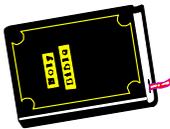


WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

FIGHT OR FLEE?

When the Israelites came to the Jordan River, the Lord told them to go into the land of Canaan and **fight**. The people said no, they wanted to **flee**. The Lord was angry and told them they would wander in the desert for forty years until they died. Upon hearing that, the people changed their minds and said they would **fight**, but it wasn't what the **Lord** wanted at that point. It was too late. They did go into the land of Canaan, but they were slaughtered and driven out. You can read of this in Numbers 14.

When **we** have a decision to make, do we think of what God wants first? Or, do we think of what we want, and then try and fit the Lord into it somehow? If the latter, we're bound to failure and destruction. We all must choose whether we'll follow God or not. But if we choose God, to **win**, we must do so with **all** our heart! The Lord has given **us** commands just as he did the people of Israel. And like them, if we **ignore** His commands, we'll be beaten. We have an enemy and a battle to fight, and as they; with God—we will **win!** Without God—we will **lose!**

Fight or Flee? We can't do what we want, we must do what God wants us to do, **when** He wants us to do it—not later. Don't let the things of this world keep **you** from the things God wants you to do—right now: to be faithful in attendance, liberal in your giving, participating in the evangelistic and other works of the church, to be at Sunday morning and mid-week bible study, to be diligent in reading your Bible daily. Do not attempt to fight God or flee from Him, instead **embrace** Him and His church. **Fight** what God has said to fight. **Flee** from God has said to flee. Do it now—you might not get a second chance!

"But they that WILL be rich fall into temptations and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows."

But thou, O man of God, FLEE these things; and FOLLOW after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. FIGHT the good fight of FAITH, lay hold on eternal life" – 1 Timothy 6:9-12

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

www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org B706 South Carolina 4/16/2006

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RECORDS 4/9/2006

Sun 10 AM Bible Study: 61
Sun 11 AM Assembly: 106
Sun 6 PM Assembly: 62
Weds 7 PM Bible Study: 80
CONTRIBUTION: \$2045

SERMONS 4/16/2006

AM Scott Parker:
While Jesus Was Gone
PM Michael Golwitzer, Twin City church:
Places of the Soul

Souls added to the church in 2006: 5

**"Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:
Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls." - 1 Peter 1:8,9**

A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services. Come see!
www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org

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*

LADIES CLASS

Tuesdays (except 1st) 10 AM

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“THE PRAYER OF FAITH SHALL SAVE THE SICK” - James 5:15

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** Ted Stidham, Ron Banks, Beryl Parks, Hagood Godley, and our shut-ins Jessica Herring, Zudora Clegg, and Phyllis Johnson. Also, **Nina Ruth Meadows** (Marcella Klieves' mother), **James Mathias** (Tommy White's brother-in-law) and **Jack and Elma Berrier**.
- **Margaret Herring** has had bad news about her neck pain and is facing serious surgery with a long and trying recovery period, with little hope for real relief.
- Prayers are requested for Tricia Parker's dad, **Jack McCullum** in Missouri.
- Remember **Melissa Parks** who is in Virginia helping her mother with her father **Jack Edwards** who is doing better than expected after surgery.
- **Tommy White's** brother-in-law **Buzzy** is fighting terminal cancer, in Atlanta.
- Our sister **Ashley Williams** had a serious anxiety attack at the church building last Sunday and had to be taken to the hospital. She's better now and is at home but it might be awhile before she is able to visit us again. **Pray for these!**

“Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.” - Acts 14:22

“ELDERS ... FEED THE FLOCK OF GOD” - 1 Peter 5:1,2

We appreciate those who read our exhortations in the bulletin and take them to heart. We know, and regret, that these proddings might hurt a bit. Jesus, shortly before His death on the cross, had something important to say to his disciples:

“And as they did eat, he said, Verily I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me. And they were exceeding sorrowful, and began every one of them to say unto him, Lord, is it I?” - Matthew 26:21

Jesus knew these were all good men—except one. And He knew His words would prick them and hurt—they were “exceeding sorrowful”. Yet it was for their good—they examined themselves, “Lord, is it I?”. Jesus didn't enjoy it, **but** he did it. Likewise, when the elders exhort people to be faithful in attendance, to give liberally, to come to bible study, to participate in the evangelistic and other work of the church they know that many (most) are doing the **best** they **know how** and that they might be **hurt** a little at the thought they might be accused of failing somehow.

A sister came wondering if any were **really** giving sacrificially. She was thinking of others on fixed income, who gave liberally, but whose feelings might be hurt by the exhortation to give more. She was a little hurt. However, on reflection, she realized though she **herself** had been encouraged **to do more** also and was glad she had—for it bore fruit. Please, bros. and sisters in Christ, examine yourselves, strive to do more. We will, as overseers, fulfill the mission God has appointed us to:

“For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:” -

Ephesians 4:12,13

“PROVOKE TO LOVE AND GOOD WORKS” - Hebrews 10:21

- **Sunday PM**, Scott will be preaching at the **Twin City church** and **Michael Goltwitzer**, minister at Twin City, will be preaching here, Lord willing.
- We're happy to announce that **Brittany Goff** and **Craig Robinson** wish to be identified with the congregation here and work under the oversight of the elders. Many from **Brittany** and her brother **Cameron's** family visited last Sunday.
- It was nice to have **Jack and Mary McNeil** of Park Street visit last Sunday PM.
- **Jan Kelleher** and **Merrie Christmus** are back from their travels in North Carolina and Tennessee. **Jan** said she was really encouraged by the members (**ladies**) coming to hear her speak at the Carolina Lectures in Kannapolis, NC.
- **Scott** is having a bible study at the Agape Center 3 PM every other Tuesday, members are encouraged to go with him if they have opportunity.
- **Gospel Meeting** at the **Twin City church** in Batesburg-Leesville. Friday through Sunday, April 21-23, with **Eddie Craft** of Elizabethton, TN.
- **Ladies Day**—Barnwell Sat. April 22. We've had 6 say they'll be going.
- **Senior's Rally**, St Andrews Road congregation, Saturday April 29.
- The **Lower Richland** church is having a lectureship April 28-29.

“For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.” - James 2:26

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **DEACONS TO BE APPOINTED:** The elders believe the following men meet the scriptural qualifications, and would be good to have serve as deacons:

Gerald Boyd, Jones Gamble, Billy Geiger, Ken Parks and Eddie Sheppard

If anyone has any questions or comments about these men's qualifications, the elders want to hear them and ask that you please talk to them as soon as possible. The elders intend, Lord willing, to install such men as are scripturally qualified, and agreeable to serve, as deacons **Sunday April 30, 2006**.

“... to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at **Philippi**, with the bishops and deacons: **Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ**” - **Philippians 1:1**

- **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PLANNED:** July 24-28, Mon-Fri 7:00-8:30 PM

The Bible is YOUR Book! To complete the journey of life successfully!

- Monday The Bible is your **Word** (from God)
- Tuesday The Bible is your **Map** (to plan the way)
- Weds. The Bible is your **Light** (to keep you on the path)
- Thursday The Bible is your **Comfort** (when the going gets tough)
- Friday The Bible is your **Sword** (to fight off the devil)

Teacher Planning/Organization Meeting: Sunday, June 24th 7:15 PM