a). He isn’t talking about a timidity that ignores sin. He is warning about attitudes that might constitute sin or lead to further sin. They were commanded to approach this “with a spirit of gentleness considering yourself lest you also be tempted” (Gal. 6:1b). This *temptation* could involve temptation to engage in the sin being rebuked, temptation that might arise from a negative reaction on the part of the one being rebuked, or even temptation to handle the encounter in a way that constitutes sin on the part of those bringing the rebuke.

It is true that sin and error must be rejected for one to be right with God, but what if a brother or sister approaches me about my error or sin in such a way that my pride is aroused? That doesn’t excuse my sin, but it may leave me with no good way to correct my error. When we rebuke those who are in error we want them to realize that they are wrong, but if we do this in a way that mocks them, belittles them, or assumes things about their motives or

character that we are not in a position to know, we may well “back them into a corner.” If I am left with no honorable room to change without feeling abused or treated with disrespect, the very efforts to correct my wrong may actually provide a temptation to defend myself no matter what! In such a case, although I may actually be in the wrong the one who rebuked me left me no room to change and my pride led me to accept anything other than the truth brought to me in such a harsh way.

## Conclusion

This isn’t a “magic formula.” Sometimes even those approached with great gentleness rebel against the word of God and continue in error. Sometimes, we fall so in love with ideas we imagine in our hearts, that even when the word of God shows such things to be false we continue to passionately embrace them. Yet, for the “good and honest heart” (Luke 8:15, LO) who leaves room for change in his own life and in the lives of those he encounters, like that rough rebar sticking out of the concrete walls of homes in Turkey, he allows himself room to grow and build his life continually on the sound teaching of God’s word. **T**



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The flat-topped mountain, known as Masada, was the scene of a famous battle in A.D. 73, following the destruction of Jerusalem. However, allusions in the Psalms make one think David might also have used the place as his refuge from Saul.

# Masada: A Biblical or post-Biblical site?

By Luke Chandler

**Synopsis:** “Masada is famous for its battle between Jewish rebels and the Romans, but there is a biblical connection that illuminates David and several psalms. How can Masada strengthen and comfort Christians today?”

Most visitors to the Bible Lands are familiar with Masada. It is a flat-topped mountain whose summit sits some 1500 feet above the Dead Sea. A narrow, exposed path provides access to the top. Masada is strategically located on the western shore of the Dead Sea by the Lisan peninsula, a natural crossing point to Moab in biblical times.

Masada is famous for a battle between Jewish rebels and the Romans in A.D. 73. The Roman Tenth Legion captured the mountain by constructing a massive earthen ramp up one of the site’s steep slopes. According to Josephus, the Jewish defenders killed themselves rather than become slaves to Rome.

Is Masada a biblical site? The Jewish-Roman battle took place forty years after Jesus’ crucifixion and is not mentioned in the New Testament. Some Christian travelers consider the site post-biblical and skip it entirely.

Omitting Masada is a shame because David probably knew it well. The term *masada* occurs in the Hebrew Bible and translates as “fortress” or “stronghold.” When we examine the text and the geography, it appears David may have utilized the site.

On one occasion David moved his parents to Moab to protect them from King Saul. “He left them with the king of Moab, and they stayed with [the Moabite king] all the time that David was in the stronghold [*masada*]” (1 Sam. 22:4). Was this stronghold used by David the same *Masada* we recognize today? David would have passed by the mountain while escorting his parents across the Lisan peninsula into Moab. As a military man he would have noticed its defensive quality. Its excellent visibility and proximity to Moab make it the likely candidate for David’s *masada* in this story.

David later encountered Saul in a cave at nearby En-Gedi. After this incident “Saul went home, but David and his men went up to the stronghold [*masada*]” (1 Sam 24:22). Masada is just a few miles south of En-Gedi, making for a quick journey to its protective summit.

Do we have physical evidence of David at Masada? Excavations have yielded no structures from David’s time but archaeologists uncovered pottery from that general period. Someone was clearly spending time there during the era of Israel and Judah’s kings.

Masada may give us a glimpse inside David’s head. What did he see in his mind’s eye when dwelling on God’s protection? Did he visualize this massive

mountain fortress by the Dead Sea? Consider these psalms, all attributed to David.

“I love you, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock and my fortress [*masada*] and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge” (Ps. 18:1-2).

“In you, O LORD, do I take refuge... Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me! For you are my rock and my fortress” (31:1-3).

“Blessed be the LORD, my rock... He is my steadfast love and my fortress, my stronghold and my deliverer” (144:1-2).

Do we visualize God in this way? He is not simply our shield or confidante. God is an unshakeable, unassailable mountain. In our hostile, dangerous world do we see God as a mighty stronghold? Our fortress? Our *Masada*? 🏰



Luke Chandler

Luke preaches for the North Terrace Church of Christ, a bilingual congregation in Temple Terrace, Florida. He has excavated in Israel for eight consecutive archaeological seasons in the Elah Valley and at biblical Lachish. Luke and his wife Melanie have five children.

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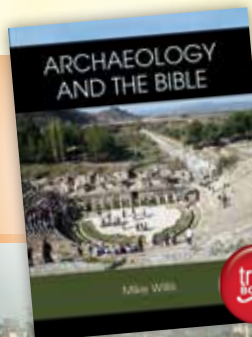


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## Bibles in Foreign Languages (4)

# German, Dutch, and Italian Versions of the Bible

By Evan Blackmore

Now that international travel is so easy, more and more of our brethren are traveling to foreign countries, while more and more people from foreign countries are visiting the USA. Therefore, you can never tell when you yourself may want to get someone a reliable Bible in a foreign language. This article offers some brief information about Bible versions in some of the western European languages.

It's thrilling to open a good foreign language Bible for the first time, and see how page after page comes out exactly the same as it does in our own language. It can also be instructive, because different languages express different things particularly clearly, drawing your attention to aspects of God's word that you never noticed in English. Many foreign translators look longingly at the English rendering of Genesis 2:23, "She shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." In English, as in Hebrew, the words for "woman" and "man" look similar—but in many other languages they don't, which makes the meaning of that verse hard to express. Conversely, there are points that English can't express easily but other languages can. (The comments on Dutch versions below give two examples.)

In any language, don't assume that the latest Bible version must be the best. The human race may advance in understanding other things, but we don't necessarily advance in understanding God's word; indeed, the last generation of all might have the least wisdom (Luke 18:8). Some Bible versions have been damaged rather than improved by revision (in English, the NIV is a well-known example). If you examine them closely against the original Hebrew and Greek, from time to time you will notice details in the classic older translations—such as the 1602 VRV in Spanish, the 1611 KJV in English, the 1637 SV in Dutch, and

the 1641 Versione Diodati in Italian—which have never been rendered so precisely in any more modern version.

As we saw when discussing Spanish Bibles, no translation is perfect, because no translator is perfect; different versions have different strengths and weaknesses. Just as you yourself may find it helpful to have two or more English Bible versions on your shelves, so a reader of Scripture in another language may find it helpful to have two or more versions in that language.

### German Versions

Martin Luther's famous German translation of the Bible was completed in 1534. His own final revision appeared in 1545; also available are later major revisions dating from 1912 and 1984. All revisions of Luther's Bible have tried to preserve the imprint of his flamboyant personality with all its quirks and oddities—including his notorious addition of the word *allein* ("alone") in Romans 3:28, which changes it to read *der Mensch gerecht werde ohne des Gesetzes Werke, allein durch den Glauben* ("man is not justified by works of the law, but by faith alone"; this passage remains exactly the same in the 1545, 1912, and 1984 revisions). Luther Bibles have considerable literary and historical importance, but they are by no means the most accurate renderings of the Scriptures in German.

In most passages, the German version that follows the original Hebrew and Greek most closely is the Elberfelder Bible (first published in 1871). This is now available in two recent revisions, which are called the Revidierte Elberfelder Bibel (the "Revised Elberfelder Bible," **RELB**) and the Überarbeiteten (or CSV) Elberfelder Bibel (the "Retouched Elberfelder Bible," **ELB-CSV**). Overall, perhaps the ELB-CSV tends to match the

original a fraction more closely (in Rom. 1:16-17, for instance, it uses the same German word, *denn*, in all three places where the original uses the same Greek word, *gar*, "for"). But there is very little difference between the two revisions, and in some places the RELB has a slight advantage. I personally would be happy with either, and count it a great blessing that both are available. A solidly bound German-English bilingual hardback edition with the RELB and NASB on facing pages has been published.

Germany is the traditional stronghold of theological liberalism. Therefore, the majority of modern German translations—including the 1984 Luther Bible and the new Zurich Bible (Zürcher-Bibel)—are tinged throughout with skepticism, like the RSV and NRSV in English, but to a much more extreme degree. The Zurich Bible even contains notes stating that virtually nothing is really known about the life of Jesus, that the last historical event in His life was the crucifixion, and that the resurrection was a "belief of the disciples" rather than a historical event.

### Dutch Versions

The classic Dutch translation of the Bible, the Statenvertaling (**SV**), appeared in 1637. It is very similar to the KJV in English; if anything, it follows the original Greek and Hebrew even more closely in small details (as the sample from Rom. 1:16-17 in the accompanying table illustrates). Another impressively precise Dutch version is the 1951 Nederlandsch Bijbelgenootschap-vertaling (**NBG 1951**). This was translated over almost half a century, so different parts of it are written in different styles, but in most areas it is very accurate indeed. It uses the Dutch word *dodenrijk* ("realm of the dead") to translate Hebrew *Sheol* and Greek *Hades*; I wish we had an English word as good as that! ►



Because of language changes, both the SV and (in places) the NBG 1951 are hard for many Dutch readers to understand nowadays. Of versions in more modern Dutch, the best so far is the 2010 *Herziene Statenvertaling* (**HSV**). It uses more paraphrase than either the SV or the NBG 1951 (especially in the Old Testament), but it too has some fine renderings impossible to imitate in English. I particularly admire the way it translates Hebrew *hebel* (“vanity”) in Ecclesiastes as *vluchtigheid* (approximately “volatility”—something insubstantial, airy, changeable, and fleeting).

## Italian Versions

The classic Italian Bible version was translated by Giovanni **Diodati**, one of the most hardworking of all Bible

translators. He issued his first Bible translation in 1607, and painstakingly revised and improved it throughout for the second edition in 1641. In addition, he provided a rhymed metrical translation of the complete book of Psalms for congregational singing, and finished his career by producing a fine French translation of the whole Bible in 1644! Most current reprints of Diodati’s Italian Bible reproduce an 1894 reissue of the 1641 edition; it has modern spelling and slightly modernized wording.

Three major revisions of Diodati’s version have appeared during the past century: the *Versione Riveduta* translated by Giovanni Luzzi (**VR**, 1925), the *Nuova Diodati* (**ND**, 1991), and the *Nuova Riveduta* (**NR**, 1994, revised 2006). All three are reliable translations. On the whole, the ND keeps most closely to the

detailed wording of the original Hebrew and Greek, while the NR tends to use a little more paraphrase than the others. (Also, the ND uses *italics* to mark words added by the translators, whereas the VR and NR do not.) A bilingual Italian-English edition with the VR and the 1901 ASV in parallel columns is available.



**Evan and Marie Blackmore**

Evan Blackmore has been preaching the gospel in Western Australia for almost forty years. With his wife Marie, he has received the American Literary Translators’ Association Prize and the Modern Language Association

Scaglione Prize for Literary Translation. Several volumes of their literary translations have been issued in the Oxford World’s Classics series. Their most recent books are *Leviticus* (Truth Commentaries), *Between Malachi and Jesus*, and *Let Us Search Our Ways: A Commentary on the Book of Lamentations* (both for DeWard Publications).

### Romans 1:16-17

#### KJV

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

#### RELB

Denn ich schäme mich des Evangeliums nicht, ist es doch Gottes Kraft zum Heil jedem Glaubenden, sowohl dem Juden zuerst als auch dem Griechen. Denn Gottes Gerechtigkeit wird darin offenbart aus Glauben zu Glauben, wie geschrieben steht: “Der Gerechte aber wird aus Glauben leben.”

#### ELB-CSV

Denn ich schäme mich des Evangeliums nicht, denn es ist Gottes Kraft zum Heil jedem Glaubenden, sowohl dem Juden zuerst als auch dem Griechen. Denn Gottes Gerechtigkeit wird darin offenbart aus Glauben zu Glauben, wie geschrieben steht: “Der Gerechte aber wird aus Glauben leben.”

#### SV

Want ik schaam mij des Evangelies van Christus niet; want het is een kracht Gods tot zaligheid een iegelijk, die gelooft, eerst den Jood, en ook den Griek. Want de rechtvaardigheid Gods wordt in hetzelfde geopenbaard uit geloof tot geloof; gelijk geschreven is: Maar de rechtvaardige zal uit het geloof leven.

#### NBG 1951

Want ik schaam mij het evangelie niet; want het is een kracht Gods tot behoud voor een ieder die gelooft, eerst voor de Jood, maar ook voor de Griek. Want gerechtigheid Gods wordt daarin geopenbaard uit geloof tot geloof, gelijk geschreven staat: De rechtvaardige zal uit het geloof leven.

#### HSV

Want ik schaam mij niet voor het Evangelie van Christus, want het is een kracht van God tot zaligheid voor ieder die gelooft, eerst voor de Jood, en ook voor de Griek. Want de gerechtigheid van God daarin geopenbaard uit geloof tot geloof; zoals geschreven is: Maar de rechtvaardige zal uit het geloof leven.

#### Diodati 1641

Perciocchè io non mi vergogno dell’evangelo di Cristo; poichè esso è la potenza di Dio in salute ad ogni credente; al Giudeo imprima, poi anche al Greco. Perciocchè la giustizia di Dio è rivelata in esso, di fede in fede; secondo ch’egli è scritto: “E il giusto vivrà per fede.”

#### VR

Poiché io non mi vergogno dell’Evangelo; perché esso è potenza di Dio per la salvezza d’ogni credente; del Giudeo prima e poi del Greco; poiché in esso la giustizia di Dio è rivelata da fede a fede, secondo che è scritto: “Ma il giusto vivrà per fede.”

#### ND

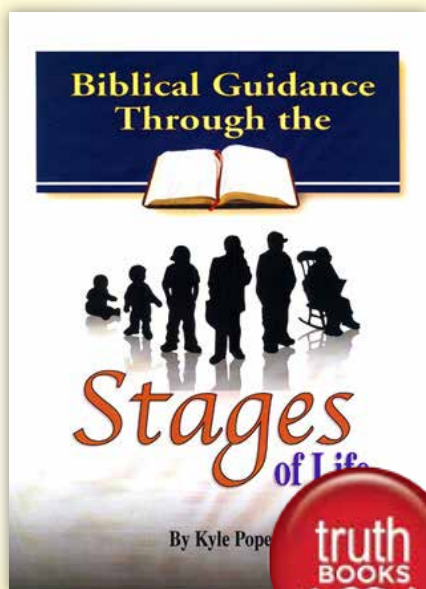
Infatti io non mi vergogno dell’evangelo di Cristo, perché esso è la potenza di Dio per la salvezza di chiunque crede, del Giudeo prima e poi del Greco. Perché in esso la giustizia di Dio è rivelata di fede in fede, come sta scritto: “Il giusto vivrà per fede.”

#### NR

Infatti non mi vergogno del vangelo; perché esso è potenza di Dio per la salvezza di chiunque crede, del Giudeo prima e poi del Greco; poiché in esso la giustizia di Dio è rivelata da fede a fede, com’è scritto: “Il giusto per fede vivrà.”



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## That's Life (1)

# Becoming a Child of God

By Jarrod Jacobs

The greatest experience one can have on earth is when one becomes a child of God. Having followed the Lord's plan of salvation (Acts 8:35-39) and knowing God has washed away all sin (Acts 22:16; Rev. 1:5) is an experience like none other. Becoming a Christian sets one on a course that changes the life from that point forward. When He walked this earth, Jesus described people walking a "strait and narrow" way in Matthew 7:13-14. This is what we need to do. Young people need to recognize the need for obedience to Christ's commands just as much as older folks. Becoming a Christian sets one on this "strait and narrow" way that will ultimately lead us to life eternal if we will be faithful to the Lord (Rev. 2:10). Thus, there is a need for understanding how one can become a child of God.

## What Must I Do To Be Saved?

In this world, we find people from all walks of life who are concerned about the condition of their souls. For this reason, many, including our children, will ask, "What must I do to be saved?" This question is something worthy of our consideration, and deserves a Bible answer. When someone asks, "What must I do to be saved?" it tells us that a person recognizes that he is lost. If he did not recognize the lost condition of his soul, there would be no motivation for the question. This one recognizes the truth that, "All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23). Due to sin in our lives, the Bible describes us as being

spiritually dead (Eph. 2:1, 5; Col. 2:13). The person asking, "What must I do to be saved?" sees that he is lost and needs salvation.

Furthermore, to ask, "What must I do to be saved?" suggests this person recognizes he cannot save himself. If this were possible, he would have already done it. The Bible declares that man cannot save himself. Christ came to save men's souls (Luke 19:10; 1 Tim. 1:15). When our Lord died (1 Cor. 15:3), His blood was "shed for many for the remission of sins" (Matt. 26:28; 1 Pet. 1:18-19). Therefore, this one asking the question "What must I do to be saved?" needs a Savior (Christ), since he is lost in sin.

Asking, "What must I do to be saved?" shows that one recognizes that there are conditions for salvation. The Bible does not teach unconditional, universal salvation, else we would be saved already (Titus 2:11-14). There are conditions which must be met by men in order to enjoy the salvation promised by Christ (Matt. 7:21; Luke 6:46).

Notice also that in asking, "What must I do to be saved?" that one is not asking what God has done to bring about salvation. Without God, we could not be saved. God loves us and sent His Son to die as a sacrifice for us (John 3:16; Rom. 5:8). Christ "tasted death for every man" and shed His blood for us (Heb. 2:9; Matt. 26:28). Furthermore, it is the Holy Spirit who was sent to guide the writers into all truth and give them God's soul-saving word to teach

to mankind (John 16:13; 2 Pet. 1:20-21; Mark 16:15; Rom. 1:16). While God has done all He is going to do to bring about man's salvation, the Bible reveals that there are a few things which man needs to do if he is going to be saved.

When one asks, "What must I do to be saved?" the Lord answers by telling us to:

**1. Believe in Christ.** Jesus said, "If ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins" (John 8:24). This faith comes through hearing God's word (Rom. 10:17). Without faith, it is impossible to please God (Heb. 11:6).

**2. Repent of sins.** To repent is to turn away from sin and wrongdoing and determine to live for Christ. It is a change of mind which results in a change of life. Repentance is more than simply sorrow, but godly sorrow will lead to repentance (2 Cor. 7:10). Jesus said, "I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3, 5). Paul told those on Mars' Hill, "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent" (Acts 17:30).

**3. Confess your faith in Christ.** The Bible says, "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Rom. 10:10). The Ethiopian eunuch made this confession when he told Philip, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God" (Acts 8:37). It is this confession of faith which Christ said was the basis upon which the church was built (Matt. 16:16-18). ►

**4. Be baptized.** Finally, we find that if one wishes to be saved, he will be baptized in water for the remission of sins. We see this happening in Acts 2:38, when after the people had heard the gospel (Acts 2:22) and believed that Jesus is “both Lord and Christ” (Acts 2:36). The people asked, “What shall we do?” (Acts 2:37). Peter’s response was that they needed to “repent and be baptized ... for the remission of sins” (Acts 2:38). On another occasion, after Philip “preached Jesus” to the eunuch (Acts 8:35), “they came to a certain water” and the eunuch asked, “What doth hinder me to be baptized?” (Acts 8:36). When he was told to believe in Christ, and he confessed his faith (Acts 8:37), “he (the eunuch) commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him” (Acts 8:38). The teaching of Philip and the response of the eunuch parallels not only Acts 2:36-38, but also Mark 16:15-16.

When one becomes a Christian, this person’s life is changed. He has a new relationship with the Lord. He is called an heir of God and joint-heir with Christ (Rom. 8:17). One who is a Christian has all sin washed away (Acts 22:16) and is beginning a life of service to the Lord. As Christ died for us, so also we need to live for Him (2 Cor. 5:14-15)! Paul teaches us to be a “living sacrifice” for the Lord (Rom. 12:1-2). We ought to encourage our young people to give their lives and energy in service to God. Truly, there will be no regrets when giving our lives in service to God (Eccl. 11:9-12:1, 13-14).

### When Should I Become a Christian?

While we want to encourage all who recognize their sin and error to become a Christian, and to recognize the urgency of doing so (2 Cor. 6:2; Heb. 3:7-8), we must also recognize that becoming a Christian happens at different times for different people. We know there are some who were not brought up knowing the truth, and so their introduction to Christ and His plan of salvation may come much later in life than for the person who was raised by parents who are Christians. Sometimes, when a child’s understanding of sin and wickedness is first awakened, this child may wish to become a Christian right away. In many respects, this is a good thing, but sometimes, parents may become concerned as to whether or not their child is old enough to grasp the concepts behind sin and the need for salvation. Some may wonder if it is even right for young children to be baptized at all.

What does the Bible say? Is there an actual “age of accountability” defined in the New Testament? No, there is not. At the same time, I believe most parents (and most adults) have the ability to listen to a child speak, and watch a child’s actions and ascertain the maturity level being shown by that child. A parent knows when a child is showing signs of a conscience ►

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... Continued from page 21

that has been “cut to the heart” (Acts 2:37) by what he has been taught.

As we saw above, following the Lord’s plan of salvation is a process. It is necessary to hear God’s word, believe on Christ, repent of sins, and confess one’s faith before being baptized (Rom. 10:17; 2 Pet. 3:9; Rom. 10:10). In the case of our young children, do they truly believe? Are they merely repeating what they have heard? Faith is a strong conviction. Does my child have this? Repentance is a change of mind that results in a change of life (Matt. 21:28-31). Repentance demands godly sorrow over sins (2 Cor. 7:10). Has my child exhibited this? Was he just sorry he was caught? Confession of our faith is necessary (Matt. 10:32-33). Has my child shown a true conviction to boldly acknowledge Jesus Christ as the Son of God? Is he embarrassed in front of others at the mention of Jesus or the discussion of spiritual thoughts? These types of questions must be answered objectively if we are to help our children do what is right.

In the New Testament, we read where people were baptized “and their house” (Acts 16:14-15, 30-34). This means that, not only were those mentioned in the text saved, but also folks in their family. While we could not prove the ages of anyone in their houses, it is logical to say that this could include folks younger than Lydia, or the Jailer. Could there have been children baptized? There might have been children baptized if those children were old enough to have followed the Lord’s plan of salvation. At the same time, these children in the first century (and children today) needed to know what would be expected of them when they became a Christian. As Jesus taught us, we need to count the cost if we are going to be His disciples (Luke 14:25-33). Can a child aged 5-8, etc., truly count the cost of what it means to be a disciple? Only the parents and the child can know for sure.

When a child talks about obeying the gospel, let parents be ready to ask pertinent questions. Remember, if a child is making an “adult” decision, then he needs to be able to answer some pointed questions. We could start by saying: “I am glad you want to talk about this. But, I am wondering something. If you died tonight, would you be saved or lost?” If your child says he will be saved or something similar, we can know that he is not yet ready to be baptized. He does not have an understanding of sin and its consequences (Jas. 1:14-15). There is nothing wrong with this; he is just too young to seriously consider baptism. We need to commend our child for thinking seriously and for wanting to please God. Then, we need nicely to say, “Let’s wait and talk about this again when you get a little older.”

We might ask, “Why are you wanting to be baptized?” Listen closely to your child’s answer. Is she merely repeating what she hears every week in Bible classes and sermons, or is ►

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... Continued from page 22

she speaking from the heart? If she is simply repeating what she has heard, it shows she is listening. However, if she cannot voice this in her own words, perhaps she needs to wait. How a child answers can also shed light on whether she truly believes, has repented and is willing to confess Christ.

Another good question to ask is this: “Do you understand what baptism does?” If she says she understands that it is to forgive sins, we might then ask if she has sinned and needs to be forgiven. If the answer is “no” or she cannot think of a sin she has committed, then do not overreact to this answer. Listen closely and encourage her to wait and to keep on talking about this important decision. If, on the other hand, she says she knows she has sinned, then ask what kind of sins she has committed. Did she say she didn’t clean her room when told? Or, that she fought with brother or did not share a toy? Or, did she say she has been lying or stealing things and knows she is wrong (Eph. 4:25-28)? Can she name specific instances when she has sinned?

Sometimes, I have asked young children wanting to be baptized if they’d mind if we waited and talked about it some more. I do not demand we wait, but ask sensitively about this possibility. If a child says, “Yes” this is another clue that tells me it is not time yet. In every case of conversion in the Bible, folks were baptized immediately (Acts 2:41; 8:12-13, 36-39; 16:30-34). These folks could not wait! They knew the urgency of the situation. If a child does not appreciate the urgency of baptism, perhaps he is not ready. If a child says he cannot put off being baptized, I still ask some of the other questions mentioned above.

Please note that these questions need to be asked gently and with understanding. This is not an inquisition! We are not demanding

Maturity Mark	Yes	No
Does my child run and play in the church building though being told not to?		
Does my child take naps during worship?		
Does my child pay attention to all acts of worship?		
Has my child been talking about baptism repeatedly?		
Is my child concerned about his/her sin and being lost?		
Does my child show an understanding of faith, true repentance, and confessing Christ?		
Does my child tend to be a “follower”? If so, has this discussion of baptism come up because he has seen others his age recently being baptized?		
Does my child tend to be a “pleaser,” and look for ways to please parents? Could this be more important to my child than pleasing God?		
Does my child show an interest in Bible reading, prayer, and other spiritual matters at home?		

our children answer certain questions in order to be saved. Rather, these questions ascertain what our children are thinking and helps them consider what it means to be a Christian. This leads us to our last thought.

Some children mature faster than others, and we need to take this into account as we talk to them about being baptized. Perhaps this is why certain children ask about being baptized at an earlier age than others. However, what signs of maturity are our children showing? Perhaps by considering the maturity of our children, it can help us in directing them toward being baptized or encouraging them to wait a while.

## Conclusion

It is my hope that this article will help us as we talk to our family members and others about baptism. They need to understand the steps of salvation and what God expects of them. In the home, we do not wish to discourage our younger children from obedience, but we also do not wish to baptize a child who is not ready for the

responsibility that comes with being a Christian. Christ called baptism being “*born again*” (John 3:3, 5) because this is a radical change in our lives spiritually and physically, and affects us for the rest of our lives! Are our children ready for such a commitment? We would not encourage a young child to get married just because he/she has started noticing the opposite sex. In like manner, a child hearing the plan of salvation and beginning to appreciate its importance may not be ready to be baptized yet. Let us rejoice that we have a child thinking in spiritual terms at such a young age. Let us cultivate and encourage such thinking and spiritual examination. Let us also react properly and pray for God’s help as we help our children and others that we know to become Christians (Eph. 6:4). **T**



Jarrod Jacobs

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## That's Life (1)

# Balancing Faith & Recreation

By Brent Paschall

In past generations, working 10-12 hours, six days a week was not uncommon. Today, many have a forty hour work week. At the same time, labor-saving devices and processes have reduced the time requirements of much of the “drudgery” of life. Leisure time, time in which we have no external obligations and can choose how we spend it, has exploded. This is even more true for young adults, whose educational time obligations are usually significantly less than those who are working full time. What should we as Christians do with all that free time?

One thing is for sure: we have many choices. In fact, many people have a feeling of stress in their leisure time, concerned that there is something else they could be doing that they would enjoy even more. Others fight boredom in their leisure time, sated with the recreational and entertainment choices they have consumed. Let's examine several major categories of activities with which we can fill our leisure time, and make some observations about them from the perspective of a young Christian seeking to please the Lord.

## Sports and Extra-Curricular Activities

There are many sports and extra-curricular group activities in which a young Christian can participate. They provide opportunities to learn teamwork, good sportsmanship, healthy competition, skill and talent development, discovery and pursuit

of personal interests, and many other benefits. They also require the young Christian to make wise decisions to avoid compromise. An activity may make time demands that interfere with the worship services of the church, and the Christian needs to be ready to put God first. Some activities put pressure on the Christian to violate standards of modesty. As we stand for what is right in these activities, we may find opportunities to share our faith with others.

## Socializing

Socially-oriented activities are a major part of growing up. Development of healthy relationships with other human beings is an important skill with lifelong benefits. Unfortunately, many people's ideas of fun include consumption of alcohol or drugs, lascivious dancing, risky or daredevil behavior, the consumption of ungodly entertainment, criminal activity, or the pursuit of sexual immorality. It doesn't help that our society promotes the idea that socializing has to be done in the total absence of responsible adults. Young Christians would do well to find companions who share their standards with which to socialize (1 Cor. 15:33).

## Entertainment

For many years we have been inundated with a glut of entertainment choices as new movies are constantly released and the number of cable channels has reached the triple digits.

As the world of on-demand media takes off, the choices are redoubling again. The job of the entertainment industry is to provide an experience that will delight your senses and keep you coming back for more. As a Christian, have you developed standards based on God's word for what you will and will not consume in your entertainment? Are you applying your standards consistently (Prov. 4:23)? Remember, if you go to the world for entertainment, you get what the world thinks is entertaining.

## Internet

The internet is a conduit that brings an ever-expanding world of information, entertainment, and communication into our homes and minds. It is revolutionizing how human society interacts and how almost everything gets done. At the same time that it enables great things to be accomplished that couldn't even be imagined a few years ago, it also makes it possible for fleshly lusts to war against the soul in ways that couldn't be imagined a few years ago. Be warned! Pornography will turn off your spiritual life, make your god your belly, and cause you to glory in your shame (Phil. 3:19). If you are caught, get help from your Christian brothers or sisters in getting free!

## Social Media

We have so many new ways to connect with other human beings. It is hard to avoid the conclusion that God intends us to use these connections ►



not just so the world can know what our cat is doing right now, but that “the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of God as the waters cover the sea” (Hab. 2:14). Christian, shine your light through social media! Please be aware that contentions, strife, gossip, slander, wrath, backbiting, bitterness, deceit, corrupt communication, and jealousy are just as sinful on social media as they are in real life.

### Personal Development

Do you have pursuits that give you fulfillment in your leisure time? I mean activities that will reward dedicated, disciplined, sustained effort and that will make you into a more well-rounded and complete human being? Do you participate in activities that allow you to express the unique creativity that you possess as a person made in the image of God (Gen. 1:26-27)? If you don't, I want you to find some, and make the conscious effort to not spend all of your leisure time in frivolous pursuits that have no lasting value, but on real things that will make a difference in your life and the lives of others. Recent studies report that the average young person spends 7.5 hours a day consuming media, most of which have little more value than as a distraction. Don't let that happen to you!

### Good Works

We have discussed how as Christians we can use our leisure time in a way that will honor God. We began by noting that the reduction in work hours in our society has produced an increase of leisure time. Of course, the primary purpose of work is to provide for the needs of ourselves and our household. But there is another purpose of work expressed in Ephesians 4:28: “that he may have something to give him who has need.” Guess what? Doing good works is our God-assigned leisure

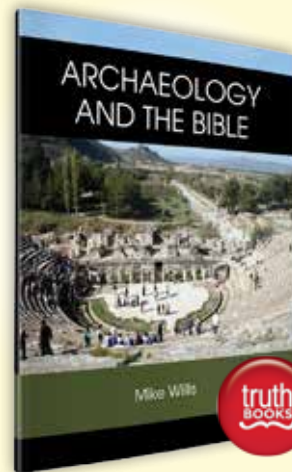
activity (Matt. 5:16; Eph. 2:10; Tit. 3:1, 8, 14; Heb. 10:24; 1 Pet. 2:12). If we are not making time for doing good for others, we are too busy! **T**



Brent Paschall

Brent Paschall lives in Thaxton, VA with his wife and five children. He has preached for the Blue Ridge Church of Christ for the past eight years. He is constantly having to make adjustments to properly balance faith and recreation.

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## That's Life (1)

# God and Career

By Scott Willis

I was taught at a very early age the truth found in 2 Thessalonians 3:10, “For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.” It was impressed on me that one must earn the material things to be enjoyed in this life, including food. Furthermore, if I was unwilling to work then I did not deserve to eat. Most in our society today would view treating your child like that as abusive. I will admit that there were times when I did too, but it taught me a very valuable lesson that I am glad I learned as a child rather than an adult. As I grew older and began to work, the value of Solomon’s wisdom impressed me. Ecclesiastes 2:24 says, “There is nothing better for a man, than that he should eat and drink, and that he should make his soul enjoy good in his labour. This also I saw, that it was from the hand of God.” I recognize the connection between these two passages. It is a blessing from God to be able to work and from that work be able to provide food for yourself.

When I was about twelve I asked my parents for a particular pair of athletic shoes. They told me to get a job and buy them myself. I don’t remember how expensive they were; I know they were not as expensive as some shoes are today (Air Jordan’s from Nike for example). That was not the point. The point was that I needed to earn them. So I got a job as a carhop at a root beer stand in Amarillo, TX. When I received my first paycheck I had enough to buy

the shoes. Honestly though, my parents visited that root beer stand once each of my shifts and tipped me enough to pay for the shoes, but they taught me a lesson I will remember forever. I needed to work for the things I wanted and needed in life.

As I got older and began to seek and hold a job, the lesson of my first job resonated loudly. That was not the only lesson however; I remembered the lesson from Matthew 6:33 – “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.” This passage taught me that my career was to be no higher than the second most important thing in my life. (With a wife and children it dropped to 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> but that is another article.) What I needed to do with reference to Matthew 6:33 was to choose a career that would not interfere with my responsibility to God. There were career opportunities that would have prevented me from serving God as I should, jobs that would interfere with attending worship services for example. There were also career opportunities that would have violated the moral standards outlined in the Bible. I made my decisions with those things in mind. God must come first and nothing I chose to do should violate Biblical principles.

Once I began to work it did not take long to realize that not everyone in the workplace was guided by the same Biblical principles I had come to know and follow. Like many, I have had

bosses who held no regard for God on any level. This made it very difficult to have any respect for them. Lack of respect for someone in turn makes it difficult to follow his or her leadership. This brings me to another important Biblical principle to consider: Colossians 3:22-23 – “Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God: And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men.” I am not only working for the boss (I am of course, but that is not my priority. Remember Matt. 6:33?), I am working for God. We answer to God and are to give Him glory in all we do.

I have had many co-workers who struggled to follow a leader of questionable character or skill. They chose rather to disrespect the person put in charge or blatantly disregard his orders. That will not only get you fired, it violates God’s law. We have seen what Paul taught in Colossians 3:22-23, but what he said in Romans 12:10-11 also applies: “Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another; *Not slothful in business*; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord.” Slothful, or being a slacker, is not acceptable for a child of God. We must be diligent in our work. It is sinful to be dishonorable or lazy at work. Remember Jesus’ teaching about the one talent man? In the parable, when the master returned from his journey, he found that the one-talent man had ►

done nothing but bury the talent in the ground (Matt. 25:14-30). He was labeled a slothful and unprofitable servant. Peter encourages us to be an example to those we come in contact with in the world. That includes co-workers and even questionable bosses. 1 Peter 2:12 says, "Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation." We need to set forth an example of God's children in all we do so that God will be glorified.

Through the years the Lord has blessed me in my career and life in general. I have a godly wife and obedient children, for which I am grateful. Getting married and having children introduced another aspect of career and God-given responsibility that deserves to be mentioned. As the man of the house it is my responsibility to provide for my family. 1 Timothy 5:8 says, "But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel." I had to choose a career that would best enable me to provide for my family. My family was counting on me to be responsible enough to maintain employment and provide for their needs. That meant when I became unhappy with a boss or co-worker I couldn't just decide to quit and walk away. I have had many occasions when I was unhappy with my work situation. Rather than disrespecting my boss or co-worker I had to keep working until I could change the situation without interruption to my responsibilities to God and family.

An additional responsibility was to teach my children about God. Ephesians 6:4 says, "And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." For me that meant career choices had to be made to ensure I was there to teach them. My career had

to take a back seat at times. I wish I could say that I never had to travel or work late but that is not true. I missed opportunities and responsibilities as a father and parent that I regret today. However, I did make conscious decisions to be home and with my family that caused me to pass on some job opportunities. That I do not regret! I am not trying to brag or promote myself as the best example, I am not, but I do not regret those decisions as I look at the adults my children have grown up to be, or as I enjoy the happy marriage I am blessed to have. Seeking God first brings many blessings to us.

So now I am 54 years old and have the privilege of managing people. Part of that includes recruiting and hiring people to fill jobs. I have seen many distressful situations in that role. Our society has largely eliminated God from their lives and it shows in their character. So many people in the workplace feel they are owed something by the employer (and the world in general). They display disrespectful attitudes or are outright lazy. We have allowed a situation to develop where finding good, qualified employees is difficult. Businesses are having to compensate for a lack of moral character in candidates and employees by teaching ethics in the workplace. Companies spend time, effort, and money to instill in the employee the principles of character they should have learned at home and in the church but, these principles and ethics were forced out when our society deliberately removed God from every aspect of the public square.

As I close out this article I would like to encourage all of us to seek to know God's will in every aspect of life and follow His commands. As an employer I can assure you the values found in God's word still work and are desirable in the workplace. Employers want employees who are not thieves, not lazy but are dedicated and hard working. As

Christians we need to remember we are to follow God's will for us as employees:

- If you don't work you don't deserve to eat (2 Thess. 3:10).
- Work is a gift from God (Eccl. 2:24).
- Seek God first (Matt. 6:33).
- Work as if the Lord is your master (Col. 3:22-23).
- Don't be a slacker (Matt. 25:14-30; Rom. 12: 11)!
- We have responsibilities at home that work enables us to fulfill (1 Tim. 5:8).
- Be honorable at work so that God will be glorified (1 Pet. 2:12).
- Chose a career that will enable you to have a godly home (Eph. 6:4).

Choose a career that will enable you to serve God and be a good example to others. Make career decisions that help you get to heaven. Living according to God's will brings many blessings including a successful career. 🙏



**Scott Willis**

Scott Willis spent over thirty years at Sprint leading teams in several different areas of that company. He is now serving as the Chief Operations Officer at Highpoint Global, a consulting firm located in Indianapolis serving federal government agencies. Scott has also served on the GOT Board of Directors for five years, the last three of which he has served as the chairman of the Board. Despite his busy work schedules, he has taken time out to teach VBS for nearly twenty years. When he went back to school to further his education, Scott continued to serve as a deacon and later as an elder, teaching Bible classes in the local church as needed.

## That's Life (1)

# Preparing for Marriage

By Sewell Hall

“Marriage is honorable among all” (Heb. 13:4). Though marriage is not required of every Christian, and under some conditions may not be advisable (1 Cor. 7), yet as a rule it is desirable. “The Lord God said, ‘It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him’” (Gen. 2:18). Marriage seldom crosses the mind of those who are being baptized in their early teens, yet baptism is an important part of preparing for an event that will likely occur in their future. If they are truly converted, God will be their first consideration in every future decision and relationship. This prepares them to be the kind of godly persons that another godly person will want to marry. This is the best pairing possible.

**Preparing with Prayer.** One of the first privileges a Christian learns to exercise is prayer. “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God” (Phil. 4:6). As sexual desires begin to develop, control of them should be a subject of prayer. “Do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one” (Matt. 6:13). And as interest begins to develop in associating with those of the opposite sex, it is increasingly important that God be asked for guidance and help. Such associations can very quickly become more than mere friendship.

**Preparing with Purity.** As an association becomes more focused and

intimate, sexual temptation becomes more likely. From the very beginning, Christians need to set boundaries such as: never to be in a house alone, the limits of physical contact, and entertainment to be shared. Paul wrote to young Timothy, “Flee also youthful lusts” (2 Tim. 2:22). Worldly people consider fornication to satisfy sexual desires as no different from eating to satisfy the appetite for food, but knowledgeable Christians know better. Paul wrote to Christians in Corinth, “Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body” (1 Cor. 6:18). Eating is not a sin against the body, but fornication is. Sex is God’s creation for our good, but He intends that it be reserved for marriage. Look again at Hebrews 13:4. “Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.” It is only in marriage that the bed is undefiled.

Not only is sex before marriage sinful, but even secular studies show that it is harmful to subsequent marriage. Donald Joy, a writer for *Christianity Today*, cited a study of 100,000 women that linked “early sexual experience with dissatisfaction in their present marriages, unhappiness with the level of sexual intimacy and the prevalence of low self-esteem.” It often leads to unfavorable comparisons of a spouse with previous partners and it robs the wedding night of one of its greatest privileges: couples learning intimacy

from one another. Even if the two fully intend to marry it is still sin, and plans may change or unplanned pregnancies can complicate their dreams. Even if there is no pregnancy and they do marry, there often remains a lingering sense of guilt. God’s way is the best and it is “for our good always” (Deut. 6:24). A Christian follows God’s way whether the reason is evident or not.

But if premarital sex is harmful to an eventual marriage so is pornography. What is portrayed in movies, films, magazines, the internet, etc. is not the pure and loving relationship that God intended in marriage, but an unnatural and perverted performance by paid actors. Lusts are aroused for behaviors that are not to be expected from a godly spouse who has kept his/her mind free from such pollution. “Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life” (Prov. 4:23). There are sins about which “it is shameful even to speak” (Eph. 5:12); how much more shameful it is to gaze upon them with pleasure. Many a marriage has been destroyed by pornography, not only by its influence on those who feast on it while married but also by the poison it leaves in the minds of those who have fed on it before marriage.

**Preparing with Prudence.** One of the weaknesses of our culture is the fact that the most significant decisions of life are made by those who are least prepared by observation and experience to make them. This is especially true ►

of choosing a marriage partner. Imagine choosing a house in which you will spend the rest of your life. In choosing such a dwelling you would not only be concerned about its present appearance and appeal, but you would be extremely concerned about its location, its construction, and its suitability for whatever future uses you might need to make of it. You would feel the need for wisdom and foresight and even advice from others. Wisdom and foresight are needed even more for choosing whom you will marry. God intends that the decision be irrevocable for your entire lifetime.

One of the dangers of arousing sexual interest too early in courtship is the fact that rational judgment becomes more difficult. It is not godly love that is blind, but sexual chemistry. We must discipline ourselves to see as God sees. "The Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart" (1 Sam. 16:7). Wise Christian men value what God values: "the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible *beauty* of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God" (1 Pet. 3:4). Wise Christian women admire the man whom God calls "an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (1 Tim. 4:12). This is the kind of companion you can expect to be faithful to you and to be a good parent for your children.

One warning: Marriage was never intended to be evangelistic. Many Christians have limited their usefulness by marrying non-Christians in the hope of converting them. Nor is it a means of giving someone "the love they never had" or providing a "chance for failures to prove themselves." If they have not proved themselves before marriage it is not likely that they will do so after marriage. Christians should marry Christians who they genuinely believe

can help them and their children to get to heaven.

**Preparing with Purpose.** A godly marriage does not come naturally. If two are to become one, each must make sacrifices. "The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband *does*. And likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife *does*" (1 Cor. 7:4).

A man must purpose to "leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife" (Gen. 2:24). A woman must purpose to forget her own people and her father's house (Ps. 45:10) and focus her desire on her husband (Gen. 3:16). The new family being formed should be independent of the former ones.

A man entering marriage must purpose to love his wife, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her (Eph. 5:25). A woman entering marriage must purpose to be subject to her husband just as the church is subject to Christ in everything (Eph. 5:23). Marriage is not for selfish, self-centered people.

A man must purpose to love, honor, and cherish his wife in sickness and in health, in prosperity and in adversity, for better or for worse, and to keep himself to her and to her alone as long as they both shall live. And the woman must purpose the same regarding her husband. When asked if they will do this they answer, "I do." Often sickness and adversity do develop and the promise seems to be "for worse." Then what do you do? A signboard on a highway advertises a law firm that can help you "Undo the 'I do,'" but it is not that easy. God is witness to the promises made and those who break them are answerable to Him.

## Conclusion

Does all of this sound too demanding? Then perhaps you are not

ready to marry. Wait until you are better prepared. Do not deceive and ruin the life of some good person with promises you may not keep. With God's help you can still develop the necessary character to make a successful future marriage. **11**



**Sewell Hall**

Embry Hills church in Atlanta during three different periods for a total of thirty-one years.

Sewell Hall was born in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1930 to Gardner and Gartrell Hall. For sixty-six years, his wife, Caneta, has been his faithful co-worker in several states and foreign countries. They have served the

## That's Life (1)

# Acting with Conviction

By Nathan Mayberry

Imagine being snatched away from your home and family. Imagine being a captive in a foreign land, serving men with pagan ideals and morals. Imagine facing intense pressure to compromise your principles and pay homage to false gods. This was the reality in which Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah found themselves; yet, they remained faithful to God. They acted with conviction.

Young Christians today also face pressures to compromise their morals and principles. What lessons can we learn from Daniel and his friends concerning acting with conviction?

## Remember Who You Are (Dan. 1)

The Babylonians assigned new names to their subjects in an attempt to sever connections to their former religion and homeland and to encourage them to assimilate to the new culture. For the four young princes of our study, their original Hebrew names honored Jehovah God for His justice, favor, might, and help; however, their new names payed homage to Babylonian gods or emphasized their new role in the Babylonian order. Despite this subtle attempt to encourage them to conform to the secular culture, Daniel and his companions did not forget their identity as God-fearing Jews. As they were being trained to serve in Nebuchadnezzar's court, food was placed before them that was unlawful for a Jew to eat. God gave strict dietary restrictions to the Israelites

to distinguish them from other nations (Lev. 11). These young men could have reasoned, "When in Babylon, do as the Babylonians." Yet, to eat from the king's choice food would have rendered them unclean. Remembering they were Israelites who enjoyed a covenant relationship with God, they chose not to defile themselves.

Christians also must remember our identity. We are "a holy nation... a people for God's own possession" (1 Pet. 2:9). As such, we are called upon to live in a certain way: to be holy as God is holy (1 Pet. 1:14-16). When the child of God is invited by a college classmate to go out for a drink, he should remember that he is a Christian and politely decline (1 Pet. 4:1-4). He should even take the opportunity to explain the moral reasons why he abstains from alcohol.

## Resolve Not to Be Defiled (Dan. 1)

In addition to remembering who he was, Daniel *made up his mind* that he would not defile himself with the king's choice food or with the wine which he drank. His mind was set. This resolve steeled him to refuse the king's food regardless of the consequences. The penalty could have been very severe: if the commander of the officials feared for his head for altering the king's command, at how much more risk was Daniel in refusing the appointed food? Additionally, while Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah joined Daniel in

the commitment to remain pure, many other young Jewish men caved to the pressure. Daniel and his companions took a great risk, doing so with very little support. Why? Because of their convictions!

We also need a resolute heart in order to remain true to the Lord (Acts 11:23). We are surrounded by wickedness, but we must resolve that we will not participate in it. When a fellow student tells a dirty joke, the child of God must not laugh along (Eph. 5:4, 7, 11). He should already have made up his mind to remain pure. He should already have thought of ways to express disapproval and not participate in sin.

## Respond with Gentleness and Reverence (Dan. 1)

Daniel showed wisdom in how he responded to the compromising situation concerning his assigned food. He could have answered with indignation, "There is absolutely no way that I'm eating this unclean food!" Instead, he calmly asked that he not be required to eat the food. When challenged by the commander of the officials concerning the risk of his request, Daniel remained reasonable. He asked that his proposal be tested for ten days, and that an evaluation be made at the end of that time period. The Lord was with Daniel and his friends, and they were blessed with good health and wisdom and made a good impression on King Nebuchadnezzar. ▶

Today, the child of God will be faced with compromising situations at school or in the workplace. Sometimes, a positive outcome can be obtained by simply making a calm and reasonable request for consideration. This is part of what it means to “be ready to make a defense... with *gentleness and reverence*” (1 Pet. 3:15). When it comes to getting off from work or school/ extracurricular activities in order to worship with the saints, all a Christian sometimes has to do is ask. If we are reasonable in our requests (perhaps offering to fulfill our obligations before church services start, or offering to return to work after church services are concluded) and firm in expressing our commitment to faithful attendance, the outcome may be positive. Such requests may not always be warmly received, but how will we know unless we first ask?

### Stand Firm against Intense Pressure (Dan. 3)

King Nebuchadnezzar erected a massive golden idol. At the dedication ceremony for this great statue, all were commanded to bow down and worship the golden image. Failure to bow down was punishable by death in a fiery furnace. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego did not comply with the command of Babylon’s earthly king because of their commitment to the command of the Heavenly King (Exod. 20:2-6). Consequently, they were promptly summoned before an indignant and irate ruler. They were ordered to explain themselves, and were even given a second chance to make amends and bow down before the golden image. The consequences of refusal were reiterated: immediate death. Yet, these young men stood firm. They responded to Nebuchadnezzar saying, “We do not need to give you an answer concerning this matter.” Their decision wasn’t up for negotiation or

reconsideration. They were willing to face the fiery furnace rather than forsake God.


In this world of tolerance, “Sensitivity Training” is becoming more and more common in the workplace. Such training currently focuses on the need for respectful and professional treatment of others in the workforce without respect to their nationality, religion, political affiliation, or sexual orientation; however, it is the fear of this writer that the expectations of tolerance training will eventually shift from simply requiring fair treatment of all (which the Bible itself would promote) to requiring that sinful lifestyles (especially homosexuality and other similar perversions) be condoned and even applauded. With our job potentially being on the line, how will we respond (Eph. 5:11)?

### Calmly Carry on in Doing Good (Dan. 6)

Daniel was a man given to prayer. Three times a day he prayed to God with his windows open toward Jerusalem. Daniel’s fellow commissioners jealously plotted to use his faithfulness to God against him. They convinced King Darius to issue an ill-advised command prohibiting prayer to anyone but him for thirty days. Anyone disregarding this command was to be thrown into the lion’s den. With full knowledge that the edict was signed, Daniel did not alter his godly habits. He carried on in faithful prayer, not even attempting to hide his actions. For his calm continuance in doing good he faced the lion’s den, yet he was divinely delivered.

Like Daniel, let us live in such a way that the only cause for suffering, persecution, and reviling is our good behavior (1 Pet. 3:16; 4:12-19). Let us persevere in doing good so that we may

obtain glory, honor, and eternal life (Rom. 2:6-7).

So be a Daniel. Consider the example of Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. Be a person of conviction! 



Nathan Mayberry

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# Thinking “It Won’t Happen to Me”

By Jerry King

In the April 15, 1999 edition of the aviation news resource *AVweb*, columnist Howard Fried wrote an article entitled “It Can Happen to Me!” in which he discussed five hazardous attitudes identified by the FAA that can lead to an aviation accident. They are: (1) *Invulnerability*, the feeling that it can’t happen to me; (2) *Anti-authority*, the belief that no one can tell me what to do; (3) *Impulsivity*, the tendency to act in the moment, without first thinking about the consequences; (4) *Mr. Macho*, the confidence that I can do anything; and (5) *Resignation*, the belief that there is no benefit in resisting an urge. What is true in aviation is doubtless true in all of life; so much of life’s difficulties can be tied to those same five hazardous attitudes.

Of course, at the top of the heap is invulnerability. The last four hazardous attitudes are really just reflections of the first – a common belief that my circumstances make me special, so what are consequences for others will not be consequences for me. Therefore, I can do what I want, when I want, where I want, and how I want, and no one has the right to tell me otherwise.

The problem with such an attitude is that it is entirely wrong. The fact of the matter is that “whatever a man sows, that he will also reap” (Gal. 6:7), and Paul puts no qualifications on that truth; there are no special circumstances that will keep you from eventually bearing

the consequences of the choices you make. Are you determined to defy spiritual authority, ignore biblical warnings, and do what you want in matters of the desires of the flesh? Be sure that when you sow to the flesh you will of the flesh reap corruption (Ga. 6:8). Are you determined to live in the here and now, with no regard to where you will live in the hereafter? Be sure that your sin will find you out (Num. 32:23). Are you not about to resist the urge to show off to your worldly friends so that they will know how macho you are? Be sure that pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall (Prov. 16:18).

Eve is the quintessential example of those truths. Though she may have been a grown woman at her creation, she was but a youth experientially, and she made some classic mistakes of youth in Genesis 3 in the matter of the forbidden fruit.

**First, she did not become immediately alarmed when confronted by Satan’s minion, the serpent (vv. 1-5).** She seemed willing to entertain his thoughts, even when he began to directly contradict what God had spoken. It is one thing for God’s young people to defend their faith to their peers, it is quite another thing for them to give consideration to their peers’ opinions about the proper course of action when those opinions directly contradict God’s word. For example, God’s word warns about the

consumption of alcohol: “Wine is a mocker, strong drink is a brawler, and whoever is led astray by it is not wise” (Prov. 20:1). Young person, are you really going to consider your peers’ opinions when they directly contradict that truth? Many young Christians have, and the consequence has been corruption.

**Second, she wandered into the vicinity of the forbidden tree (v. 6).** She got close enough to the tree that she could inspect its pleasurable fruit. The wise man wrote, “Do not enter the path of the wicked, and do not walk in the way of evil. Avoid it, do not travel on it; turn away from it and pass on” (Prov. 4:14-15). Young person, are you really going to snuggle up next to activities that promote ungodliness (keg parties, prom dances, lewd concerts, etc.), expecting not to be corrupted by those activities? Proverbs 6:28 asks, “Can one walk on hot coals, and his feet not be seared?” The immediate context is of a young man straying into the presence of his neighbor’s wife (v. 29), but the general principle applies to any situation where the innocent person strays into the presence of ungodly activity. Young person, do you really believe that you can stray into the presence of ungodliness and think that you will somehow be insulated from corruption by your superior self-control? Many young people do, and the consequence is corruption.

**Third, she concentrated only on the pleasure that sin would bring to ▶**



**her flesh (v. 6).** Is sin pleasurable? Sure it is. If it wasn't, hardly anyone would want to practice it. Eve considered the fruit only for what it could do for her in the here and now – it looked good, it would taste good, and it would give her an appealing experiential wisdom about a side of life she had no business experiencing. Yes, her sin would be pleasurable, but that pleasure would only be momentary. Hebrews 11:25 reminds us that such is true of every sin.

Eve considered the forbidden fruit only superficially; she failed to consider what was lurking below the surface. Below the surface was rebellion against what she knew was the will of God (Gen. 2:17). Below the surface were physical pain, sorrow, and subjection (Gen. 3:16). Below the surface was separation from the tree of life, which would result in spiritual death (Gen. 2:17). Below the surface was the introduction into the world of a spiritual cancer that would eventually spread to all of mankind (Rom. 5:12). Below the surface were the oppression, affliction, and crucifixion of the Son of God (Isa. 53:4-7). Young person, will you really look at sinful activity only as a vehicle for fulfilling a desire for pleasure in the moment, with no consideration for the harm you will do to yourself and others after the moment has passed? Many young people will, and the consequence will be corruption.

In my middle teenage years I thought – like most every other teenager – that persons my age were invulnerable. Then one day my schoolmate Sharon went on a date with a boy to whom she shouldn't have given the time of day, was talked into drinking, had sex while drunk, and became pregnant. At the age of sixteen she was saddled with the difficult task of raising a child as a single mother. Then one day my friend Leland, who had thoughts of becoming a preacher, was talked into going to a bar by some

friends at school, met a girl there and fell head over heels for her, and at the age of eighteen chose a relationship with her over his relationship with Jesus Christ. He never repented and is to this day estranged from the Lord. Then one day my neighbor Eddie, who lived by the motto "Live fast," fulfilled his long dream to save enough money to buy a new Harley Davidson motorcycle. That very same afternoon he was speeding down a road near his home when a Ford Bronco pulled out in front of him. He died instantly at the age of twenty, and his motorcycle club purchased a wreath for his funeral emblazoned with the motto, "Live fast, die young, and leave a good looking corpse." He did.

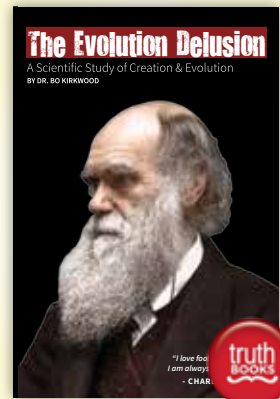
And then I realized how wrong I had been. Young people, just like older people, are vulnerable. Refusal to listen to authority, tendency to act on impulse, overconfidence in one's ability, and failure to resist physically and spiritually dangerous urges eventually have serious consequences – even for the young. Understanding this will surely save the young from a boatload of heartache, and possibly from an early grave. Most importantly, it will save their souls – and put a sense of urgency into Solomon's command to "remember now your Creator in the days of your youth" (Eccl. 12:1). **TM**



**Jerry King**

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# The Gender-Neutral Trend

by John Isaac Edwards

According to a September 3, 2015 report in *The San Francisco Chronicle*, the boys bathrooms and girls bathrooms will become just bathrooms at the Miraloma Elementary School in San Francisco, California as they go gender-neutral. “There’s no need to make them gender-specific anymore.... We changed the signs, we changed the way we teach our students that we don’t have boys and girls restrooms, we have restrooms,” said the principal, Sam Bass. One mom is reported as happy that her son – who identifies as a boy, but likes to wear dresses and long hair – can use whichever bathroom he prefers. This decision follows a trend that is accelerating in our nation.

**1. Male and Female.** In light of this ridiculousness, a good question is, “Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them *male and female*...?” (Matt. 19:4-5). The origination book affirms, “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; *male and female* created he them” (Gen. 1:27). Again it is recorded, “*Male and female* created he them...” (Gen. 5:2). If you’re not sure which you are, you might check your birth certificate.

**2. Mankind and Womankind.** Leviticus 18:22 teaches, “Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.” Today we are told that if you are mankind you can change to womankind, and if you are womankind you can identify as mankind. Crazy, isn’t it?

**3. Man and Woman.** The creation account reveals, “And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from *man*, made he a *woman*, and brought her unto the *man*. And Adam said, This is now bone

of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called *Woman*, because she was taken out of *Man*” (Gen. 2:22-23). Paul wrote the Corinthians, “...It is good for a *man* not to touch a *woman*. Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every *man* have his own wife, and let every *woman* have her own husband” (1 Cor. 7:1-2).

**4. Husbands and Wives.** The Ephesian letter instructs, “*Wives*, submit yourselves unto your own *husbands*, as unto the Lord. For the *husband* is the head of the *wife*...Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the *wives* be to their own *husbands*... *Husbands*, love your *wives*...and the *wife* see that she reverence her *husband*” (Eph. 5:22-33).

**5. Father and Mother.** Did you know that the terms “dad” and “mom” or “father” and “mother” are now considered offensive to some in our society? The Book of God says, “Therefore shall a man leave his *father* and his *mother*, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh” (Gen. 2:24). Paul wrote the Ephesians, “Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy *father* and *mother*...” (Eph. 6:1-2).

**6. Sons and Daughters.** The generations of Adam find “*sons and daughters*” being begotten (Gen. 5:4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 26, 30). When you were born, were you a son or a daughter?

**7. Boys and Girls.** Zechariah 8:5 says, “And the streets of the city shall be full of *boys and girls* playing in the streets thereof.” When a child is born, the first words are often: “It’s a boy!” or “It’s a girl!” Right? Some school systems no longer refer to students as “boys” and “girls.” Teachers are told,

“Don’t use phrases such as ‘boys and girls,’ ‘you guys,’ ‘ladies and gentlemen,’ and similarly gendered expressions to get kids’ attention.” Instead of “boys” and “girls,” call them purple penguins! Divide them by whether they prefer skateboards or bikes, or whether they like milk or juice. So, are we going to have the milk room and the juice room, instead of the boys’ room and the girls’ room?

**8. He and She.** “He” and “she” occurs in 160 Bible verses. Here’s a sampling: “And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, *she* took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also to her husband with her, and *he* did eat” (Gen. 3:6). You ought to be able to tell a *she* from a *he* and a *he* from a *she*! The law commanded, “The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman’s garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the Lord thy God” (Deut. 22:5). The Corinthians were asked, “Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him? But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her...” (1 Cor. 11:14-15). Speaking of nature-teaching, did you observe what Noah took with him into the ark? “...two of every sort shalt thou bring into the ark, to keep them alive with thee; they shall be *male and female*” (Gen. 6:19). Ever see a trans-dog or cat?

What’s next? **T**



John Isaac Edwards

John Isaac Edwards and his family live in Terre Haute, IN and work with the church of Christ at Terre Haute. 1977jie@gmail.com

# CHURCHDirectory

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

To make changes to your ad, contact:  
[tmmikewillis@gmail.com](mailto:tmmikewillis@gmail.com)

## ALASKA

### ANCHORAGE

Rose Street church of Christ  
3124 Rose Street  
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.  
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: David Webb (907) 350-8358

## ALABAMA

### BIRMINGHAM

Pine Lane church of Christ  
3955 Pine Lane Bessemer, AL  
(N. side of Exit #6 at I459)  
Bible Study 9:15 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.  
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: David Deason (205) 425-2352

### BIRMINGHAM

Vestavia Hills church of Christ  
2325 Old Columbiana Rd. (near I-65 & Hwy. 31)  
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.  
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelists: David Banning and Doy Moyer  
(205) 822-0018 or 822-0082

### FLORENCE

College View church of Christ  
851 N. Pine St. (Next to University Campus)  
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:15 A.M.,  
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: Kenny Moorer (256) 766-0403

### HUNTSVILLE

Chapman Acres church of Christ  
2137 Penhall Dr., NE (I-565, Exit 21, right on  
Maysville Road left on Chapman Avenue,  
right on Penhall Drive)  
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.  
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: Isaac Muñoz, [www.chapmanacres.org](http://www.chapmanacres.org)

### MOBILE

West Mobile church of Christ  
129 Hillcrest Road  
Worship 9-9:30 A.M., Bible Study 9:30-10:30 A.M.  
Worship 10:30-11:30 A.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
(251) 342-4144 or 342-2041

### MONTGOMERY

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

### PARRISH

McArthur Heights  
church of Christ, 5082 Hwy. 269  
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.  
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 6:30 P.M.  
(205) 686-5978 or 686-5620

### SCOTTSBORO

Eastside church of Christ  
John T. Reid Pkwy., (Hwy. 72, 2 mi. E. of Hwy. 35)  
Worship 9 A.M., Bible Study 9:30 A.M.  
Worship 10:30 P.M., Wednesday Summer 7 P.M.  
Wednesday Winter 6 P.M.  
Evangelist: Aaron Andrews  
(256) 574-1603 or 575-2664

## ARKANSAS

### CONWAY

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

### CONWAY

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

### CONWAY

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

### FORT SMITH

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

### HARRISON

Capps Rd. Church of Christ  
407 Bella Vista Dr.  
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:15 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: Norman E. Sewell  
[www.cappsroad.org](http://www.cappsroad.org)  
870-741-9104 or 870-741-5151

### JACKSONVILLE

church of Christ  
1807 McArthur Drive  
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.  
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
(501) 982-6413 - church bldg  
(501) 533-8801 - Jason Lankford  
[www.mcarthurdrcoc.com](http://www.mcarthurdrcoc.com)

### JONESBORO

StoneRidge church of Christ  
514 Airport Road  
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: Dick Blackford (870) 933-9134  
[rlb612@aol.com](mailto:rlb612@aol.com)

### LITTLE ROCK

church of Christ  
7115 West 65th Street  
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.  
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: Don McClain, Res. (501) 847-6677  
Study (501) 568-1062

### MARVELL

Marvell church of Christ  
Highway 49 • Marvell, AR 72366  
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.  
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
(870) 714-1472 or (870) 338-1833

### PINE BLUFF

church of Christ  
4700 W. 28th Street  
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:35 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: Clarence W. Fell (870) 879-2097

### POCAHONTAS

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

### TEXARKANA

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

## ARIZONA

### GLENDALE

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

### TUCSON

church of Christ  
145 N. Country Club Road  
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: Hugh Delong  
(520) 326-3634 or 722-3179

## CALIFORNIA

### ALAMEDA

Alameda church of Christ  
2167 Santa Clara Avenue  
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:50 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Call Us! (510) 523-9547

### BELLFLOWER

Rose Ave. church of Christ  
17903 Ibbetson Ave.  
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:50 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.  
(562) 866-5615, <http://www.roseavenue.org>

### CANOGA PARK

(San Fernando Valley)  
church of Christ  
7054 Winnetka Ave.  
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.  
Afternoon 2:30 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.  
Minister: Bruce Evans (818) 795-5566  
Spanish congregation (818) 701-0112

### FOLSOM

church of Christ  
900 E. Natomas St. • P.O. Box 492  
Sunday Bible Study 9:30 A.M.,  
Sunday Worship 10:30 A.M.,  
Sunday Bible Study 4 P.M.,  
Wednesday Bible Study 7:30 P.M.  
Evangelist: David Posey  
(530) 676-9514 or (916) 608-4866  
[www.folsomchurch.com](http://www.folsomchurch.com)

### LONG BEACH

church of Christ  
3433 Studebaker Rd.  
Bible Study 9:50 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.  
Evening 5:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
JP Flores (562) 420-2363  
Mark Reeves (562) 420-9577  
[www.JustChristians.org](http://www.JustChristians.org)

### OCEANSIDE-VISTA

church of Christ  
2020 Sunset Dr.  
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.  
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
(760) 940-8003

## COLORADO

### GRAND JUNCTION

church of Christ Western Slope  
2923 North Ave., Unit 3  
Grand Junction, CO 81504  
Worship 10:30 A.M., Evening 5 P.M.  
Wednesday Bible Study 6 P.M.  
[www.churchofchristwesternslope.com](http://www.churchofchristwesternslope.com)

### LOVELAND

Poudre Valley church of Christ  
4202 North Garfield Avenue  
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.  
Afternoon 1:30 P.M.  
Evangelist: Richard Thetford (970) 667-0469  
[www.poudrevalleychurchofchrist.org](http://www.poudrevalleychurchofchrist.org)

### MONTROSE

San Juan church of Christ  
1414 Hawk Parkway, Unit C  
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.  
Evening 1:30 P.M., (970) 249-8116

## DELAWARE

### MILTON

Lighthouse church of Christ  
14574 Coastal Hwy. Rt. 1  
Worship 9:30 A.M., Sunday School 10:45 A.M.  
Wednesday 7 P.M., (302) 644-7379

## FLORIDA

### DESTIN

South Walton church of Christ  
64 Casting Lake Road  
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
(850) 622-3817  
[www.southwaltonchurchofchrist.com](http://www.southwaltonchurchofchrist.com)

### FORT LAUDERDALE

Northside church of Christ  
912 NW 19th St.  
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.  
(954) 763-1404

### FORT MYERS

Southside church of Christ  
13641 Learning Court  
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: David P. Schmidt  
(239) 433-2838 or 482-2158

### FROSTPROOF

Frostproof church of Christ  
40 W. "A" St., Frostproof, FL 33483  
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.  
Wednesday 7 P.M., (863) 635-2607 or 635-4278

### GENEVA

church of Christ  
Ave. C and 2nd St.  
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.  
(407) 349-9998

### JACKSONVILLE

Marietta church of Christ  
8150 Driggers Street  
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: Jamie Rhoden, (904) 781-5704  
or 693-0432, [www.mariettacoc.com](http://www.mariettacoc.com)

### KEY LARGO

Key Largo church of Christ  
100695 N. Overseas Hwy.  
33037 m.m. 100.7 on US 1  
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: William LeDent (305) 451-1194

### MARY ESTHER

church of Christ  
6 Lane Drive  
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.  
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: Joey Rankin (850) 244-9222

### MIAMI

church of Christ  
Eglise du Christ de Miami  
8343 NE 3rd Court  
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.  
Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Minister: Junot Joseph (305) 244-8295

## MIAMI

Flagler Grove church of Christ  
(Nearest to Airport), 500 N.W. 53rd Ave.  
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.  
Evangelist: John Buttrick (305) 634-5924

## MIAMI

church of Christ  
12780 Quail Roost Dr.  
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: Clark Pace  
(305) 233-9590 or (954) 430-1437

## OCALA

Anthony church of Christ  
9778 N.E. Jacksonville Rd., Anthony, FL 32617  
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.  
Wednesday 6:30 P.M.  
Evangelist: Greg Cruz (352) 629-5505  
[www.anthonycoc.com](http://www.anthonycoc.com)

## ORLANDO

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

## ORLANDO

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

## ORLANDO, FL

Pine Hills Church of Christ  
890 N Hastings St, 32808  
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.  
Evangelist: Ray West  
(407) 293-2851 or (407) 290-8650

## PALMETTO

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

## PANAMA CITY BEACH

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

## PENSACOLA

East Hill church of Christ  
2078 E. Nine Mile Rd. at Camberwell Rd.  
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.  
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: Hal Hammons  
(850) 479-2130 or (850) 602-8420

## SEFFNER

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

## GEORGIA

### CENTERVILLE

Centerville church of Christ  
250 Collins Ave. (Near Robins AFB)  
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.  
Evangelist: J. Wiley Adams (478) 922-1158

### COLUMBUS

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

## CONYERS

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

## PINE MTN. VALLEY

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

## SAVANNAH

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

## VALDOSTA

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

## HAWAII

### ISLAND OF OAHU

Leeward church of Christ  
94-1233 Waipahu St., Waipahu, HI 96797  
(15 mi. from Honolulu; 18 mi. from Waikiki)  
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
[www.leewardchurchofchrist.org](http://www.leewardchurchofchrist.org)

## IOWA

### GRINNELL

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

### DES MOINES

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

## IDAHO

### BLACKFOOT

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

## ILLINOIS

### CHICAGO

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

### DOWNERS GROVE

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

### GLENN ELLYN

church of Christ  
796 Prairie Ave., 60137  
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.  
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.  
Evangelist: Keith E. Brown  
(630) 858-2290, (630) 377-3990

## MATTOON

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

## SOUTH HOLLAND

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

## INDIANA

### CLARKSVILLE

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

### GREENWOOD

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

### HOBART

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

### INDIANAPOLIS

Castleton church of Christ  
7701 East 86th St., 46256  
Sun. Worship 9:30 A.M., Bible Study 10:25 A.M.  
Worship 11:15 A.M., Wed. Bible Study 7 P.M.  
(317) 710-1204

### JAMESTOWN

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

### MARION

South Marion church of Christ  
3629 S. Washington St.  
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.  
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: Alan Jones (765) 922-7602  
[www.southmarionchurchofchrist.org](http://www.southmarionchurchofchrist.org)

### OOITIC

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

### PEKIN

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

### PLAINFIELD

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

## SAINT LEON, IN

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

## SALEM

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

## TRAFALGAR

Spearsville Rd. church of Christ, 6244 S. 500W.  
(1.2 mi. S. of Hwy. 135)  
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: Ed Rangel. (317) 878-5969  
[www.trafalgarchurch.com](http://www.trafalgarchurch.com)

## KANSAS

### TOPEKA

17th Street church of Christ  
5600 SW 17th St.  
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.  
Evening 4 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
(785) 235-8687 or 273-7977  
[www.17thstreetchurchofchrist.org](http://www.17thstreetchurchofchrist.org)

## KENTUCKY

### AUSTIN

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

### BEAVER DAM

church of Christ  
1235 Williams St.  
Worship 10 A.M., Bible Study After Worship  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: Mike Thomas  
(270) 274-4451 or 274-4486

### BRANDENBURG

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

### CAMPBELLSVILLE

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

### CANEYVILLE

Caneyville church of Christ  
103 N. Main St. • P.O. Box 233  
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.  
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: Jarrod Jacobs (270) 589-4167,  
(270) 274-3065 or (502) 724-2231

### DANVILLE

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

### FRANKLIN

31-W North church of Christ  
1733 Bowling Green Road  
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: Steve Monts, (270) 586-3978  
[www.31wchurchofchrist.com](http://www.31wchurchofchrist.com)

### HODGENVILLE

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

## LEITCHFIELD

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

## LOUISVILLE

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

## LOUISIANA

### GONZALES

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

### MANY

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

### STONEWALL

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

## MARYLAND

### SEVERN

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

### RIVERDALE

Wildercroft church of Christ  
6330 Auburn Ave., (Washington, D.C. area)  
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.  
Evangelist: Antoine Holloway  
(301) 474-7460 or (301) 741-0012

## MAINE

### PORTLAND

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

## MICHIGAN

### CEDAR SPRINGS

W. Michigan church of Christ  
Sr. Citizen Center, 44 Park Street  
(Grand Rapids Area)  
Worship 11 A.M., Bible Study 12:30 P.M.  
Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: Joseph Gladwell, (616) 975-2778  
[westmichcofc10@yahoo.com](mailto:westmichcofc10@yahoo.com)

## MINNESOTA

### DULUTH

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

### ST. CHARLES

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

## MISSISSIPPI

### BOONEVILLE

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

### CLINTON

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

### MERIDIAN

Grandview church of Christ  
2820 Grandview Ave.  
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.  
Sun. Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 6:30 P.M.  
(601) 482-0543, (601) 479-3394 or (601) 934-3675  
Contacts: Ron Cooper & Jim Young  
[youngins@comcast.net](mailto:youngins@comcast.net)

### MERIDIAN

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

### SOUTHAVEN

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

## MISSOURI

### BLUE SPRINGS

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

### CAPE GIRARDEAU

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

### DONIPHAN

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

### FAIR GROVE

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

## KENNETT

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

## LILBOURN

church of Christ  
P.O. Box 270 • 211 Benton St.  
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.  
Evening 5:30 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.  
Evangelist: Shane Williams, (573) 688-2234  
or 748-5204

## RAYTOWN

Sterling Ave. church of Christ  
5825 Sterling Ave. (Near Sports Complex)  
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: Norman E. Fultz, (816) 356-3096  
or 554-0836  
[www.sterlingavechurchofchrist.org](http://www.sterlingavechurchofchrist.org)

## ST. JAMES

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

## ST. JOSEPH

County Line church of Christ  
2727 County Line Rd.  
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:50 A.M.  
Evening 3 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
(816) 279-4737  
[www.countylinechurchofchrist.com](http://www.countylinechurchofchrist.com)

## NEBRASKA

### BEATRICE

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

## NEW JERSEY

### VAUXHALL

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

## NEW MEXICO

### ALBUQUERQUE

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

## NEVADA

### RENO

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

## NORTH CAROLINA

### CHARLOTTE

Charlotte church of Christ  
5327 S. Tyron Street  
Worship 9 A.M., Bible Study 10: A.M.  
Worship 11 A.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.  
(704) 525-5655

### HOPE MILLS

Gray's Creek church of Christ  
Worship 10 A.M.  
(910) 321-9023 or (910) 309-9844

## OHIO

### BEAVERCREEK

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

### CINCINNATI

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

### CLEVELAND

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

### COLUMBUS

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

### DAYTON

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

### FRANKLIN

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

### FREMONT

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

### HAMILTON

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

### HILLIARD

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

### MANSFIELD

Southside church of Christ  
687 Mansfield-Lucas Road  
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 6 P.M.  
James Bond: (419) 526-2868  
Leon Bond: (419) 525-3684  
church: (419) 522-8982

### NEW LEBANON

New Lebanon church of Christ  
1973 W Main Street  
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.,  
Evening 6:30 P.M., Wed. Bible Study 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: Bruce Hastings (937) 687-7150  
or (937) 478-0367

## MARIETTA-RENO

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

## NORTHWOOD

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

## UHRICHSVILLE

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

## OKLAHOMA

### MCALESTER

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

### OKLAHOMA CITY

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

## OREGON

### SWEET HOME

church of Christ  
3702 E. Long Street  
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.  
Evening 6:30 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.  
Building: (541) 367-1599

## PENNSYLVANIA

### PHILADELPHIA

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

## SOUTH CAROLINA

### COLUMBIA

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

### SUMTER

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

### WEST COLUMBIA

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

## TENNESSEE

### COLUMBIA

Jackson Hts. church of Christ  
1200 Nashville Hwy., Hwy. 31N  
Bible Study 9:15 A.M., Worship 10:15 A.M.  
Evening 5 P.M., Mid-week 7 P.M.  
Evangelists: Andrew Roberts & Shawn Jeffries:  
(931) 388-6811, [www.TheBibleWay.org](http://www.TheBibleWay.org)

### COLUMBIA

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

### JACKSON

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

### JOHNSON CITY

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

### JONESBOROUGH

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

### KINGSTON SPRINGS

Kingston Springs church of Christ  
350 North Main Street  
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.  
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: Steve Walker, [www.kscc.com](http://www.kscc.com)

### MT. PLEASANT

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

### KINGSPOUR

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

### MARYVILLE

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

### MEMPHIS

Rocky Pt. Road church of Christ  
516 E. Rocky Point Rd., Cordova  
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10A.M.  
Wednesday 7 P.M.  
[rockypointchurch@gmail.com](mailto:rockypointchurch@gmail.com)  
[www.rockypointchurch.org](http://www.rockypointchurch.org)

### MURFREESBORO

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

### 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 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: David Bunting (615) 893-1200

### NASHVILLE

Bell Road church of Christ  
1608 Bell Road  
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.  
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: Chris Pace (615) 833-4444

### NASHVILLE

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

### NASHVILLE

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

### PIGION FORGE

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

### SHELBYVILLE

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

### SHELBYVILLE

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

## TEXAS

### ALLEN

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

### ALVARADO

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

### ALVIN

Adoue St. church of Christ  
605 E. Adoue Street  
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.  
Evangelist: Mark Mayberry (281) 331-4953  
or (832) 837-9038

### AUSTIN

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

### BAYTOWN

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

### BEAUMONT

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

### CONROE

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

### CLEVELAND

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

### CORPUS CHRISTI

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

### DICKINSON

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

### DALLAS

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

### DUNCANVILLE

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

### EDNA

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

### EL PASO

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

### FORT WORTH

West Side church of Christ  
6110 White Settlement Rd. 76114  
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.  
(817) 738-7269

### GRANBURY

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

### HOUSTON

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

## HOUSTON

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

## IRVING

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

## LANCASTER

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

## LUBBOCK

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

## LUFKIN

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

## MANSFIELD

Northside church of Christ  
1820 Mansfield-Webb Road  
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:20 A.M.  
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 6:30 P.M.  
Evangelist: Tom Roberts (817) 466-3160

## NACOGDOCHES

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

## PLANO

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

## SAN ANTONIO

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

## SAN ANTONIO

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

## SHERMAN

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

## TEMPLE

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

## WACO

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

## THE WOODLANDS

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

## VIRGINIA

### CHESAPEAKE

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

### CHESTER

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

### NEWPORT NEWS

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

### RICHMOND (METRO)

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

### RICHMOND

Forest Hill church of Christ  
1208 W. 41st Street  
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.  
Evening 6:30 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.  
Evangelist: Jack Bise, Jr. (804) 233-5959

### RIDGEWAY

church of Christ  
2970 Old Leaksville Road  
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.  
Evening 5:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
Evangelist: Jarred McCrary (276) 956-6049  
[www.churchofchristridgeway.com](http://www.churchofchristridgeway.com)

### ROANOKE

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

### VIRGINIA BEACH

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

## WASHINGTON

### BELLINGHAM

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

## WEST VIRGINIA

### CHARLESTON

church of Christ  
873 Oakwood Road  
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:50 A.M.  
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.  
Evangelist: Jonathan Chaffin (304) 342-5637  
[www.oakwoodroadchurchofchrist.com](http://www.oakwoodroadchurchofchrist.com)

### CLARKSBURG

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

### FAIRMONT

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

### GLADESVILLE

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

### MOUNDSVILLE

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

### PARKERSBURG

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

### WELLSBURG

Charles St. church of Christ  
836 Charles Street  
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:20 A.M.  
Evening 6:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.  
(304) 527-4438 or 737-3124

## WYOMING

### RANCHESTER

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

## CANADA

### CALGARY, AB

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

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