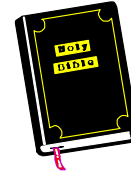


# WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

## I'M THANKFUL FOR WHAT JOSHUA DID NOT SAY

In Joshua's farewell address, he stood before the representatives of all the tribes of Israel and told them to make a decision. He said that they could either turn from God and serve idols, or they could turn to God and serve Him. Joshua told them what his decision was: "As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD" (Joshua 24:15). The leaders who represented the nation of Israel agreed. They said, "God forbid that we should forsake the LORD, to serve other gods" (24:16). I am so thankful for Joshua and his dedication. I am also grateful for what Joshua did *not* say.

I'm thankful that Joshua did not say, "My family will serve the Lord without me." Friends, so many wives and children are serving the Lord without fathers. Fathers should be the spiritual leaders of the home (Ephesians 5:23-25; 6:4). Fathers have an obligation to their families and God to set the spiritual tone of the home. God give us faithful fathers!

I'm thankful that Joshua did not say, "I will serve the Lord without my family." Sadly, some fathers must serve the Lord on their own, because they have wives who refuse to follow their lead. Fathers must maintain their faithfulness, and one day they may win their families to Christ.

I'm thankful that Joshua did not say, "My family and I will not serve the Lord." Entire families will be lost eternally because they refuse to serve the Lord. I cannot help but think that greater punishment will come upon fathers who have the duty of leading the home in the way it should go. May God give us Christian homes!

- Neil Richey, Gospel Preacher, Augusta Road church of Christ, Greenville, SC

**“For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;” - Ephesians 5:23-25**

**“And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.” - Ephesians 6:4**

**Happy Fathers day—remember your Father in Heaven!**

## VOLUME 33, NUMBER 23 June 17, 2007

**RECORDS 6/10/2007**

**SERMONS 6/17/2007**

|                        |        |                        |
|------------------------|--------|------------------------|
| Sun 10 AM Bible Study: | 48     | AM: Donald Klieves     |
| Sun 11 AM Assembly:    | 123    | “The Family God Wants” |
| Sun 6 PM Assembly:     | 75     | PM: Tom Rinehart       |
| Weds 7 PM Bible Study: | 58     | “Who Can Separate Us?” |
| CONTRIBUTION:          | \$2151 |                        |

**“And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.” - Romans 8:17**

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

**[www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org](http://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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## **“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16**

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** Beryl Parks, Margaret Herring, Nina Ruth Meadows (Marcella Klieves' mother), Jack and Elma Berrier, Nathaniel Manning (Jerry and Lynn's grandson) and our shut-ins Zudora Clegg, and Phyllis Johnson
- The Manning family will be going to Nashville Friday June 15 where their son Josh will be graduating from MSOP and John will be starting the 2 year program.
- Marilyn Brooks' niece, Sandra Oliver, is in a diabetic coma.
- Zudi Clegg is back home after being hospitalized with pneumonia.
- Also remember Tom Rinehart, who has some back problems, and Margaret and Jessica Herring who are having some difficult times, in your prayers.
- Pray for our new brothers and sister in Christ, Alton Elledge, Richard Smith, Stephanie Westfall, Lamar Reeves, and Rosa Smith.

“Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another; Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;” - Romans 12:9-12

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

- Brother Manning is very thankful and greatly encouraged by all who helped him exceed his goal of raising \$1000 for the MSOP student housing program.
- Remember our sister Anne Louise Gordon whose trial date set has been set for 7/9/2007 and the work at LCDC in your prayers. Brother Manning has been able to teach regularly and reach many who want to obey God and be baptized into Christ but are prevented from doing so. Also remember William Horan, an inmate in Pod G, who is teaching others the truth and wants to be baptized himself, but is hindered by the authorities. Send a card or letter to him at: **PO Box 2019, PG-5 Lexington, SC 29071**

“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”  
- Romans 8:35-39

Strive to get **CLOSER TO HEAVEN IN 2007!**

## **“REJOICE WITH THEM THAT DO REJOICE!” - Romans 12:15**

We rejoice with the angels in heaven that Rosa Smith was buried with Christ in baptism Sunday morning. Rosa is Richard Smith's wife, who was also recently baptized. Rosa had studied with our evangelist, Jerry Manning. She came forward Sunday morning expressing her desire to be baptized for the remission of her sins, made the good confession and was baptized. Thank God for His great love!

“And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God..” - Acts 8:37

## **PROVOKE TO LOVE AND GOOD WORKS” - Hebrews 10:24**

- June and July congregational events calendars are available in the foyer. Melissa Parks does a good job keeping these up for us and posting them on our website. If you have changes or additions please write them on the posted calendars, or contact Melissa at 749-8533 or melissa\_e\_parks@yahoo.com.
- Clean the building! We need folks to help! Please see Gerald Boyd or Billy Geiger. It isn't hard, and it will be a good help to the church here.

“But glory, honor, and peace, to every man that worketh good,” - Romans 2:10

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

When we want to emphasize the importance of something today we might say it is a matter of the **gravest** importance—a matter of life or death. This rightly gets our attention. But there's something even more important than the grave and our physical death—it's our **spiritual** death, or life. The Apostle Paul charged Timothy, before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, the highest authorities, regarding this matter of ultimate importance—the judgment of our souls: “I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;” - 2 Timothy 4:1 And what was the most important thing Timothy was to do to comply with this charge and ensure that the will of God and our Lord Jesus Christ that none perish, was carried out? It was quite simple: “**PREACH THE WORD!**” (2 Timothy 4:2) It doesn't matter what else we do—if we don't preach the word, we will have **failed** God's charge. The WORD OF GOD is sufficient to deliver souls from darkness and death to light and life and then to nurture them: “As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby;” - 1 Peter 2:2. Only the WORD OF GOD will produce the growth God wants. And God expects that growth of all of us: “For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.” - Hebrews 5:12,13 Brothers and sisters, study God's word! Don't go elsewhere. Use and read your Bible—daily! It's a matter of the gravest importance.

“For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.” - 2 Peter 1:8

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