

THE BULLETIN—VOL 44, NUMBER 6 February 11, 2018

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: Spencer Strickland

PM: Spencer Strickland

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

**ARE YOU FAITHFUL?**

**“He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much.”  
- Luke 16:10**

**Are you doing the small things?  
Can the church count on you ... for anything?  
Are you faithful? God knows!**

**Examine yourself! Are you really in the faith? (2 Cor 13:5)**

West Columbia Church of Christ  
1701 Augusta Road  
West Columbia SC 29169  
[www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org](http://www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org)

**JOIN US IN  
PRACTICING  
NEW TESTAMENT  
CHRISTIANITY  
TODAY,  
COME SEE!**

SERVICES

Sunday 10 AM Bible Study  
Sunday 11 AM, 6 PM Assembly  
Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study  
Office Phone (803) 794-5320  
*Nursery provided*

INFORMAL BIBLE STUDY

Saturdays 3 pm  
*Everyone Welcome!*  
Bring your friends & Bible questions

EVANGELIST

Other than the members  
none at present time  
Full time position open

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# WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

## SACRIFICE

Sacrifice comes from a Greek word that means "to kill". When we kill something, it's dead and gone; we don't have it anymore—we give it up, we **sacrifice** it. Consider this list of those who've sacrificed something.

ABRAHAM	gave up country and kindred	Genesis 12:1,4
MOSES	gave up a rich life in Egypt	Hebrews 11:26
JEPHTHA	gave up his only daughter	Judges 11:35
The WIDOW	gave up all her living	Mark 12:44
PAUL	gave up all things	Philippians 3:8
TIMOTHY	gave up caring for himself	Philippians 2:20
GOD	gave his Son	John 3:16
JESUS	gave his Life	Matthew 20:28

They all sacrificed—and for someone else, not themselves. It cost them—greatly! Not unreasonably then, Jesus told us he **requires** the same from us: “**And he said to them ALL, If ANY man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.**” (Luke 9:23).

Jesus took up his cross to die. So must we. But not in a physical sense, as we're told: “**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) God wants a **living** sacrifice, one that **keeps** on giving. We die to self to serve God; as Jesus said, we need to take up our cross “daily”.

We might think of things that are “sacrifices” for us. But they can't substitute for what God has told us He wants us to kill: “**Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth; fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness ... But now you also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;**” (Colossians 3:5-9) All those things we do to please ourselves; the Lord has said—lose them, so we might gain Christ.

“**But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.**” - **Philippians 3:7**

Don't be sad, as one was (Mark 10:22), instead **rejoice** and take comfort in the thought that those things we **lose**, are **gain** to Christ, and He and His Father will then be glad to welcome us home.

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

**Examine yourself, whether you are in the faith ... or not! (2 Cor 13:5)**

[www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org](http://www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org) South Carolina 2/11/2018

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

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** *Merrie Christmus, Dorothy Gray & family, Margaret Herring, Pat Joyner, Jan Kelleher, Gwen Pittman, Stephanie Rigney.*

- **Carolina and Amy Strickland** are sick  
**Kelly Beasley** has an upper respiratory infection  
**Pat Joyner** was with us Wed PM but is still dizzy  
**Floyd and Connie Richbourg** still not feeling well  
**Judy Cornelius** still having blood pressure issues and is staying with her niece.  
**Charlie Lockey** (**Paula Kennedy's** cousin **Jeannette's** husband) is home and will have follow up to find out the results of bone marrow biopsy the end of next week  
**Sharon Mancuso** will be traveling next week  
**Ed Kelleher** will be driving to Washington state for work.
- Please continue to pray for **Sarah Stepling** (nee Kelleher) and her newborn son, **Michael**. Prayers are being answered! **Michael's** system is starting to cope with bilirubin and hemoglobin problems and might not require a transfusion after all.
- **Jan Kelleher** continues to be in pain from bone cancer and the chemotherapy she is taking. All thanks and glory to **God** that the cancer is still not spreading,
- Also remember **Margaret Herring** and family with many ills. **Pray for all these**, and our search for an **evangelist** to help us with the work of the Lord here at West Columbia. Give **thanks** to God for his goodness and love for us.

**"I intreated thy favor with my whole heart:  
be merciful unto me according to thy word." - Psalm 119:58**

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

- **ALL! Please read the back page of this bulletin.**
- **MEN!** Sunday AM and PM please find **Jason, Jones** or whoever is putting together the assembly duty roster and volunteer to help with prayer, Lord's table, singing, etc.
- **ALL! Contact** those on the Directory list you've not seen recently (like last Sunday).
- **MEN! Save the Date! Carolina Men's Fellowship**, Saturday 3/10/18 at church of Christ at Gold Hill Rd, Fort Mill, SC. **Ed** may still be out of town then and not able to drive up as he has before. Hopefully someone else can give **Tommy** a ride.
- **ALL! INVITE SOMEONE TO VISIT US!** Give them one of the **church cards** that are on the table in the foyer. If you take some, please use them.

**"And many of the brethren in the Lord, waxing confident by my bonds, are much more bold to speak the word without fear." - Philippians 1:14**

**Examine yourself! Are you really in the faith? (2 Cor 13:5)**

## **ARE YOU READY?**

**“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts:  
and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you  
a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:” - 1 Peter 3:15**

## **DEATH OFFERS HOPE**

To some that statement is a shock. Most people feel there is no hope in death, but notice what the apostle Paul said in First Thessalonians 4:13, **“But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.”** Unlike the world which has no hope, the Christian has a lively hope — a hope built upon the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead: **“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” - 1 Peter 1:3**

In First Corinthians 15:55-57, the apostle Paul again enlightens us as to death. In this passage, Paul teaches us that there is victory over death of which the faithful will be a part. He said, **“O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”**

It is through death that we gain the victory! Heaven is not ours until we pass from life unto death. We cannot be with the Lord until we are raised, and we cannot be raised until we die. Therefore, death offers hope because through death we gain life eternal. It is with these thoughts Paul said, **“Wherefore comfort one another with these words.” (1 Thess. 4:18).**

Death sometimes catches us off guard and shocks us back to reality as to what is really important. We can all be thankful that certain incidents happen in life that help us to keep a proper perspective on life and on death. These incidents help us deal with the cold reality of death. Yes, they come as a shock, but with God's help and instruction, we are able to deal with them trusting in Him to carry us through.

**- Chuck Northrop**, minister Mayflower church of Christ, Arkansas

## **DEATH MUST BE PREPARED FOR**

Life is actually a preparation for death. Jesus said, **"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal" (Matt. 6:19-20).**

The things of this world will be consumed in a fervent heat (2 Pet. 3:10), but we will live on — **"they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation" (John 5:29).** Since we will live on, we must prepare for death. We prepare for death by obeying God in becoming a Christian and by obeying Him in faithful living. We become a Christian by obedience to the plan of salvation. God has made the way for us by sending forth His Son to pay the price of sin. We live faithfully by worshiping and serving the Creator according to God's word with the motivation of love and faith. When we come to the realization that life is a preparation for death, we will have the proper outlook on life and on death.

**- Chuck Northrop**, minister Mayflower church of Christ, Arkansas

**Examine yourself! Are you really in the faith? (2 Cor 13:5)**