



WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

GIVE ME A CHANCE

Have you ever asked the Lord to open a door for you? To give you a chance to serve him? It's a good thing to pray for. In Matthew 7:7 the Lord promised us **"Knock, and it shall be opened unto you"**.

How many of us, though, **believe** that promise? How many of us **keep** asking, and asking, and asking? But maybe we never seem to get the chance we're looking for. Maybe that's the problem—we're not **seeing** the chances or opportunities to do good the Lord is giving us. Maybe we're being too picky or choosy: "Not that one Lord, I want a **really** good work to do!"

Let's remember that it is the **Lord's work** we're about, not ours. It's He who gives us the opportunities we have. It's He that gives the increase (1 Cor 3:6, 2 Tim 2:25). Let's trust Him, that He'll give us what we need, because He **has**—His Word, the gospel! Let's take advantage then of the opportunities we have, no matter how small they might seem to us. Let's open our eyes and hearts to them:

"He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much." - Luke 16:10

Maybe when we want to do some great thing, what we're **really** wanting is to say: "Look what **I** did." **We** want the recognition for the deed; from people instead of from God. But the real power and strength we have can only come from God:

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me"—Philp 4:13

He wants us to know this and **act** like we know it. He'll be pleased with us if we do—if we trust in His power and strength, just as He was pleased with the church in Philadelphia. Look at what the Lord praised about them:

"I know thy WORKS: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a LITTLE strength, and hast KEPT my word, and hast NOT DENIED my name." - Revelation 3:8

They didn't **deny** the name of Christ by seeking to please themselves and trusting in their own power. They humbly **did** what the Lord put in front of them, trusting in Him and His word - looking to please God and not themselves. Let's do the same, so our Lord will say the same—of **us**.

- Ed Kelleher, elder, West Columbia church of Christ, South Carolina

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RECORDS 12/11/05

Sun 10 AM Bible Study:	46
Sun 11 AM Assembly:	83
Sun 6 PM Assembly:	45
Weds 7 PM Bible Study:	51
CONTRIBUTION:	\$1556

SERMONS 12/18/05

AM	Don Klieves
PM	Ed Kelleher

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not to thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." - Proverbs 3:5,6

SERVICES

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

LADIES CLASS

Tuesdays (except 1st) 10 AM

A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services!

Nursery provided

Bible Classes for all ages

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“REJOICE WITH THEM THAT DO REJOICE!”

- We **rejoice** to announce that **two** precious souls were snatched from Satan and added to the church by the Lord this past Lord’s Day morning. They had heard the gospel of our Lord preached here at West Columbia and responded by repenting, confessing that Jesus is the Christ and being **baptized** for the forgiveness of their sins. **Judy Walker** came forward at the invitation and was baptized into Christ. Judy has been attending for several months and has heard the gospel preached by many able men at our assembly, including our new minister Scott Parker when he was here. Judy started attending at the invitation of Betty Mathis, her neighbor. She was won over by the love of Christ and the love of the church members here. **Ashley Williams**, after Sister Walker was baptized, said that she also wanted to obey God—which she did, confessing the name of Jesus to all and being immersed. Ashley recently moved into the area and also has been attending for several months. The Geiger's and others have been faithful in providing transportation for her as she doesn't have a car. Her grandparents, members of the church in Greenwood were attending at the time and had studied with and encouraged Ashley. We are humbled at the love of our Father and our Lord Jesus that we might have a part in this, His great salvation.

“I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase. Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labor.”—1 Corinthians 3:6-8

“IS ANY SICK AMONG YOU?”

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER: RON BANKS, BERYL PARKS, MARY HONEYCUTT, HAGOOD GODLEY** and our shut-ins **JESSICA HERRING, ZUDORA CLEGG, PHYLLIS JOHNSON** and **VIOLET BRUNSON**. Prayers are also requested for **NINA RUTH MEADOWS** (Marcella Klieves' mother), **JAMES MATHIAS** (Tommy White's brother-in-law), **KATHYRN HALL** (Melissa Parks' sister), and **FRANCES GRIFFIN** (Melissa Parks' aunt).
- **Kaitlyn Sheppard** requested prayers for the mother of her friend Savannah who is in the hospital with a life threatening aneurysm.
- Some folks weren't doing well and unable to make it out Wednesday including: **Marilyn Brooks, Bobby Giles, Anna Porter and Gwen Pittman**. Let's remember them in our prayers.
- **Mary Honeycutt** isn't doing well.

“Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord.” - Psalms 31:24

“PROVOKE TO LOVE AND GOOD WORKS”

- Lord willing, **Scott and Tricia Parker** will start the New Year here with us January 1, 2006! Scott and Tricia both are **very** excited about coming to work with us here. They **beg that we remember them in our prayers** as this is difficult time for them—leaving all they've known, friends and the church in Denver to come here to South Carolina. They plan to spend the holiday at Tricia's parent's home in Kansas City, Mo. and get here a few days after Christmas. They'll need **help unloading their rental truck** Thursday December 29th and moving into the church residence. **Many hands make light work!** Brethren from the **North Columbia** church plan on coming over to help also. There'll be plenty for everyone to do and of course, we'll need **food** for the Parkers and the workers — and the supervisors too. ☺ Make plans to come help if you can, it will be a good time of fellowship.
- Sister Margaret Herring reported that **Joey Sineth**, a Ranger in the 101st, has made it safely to Iraq. She requests you remember him in your prayers.

“And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;” - 2 Timothy 2:24,25

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY”

- Proposed new **Guest Cards** are posted on the bulletin board for members to look over and comment on. These will be the cards we put in the pew for those visiting to fill out for us. Look them over and imagine if you were visiting, what would you think if you were given one of these cards? If you have any suggestions, please let one of the elders know.
- The **Bible Bowl** is scheduled for Saturday March 4, 2006 at the St. Andrews Road church building. The books are: Obadiah, and last 3 books of OT: Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi. The New KJV is to be used. The Teen and Pre-teen teams are defending champions. Even if you don't care to be a part of the team you can help in the practice sessions. A **signup sheet** is on the bulletin board in the foyer for all who are interested in any way in helping with the Bible Bowl.
- Lord willing, we'll welcome in the **New Year** with **Scott and Tricia Parker** at the church building, Saturday 12/31/2005. Starting at 7PM, there'll be singing, games, **Bible Bowl** practice, fireworks (I checked and yes, they are legal in the city), other activities, and of course—food!

“Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous” - 1 Peter 3:8