



# WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST

“every disciple that is perfect shall be as his master.” Luke 6:40b

## Christian, Not Church of Christ

This is an article in the bulletin for the West Columbia Church of Christ. The name “West Columbia Church of Christ” is the way the local body (a congregation) of Christ here in West Columbia identifies ourselves. The title “Church of Christ” is not something which the Bible deems necessary for the followers of Jesus to call themselves. It is one of the many names used for the church in the New Testament (Romans 16:16). In the Bible there is no formal name given to the church Jesus established. This title came to be used of those seeking to use only the Bible as their guide and authority. In the 1800's several men throughout our country began to notice the problems with so many different churches. There were different messages being taught regarding salvation, church leadership, methods of worship, and authority as some created creeds and rule books apart from the Bible. As a result of this some began to plea for a return the simple teachings of the Bible. Those who made this plea had come to understand that throughout all the various religious organizations Christianity had become more so a product of men and not of God. Something which became known as the Restoration Movement was gaining momentum, as the goal was to “restore New Testament Christianity.” One of the major results was the Church as seen in the New Testament was finally, at least in noticeable way, here in the U.S. They chose to identify themselves by the name “Church of Christ.” This is a possessive term; it's Jesus' church. This distinction was necessary in a time when so many of the groups in existence were identifying themselves by the names of men, in terms not found in scripture, or by misapplying scriptural descriptions. Unfortunately in the last few years it has become more and more popular and accepted within the church of Christ for people to say “I am church of Christ.” That is not correct. You are a Christian, and a member of the body of Christ. To say “I am Church of Christ” is to denominate the name, just making it one of several thousand “churches.” Church of Christ identifies Who we belong to, not what we are. The word Christian is what we must use when we tell people “what we are”.

- T.J. Bolen, Gospel preacher, West Columbia South Carolina

“And hath put all *things* under his feet, and gave him *to be* the head over all *things* to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.” Ephesians 1:22,23

**Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!**

THE BULLETIN—VOLUME 41, NUMBER 15 April 12, 2015

### SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: T.J. Bolen— Do What is Proper, the letter to Philemon

PM: T.J. Bolen— The Breastplate of Righteousness, Ephesians 6:14

JOIN US IN  
PRACTICING  
NEW TESTAMENT  
CHRISTIANITY  
COME SEE!

“EXCEPT THE LORD BUILDETH THE HOUSE,  
THEY LABOR IN VAIN THAT BUILD IT” - PSALMS 127:1

**Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!**

*A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services. Come see!*  
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### SERVICES

Sunday 10 AM Bible Study  
Sunday 11 AM, 6 PM Assembly  
Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study  
Office Phone (803) 794-5320  
Nursery provided

*Bible Classes for all ages*

*Informal Bible Study  
Everyone Welcome!*

Bring your Bible questions  
Saturdays 3 pm

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## **“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16**

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** *Margaret Herring, Stephanie Rigney, Dorothy Gray and family, Pat Joyner, Gwen Pittman, Anna Porter, also Richard Ramkinson, Wilson Burton.*

- **Tommy White** had successful bypass surgery and is recovering at LMC.
- **Merrie Chrismus** has severe shingles about the face and eyes but medications seems to be bringing it under control.
- The **Boland** family has been under the weather, and **Ed Kelleher** also.
- Remember these and: **Anna Porter; Gwen Pittman; the Brisbons in NY ; Grant Parks** and family; **Debbie Sheppard; Nikki Willis; Eileen Lester; and Floyd Richbourg.**
- Pray for all these, send them a card, show them you love them.
- **Be thankful that God hears our prayers and answers! (1 John 5:15)**

**“For every one that asketh, receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.” - Matthew 7:8**

## **“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42**

- **All are invited** to share a meal together after the assembly, with a men’s meeting following.
- Take the **“New Testament Challenge”!** Read the New Testament in 30 days, an average of 9 chapters a day.
- **How We Got the Bible** class continues each Tuesday at 7pm.
- **Bible study, Saturdays, 3pm, informal, bring friends and your Bible questions.**

**"WHOSOEVER WILL COME AFTER ME, LET HIM DENY HIMSELF,  
TAKE UP HIS CROSS AND FOLLOW ME" - MARK 8:34**

**Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!**

### **HOW DO WE LOVE?**

**"My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue;  
but in deed and in truth." - 1 John 3:18**

God has told us He wants us to **do**, not just **say**. Remember the parable of the 2 sons? (Matthew 21:28) One said he would—but didn't. The other son said he would—but he did. Which was better? The latter son who **did** his father's will. Let's be wise and not kid ourselves. Sitting in the chicken coop, calling yourself a chicken and going *cluck cluck* occasionally won't make you a chicken. Neither will sitting in a church building, calling yourself a Christian and occasionally going through some acts of worship make you one either. Let's not **say**, let's **do!** It's the, "I'd rather **see** a sermon than **hear** one" idea. Study God's word diligently and **do** what He says out of love for Him. Tell others, invite them to visit, bring them to our Bible studies, come yourself!

## **ASCENDING TO HIM**

**"Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who may stand in His holy place?  
He who has clean hands and a pure heart,  
who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, nor sworn deceitfully" Psalms 24: 3, 4.**

This is a question that many people have forgotten to ask themselves today. They believe everything is all right. Others do not believe that there is a God or an afterlife.

There is a God, though, and we need to find out what it takes to be able to approach Him. David doesn't leave us without the answer. He tells us what it takes to be acceptable to God. He uses some symbols which make it easy for us to remember and understand who may come into God's presence. The hands symbolize our actions, work, that which we do. The heart symbolizes our motives, intentions, attitudes and thoughts. Lifting up the soul symbolizes our worship and adoration of that which is greater. Swearing deceitfully reminds us of our speech.

Do you want to come into God's presence? Make sure then what you do is right and acceptable to God. Do you want to come into God's presence? Make sure your thoughts and intentions are proper and acceptable to God. Do you want to come into God's presence? Make sure your worship is pleasing and acceptable to God. Do you want to come into God's presence? Make sure the words of your mouth are true and acceptable to God.

**- Bryan Naugle, Evangelist, Sebring Parkway church of Christ, Florida**

**“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly , nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.” - Psalm 1**

**“Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight,  
O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.” - Psalms 19:14**

### **Sunday AM Sermon – Do What is Proper, the letter to Philemon**

1. The appeal, Vv 8-9.
2. Operating from free will, Vs 14.
3. Doing more than what is said, Vs 21.