



WEST COLUMBIA  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

## ONLY THE CONVINCED CAN CONVERT

It is impossible to teach something to someone that you do not really believe. If you are going to be successful reaching the lost, you must be a true believer. You must understand what is at stake. When you understand what is at stake, you will be willing to say what needs to be said, you will understand how careful you need to be, and you will take your responsibility and the salvation of others far more seriously.

There are at least a couple of things that you must be convinced of before you can teach anyone. You must truly be convinced that the gospel is the power of God unto salvation (Rom. 1:16). You must be convinced that the person you are talking to is lost (Rom. 3:10-11). You also must understand how difficult it might be. Sadly, some of our evangelistic successes in the past have caused people in the world to pull back, because many people think they know what we believe and why. They honestly think we believe in water salvation or works salvation. They will attack quickly with the line, "You think you're the only ones going to heaven." They know that we have "a funny view about music." And that's a lot to overcome. Therefore, we must be convinced going in about their need, so that we can talk passionately - not about why they are wrong, but about how the Bible is right!

Also, someone who is truly convinced is going to offer something else to the subject - enthusiasm. There will be a backdrop to everything the person says about Jesus Christ that shows how much He means to us personally. People need to see that. You are not going to convince people by dryly going over a few verses of scripture. After all, most people approach the Bible emotionally in the first place. For the people we are trying to reach to value the truth, we first must show them that we value it.

- **Kevin W. Rhodes**, preacher, Granbury Street Church of Christ, Cleburne Texas

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.” - Romans 1:16

**NO IN BETWEEN IN 2014!**

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### SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: TJ BOLEN—When You "Get" Jesus, You "Get" The Church

JOIN US IN  
NEW TESTAMENT  
CHRISTIANITY  
TODAY!

PM: TJ BOLEN—The Spirit and The Christian

“The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.” - 2 Peter 3:9

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*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**

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.*

- **Ethel Smith's** heart problem has been found: not a blockage but an enlarged artery. They may try to put in a coil to restrain it. Pray for her.
- **Stephanie Rigney** has completed radiation. There will be another scan in August to see if the tumor is gone. Pray that it is.
- **Anna Porter** is very weak and now has 24 hour nursing care at home, but may need to go back to Still Hopes. Pray for her.
- **Hannibal Davis** is starting USMC basic training at Parris Island. Pray for him.
- **Remember Margaret Herring, Pat Joyner, Anna Porter, Gwen Pittman, Stephanie Rigney, Floyd Richbourg and Carolyn Stidham** in your prayers also as they continue on the road to recovery from various ills.
- **Josiah Jenkins** came forward Sunday morning requesting the prayers of the church. Keep this young man in your thoughts and encourage him as you are able.
- Also keep **Lisa Jenkins** and **Dorothy Gray** in your prayers as they endure difficulties; that they be strengthened and overcome.
- 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.**

**"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." - Matthew 6:33**

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

- **Bible study, Saturdays, 3pm, informal, bring friends and your Bible questions.**
- We need **volunteers** to take the DVD and the Lord's supper to our shut-ins.

## **NO IN BETWEEN IN 2014!**

## **“WEEP WITH THEM THAT WEEP” - Romans 12:15**

- With deep sorrow I report the passing of our faithful sister **Judy Walker**, late Thursday 5-March-2014. She had been in ICU at Baptist, went to a room, but then had to have emergency surgery for a perforation in her colon. She would have died without the surgery, but complications arose afterwards. The family has yet to make arrangements. Judy loved so much to be here with the church. Remember her love and zeal. In thinking of Judy I'm reminded of passages from 1 Timothy:

**“Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.” - 1 Timothy 4:12**

Though she wasn't young in age, she was young in the faith and a good example, having obeyed the gospel just a few short years ago. They were good years. I'm glad she did as Paul wrote here also:

**“Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.” - 1 Timothy 6:12**

## **IT'S A MATTER OF LIFE OR DEATH**

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, West Columbia church of Christ, South Carolina

## **A Matter Of Bible Authority**

My objection to mechanical instruments in worship is not out of bitterness toward them; not because I think there is harm in the instrument, per se, but the objection is simply this: I have adopted the principle and pledged myself to the platform of not going beyond that which the Bible authorizes.

My digressive brother asks me, "Where does the Bible prohibit it?" I answer, "Where does the Bible authorize it?" Christians walk by faith (2 Cor. 5:7). No man can use mechanical instruments and walk by faith.

By searching the scriptures you will find that God does not authorize it, does not command it, does not demand it, and that there is no example in all apostolic history for such a practice. The man who is faithful and loyal to God's word will not go beyond it.

**"Whosoever goeth onward and abideth not in the teaching of Christ, hath not God" (2 John 9 ASV).**

- N. B. Hardeman, 1874-1965, Gospel Preacher