



# WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

## WORD POWER

One of the lessons of the book of Genesis is that people organize themselves into groups based on affinity. The greatest apparent point of affinity among men is language. Nations are born out of the fact of a common language. Later in the Biblical text nations come to be known by the language they speak. The language we speak is a fundamental building block in the formation of society. The body politic is derivative of the people’s use of language.

Americans have a way of understanding ideas that is held (or at least has been held until recently) by most people in the society. For example, we speak of freedom and independence. We know what we mean by these words. Other people use them differently. Dictators use the same words that are used by people in free societies. This contention is proved by the reading of Lenin and Hitler, to mention only two.

So we see that language is strong enough a power to form nations. But the student of the Bible knows that it can do more than this. The proper use of language can save souls. We quote Romans 10:17 all the time: “**So then faith comes by I and hearing by the word of God.**” The danger in being so familiar with a passage is that we overlook its power and profundity. Faith is essential if one is to ever come to God (Hebrews 11:6). This text tells us that this required faith comes from the Word of God. Now, this truth is embodied in words, the very things that are the components of language. Language can make nations and some of them free. More importantly, language can make souls free from sin.

We remember Paul from Romans 1:16: “**For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth....**”

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“**For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.**” - Hebrews 4:12

**NO IN BETWEEN IN 2014!**

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### SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: T J BOLEN— Otolaryngology With Jesus

PM: T J BOLEN— Who Is God: Our Savior

“Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning ...

But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible,

even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit,

which is in the sight of God of great price.” - 1 Peter 3:3,4

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JOIN US IN  
NEW TESTAMENT  
CHRISTIANITY  
TODAY!

*A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services. Come see!*  
[www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org](http://www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org)

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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**

To be announced

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

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** *Dorothy Gray and family, Pat Joyner, Gwen Pittman, Anna Porter, Judy Walker, also Richard Ramkinson, Wilson Burton.*

- Remember: **Anna Porter, Gwen Pittman, Margie DeYoung** (Still Hopes **Rm 220**) and **Carolyn Stidham** as they continue on the road to recovery from various ills.
- **Anna** is doing better as she continues therapy at Still Hopes Rm 259 till 4/21/14.
- Remember **Stephanie Rigney** as she continues renewed treatment for cancer.
- **Ryan Sheppard** will be home soon from Georgia from National Guard duty.
- Prayers are requested for **Margie DeYoung's** nephew **James Douglas**, a painter in Ohio who fell and suffered skull damage.
- Remember to pray for and send cards to those we've not seen for awhile.
- Pray also that we all grow in **faith, hope, love, humility, zeal, mercy, knowledge.**

**"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; Who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction;" -Psalms 103:2-4**

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

- **CONGRATULATIONS!** To our graduates: **Michael Gamble, Brian Parks, and Jen Grimley.**

**“But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.” - Hebrews 5:14**

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

- **Bride and Groom Shower** for **Brian and Jen**, after the evening assembly, Sunday May 18. See **Martha** for details.
- **Gospel Singing—Windsor Lake, Sun May 18, 2-4 pm**
- **YOUNG ADULT and NEW CONVERT** class Sundays, 10 am, upstairs classroom.
- We need **volunteers** to take the DVD and the Lord's supper to our shut-ins.

**"Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." - Hebrews 13:5**

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### **Sun AM Sermon— *Otolaryngology With Jesus* Text - Luke 8**

Reaction and response to the preaching and healing done by Jesus in Luke's gospel is a theme which sets in very early in the book. Beginning in chapter 8 and moving forward the eternal weight of the matter begins to receive more attention.

Today we all have an ENT appointment with Jesus. He wants you to understand the bottom line importance of using the ears He gave you. Do you have "ears to hear?"

Texts Referenced: Luke 8; 10:16; 14:34-35; 19:45-48

**(*Otolaryngology*—the study of ear, nose, and throat conditions or ENT)**

## **KEEP ASKING**

When the Lord told Abraham He was about to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah, Abraham asked the Lord if He would spare Sodom if there were 50 righteous people living there. The Lord said "No!" Then Abraham asked the same question of 45, 40, 30, 20 and finally 10. So Abraham made the same basic request 6 times (Gen. 23:33).

Now consider Lot, Abraham's nephew living in Sodom. Two angels came to Sodom in the evening while Lot was sitting at the gate. Lot bowed and invited them to spend the night in his home. They refused, saying they would spend the night in the square. So Lot urged them strongly, and they entered his house, Gen. 19:1-3.

Jesus taught that we should ASK, SEEK and KNOCK (Matt. 7:7-11). This suggests that we need to be persistent. It implies that God does not mind, and in fact prefers to hear our insistent plea. Now this is not senseless repetition condemned by Jesus in Matthew 6:7-8, but rather the attitude of heart that tells the Lord we are serious about our request. Abraham humbly and methodically increased the ante. Lot was at first turned down by the angels, and then they went with him - subsequently saving him.

So if you are serious about something it is ok to keep putting that request before the throne of God. Keep asking!

- **Rick Laing**, Gospel preacher, Highland Village church of Christ, Austin Texas

**“Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.**

**Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?” - Matthew 7:7-11**

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## **WORD POWER** (continued from front page)

Language may be used for various ends. Its best use is as the gospel of Christ. The next best use of language is the presentation of that gospel to all who need to hear it. Preaching the gospel is the most significant use of language. If you do not think so, listen to Paul here:

**“For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness, but unto us which are saved it is the power of God” and here “But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ, the power of God, and the wisdom of God” (1 Corinthians 1:18, 23-24).**

Words have many powers. The greatest power of words is to save the souls of the lost. We must both know and share these words.

-**Bill Irby**, Evangelist, West Hobbs Street Church of Christ, Athens, Alabama