

# WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

## WHAT IS BIBLICAL FAITH?

“Without faith it is impossible to please God” - Hebrews 11:6. Since we must have faith to please God, we must know what faith is. Some in the religious world believe that faith and evidence, or faith and knowledge, are not compatible. That is, they believe that knowledge, or knowing, destroys the whole idea of faith. Faith to them is nothing more than a “leap in the dark,” a trust based not on evidence but on pure “hope” without proof. With that as the criteria, it could be observed that one could just as easily be a Buddhist or a Mormon, or any other type of religious category in life and be justified in so doing. But, Biblical faith is not held with a lack of evidence! It is precisely held because the evidence proves that it must be. Some might suggest that the very nature of “faith” necessarily involves doubt. Thomas Warren said of such an idea, “This claim, in the light of James 1:6, is indeed a strange one. James said, **‘But let him ask in faith, nothing doubting: for he that doubteth is like the surge of the sea driven by the wind and tossed’**” (Warren, “Logic and the Bible,” p.118). We are commanded to walk by faith and the Bible does not teach that “faith is the acceptance of that for which one does not have adequate evidence” (Warren, 117).

The Bible teaches that faith is a law (Rom. 3:27), a system (Acts 6:7), and a choice (Acts 2). The Bible uses the word “faith” as a noun, never as a verb. What is Biblical faith? It is hearing and obeying God. Joseph Thayer in his Greek Lexicon says that “faith” is “trust...conjoined with obedience.” Hebrews chapter eleven fully demonstrates that faith is heading and obeying God.

Some suggest today that if a miracle were to really occur, witnessed by many people, it would be possible to bring many to Christ. However, even in the days of miracles (First century) people believed due to the testimony of others (John 4:39), due to the Old Testament writings of God (Luke 16:31), and due to that which was written by the Apostles (John 20:30- 31). Apart from miracles, we have all of these avenues available today, and God says it is enough to know the truth (John 8:31-32).— **(Continued on page 3)**

Obedience is one way to ...

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[www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org](http://www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org) B606 South Carolina 1/27/2008

## VOLUME 34, NUMBER 4 January 27, 2008

RECORDS 1/20/2008

SERMONS 1/27/2008

Sun 10 AM Bible Study: 56  
Sun 11 AM Assembly: 102  
Sun 6 PM Assembly: 55  
Weds 7 PM Bible Study: 59  
CONTRIBUTION: \$2140

AM: Jerry Manning  
**OVERCOMING SIN WITH WISDOM FROM ABOVE**  
PM: Jerry Manning  
**REDEEMING THE TIME**

**“I Beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God,  
that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God,  
which is your reasonable service.” - Romans 12:1**

*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*

### LADIES CLASS

Tuesdays (except 1st) 10 AM

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

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** Beryl Parks, Nina Ruth Meadows (Marcella Klieves' mother), Jack and Elma Berrier, Nathaniel Manning (Jerry and Lynn's grandson), Lynn Drago (Jerry's sister) and Phyllis Johnson.
- **Marilyn Brooks'** uncle passed away in Michigan. Remember her in your prayers as she travels up there for the funeral.
- **Dianne Mann** is recovering from rotor cuff surgery she had Monday.
- Remember **Anna Porter**, the **Dillard**s, **Ron Banks** and **Eddie Sheppard** also as they continue to fight illness.
- Remember **Brent and Suzanne Adkins** as **Brent**, an Army drill instructor is working very, very long hours.
- **Jerry** requests prayers for his sister, **Lynn Drago** who is gravely ill with cancer, that she obey the Gospel.
- Remember all these and brother **Manning** and his bible studies at LCDC and Heartland assisted living center in your prayers.

**"There is none holy as the Lord: for there is none beside thee:  
neither is there any rock like our God." - 1 Samuel 2:2**

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

- **SAVE THE DATE!** Our **Fall Gospel Meeting** is scheduled Sun-Wed, **Sep 14-17, 2008** with **Billy Bland**, well known Gospel preacher and instructor at MSOP.
- **SAVE THE DATE!** **Ladies Day at West Columbia**, Saturday **April 12, 2008**.
- **LADIES:** We have a speaker for the Ladies' Day we have all been working towards having here at West Columbia. Sis. **Lil Burton** from the Kannapolis Church of Christ in North Carolina has graciously agreed to be the speaker. The date for the Day is Saturday, April 12, 2008. Our theme is **"Climbing To The Top of the Mountain"**. As you know, we have committees with coordinators working on this which are posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship room. The committee coordinators have been asked to meet with their committee within the next two weeks in order to decide how much they may need financially. If you are not on a committee and would like to participate, please let one of the coordinators know or contact **Sis. Marcella Klieves**.
- **LADIES:** There will be a meeting after the monthly fellowship meal at 1:30 p.m. on February 2, 2008. Please make every effort to stay and attend.
- **CAROLINA MEN'S FELLOWSHIP Rockhill, SC**, Saturday March 8, 2008
- A **NURSERY ATTENDANT** is on call each Sunday to help with infants. See the **USHER** for assistance.

**“Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.” - 1 John 4:11**

Giving of ourselves is one way to ...  
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## **WHAT IS BIBLICAL FAITH? — (Continued from page 1)**

Faith is not mysterious. Faith comes by hearing the Word of God (Rom. 10:17), for God chose preaching to save them that believe (1 Cor. 1:20-21). We are defended by faith (Eph. 6:16) and we can defend the faith (Jude 3). Biblical faith involves six facts that can be proven beyond any doubt: (1) God exists; (2) Man exists; (3) God can and has revealed Himself to man; (4) Man has the ability to respond to God; (5) The Word of God is God's only revealed Word; (6) Evidence is necessary to have faith.

Faith can be misplaced, and misplaced faith will not save (Deu. 28:52; Luke 18:9). The only faith that will benefit us is faith that is "in Christ" (Gal. 3:26; Eph. 1:3).

There is no shame in wanting evidence for what one believes. Jesus never rebuked Thomas for wanting to put his hand on Jesus' nail pierced body before he would believe. Thomas merely wanted as much evidence as was possible. When Thomas saw and accepted the evidence he said, "My Lord and my God" (John 20:28). Jesus said, "Because thou hast seen me thou has believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed (John 20:29). Though some had not seen, they did have evidence-from the testimony of others, from the Old Testament, from the disciples, from the empty tomb, and from the many eyewitnesses. Today, the evidence which we must acknowledge is the Word of God, and when we accept the evidence therein, we will be able to walk by faith (evidence) even though we cannot see (physically those events that are recorded) (2 Cor. 5:7; John 20:30-31).

**- Mike Dugger**, minister Nettleton church of Christ, Jonesboro, AR

**“For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.  
For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”  
- Galatians 3:26,27**

**It's up to you! To ...**

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**SINGING!  
TWIN CITY CHURCH  
BATESBURG LEESVILLE  
SUNDAY January 27, 2008 2—4 PM**

**Ladies! Get together Tuesday for lunch at the Olive Garden  
then enjoy *The Bible* at the Kelleher's. See Jan for details**