

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: Spencer Strickland  
PM: Spencer Strickland

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

**FEEL LIKE YOU'RE ALL TANGLED UP?**

"Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier." - 2 Timothy 2:3,4

**IT ISN'T GOD, IT'S THE THINGS OF THIS WORLD**

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**  
On Request  
*Everyone Welcome!*  
Bring your friends & Bible questions

**EVANGELIST**  
Other than the members  
none at present time  
Full time man wanted

**BULLETIN EDITOR**  
Ed Kelleher  
Office Phone (803) 796-8858  
E-Mail: [Ed@macro-inc.com](mailto:Ed@macro-inc.com)



# WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

**You can lead a horse to truth but you can't make him believe it.**

Truth is a word which does not have much of a definition anymore. It has been made to have a very flexible meaning. Just like the old Burger King slogan "Your way right away," that is probably how most Americans now understand truth.

This redefinition of truth has all but destroyed the ability to reason through facts and reality by many. Instead of taking facts and processing them one will simply deny their existence if they do not care for the logical conclusion. I was reminded of this the other night while listening to talk radio. The producer of the show denied the reality of the basis for the movie "Rudy." The host and producer argued back and forth over both the quality of the movie and the reality of its basis.

The producer hated the movie, which he is allowed to do. I've never known of a football fan who hated "Rudy" (this was sports-talk radio) but this guy did. His distaste for the movie carried him so far as to deny the actual story of Rudy Ruettiger. He claimed not to believe the events and story portrayed in the movie really happened. As with all real events and stories creative licenses are taken when producing a movie about them, so he cited some of those licenses in his case. This however does not disprove the true story of Mr. Reuttiger. There are photos, there is video evidence available of the real Ruettiger, and there are eyewitnesses to the story of Rudy.

As the old saying goes, "You can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink," so it is with truth. Even though the very definition of truth is being redefined that doesn't mean truth, truly is non-existent. As a Christian you can never back down from or compromise truth. We have to put the truth of God before people, and they must decide what to do with it. Provide truth as often as possible and as patiently and compassionately as you can. Everyone deserves a chance to hear the message of the gospel. That much the church is responsible for. What to do with it is up to those we deliver it to and that is out of our hands. But in obeying the truth of God, we must find the horses and get them to the water.

**T.J. Bolen**, Gospel preacher, formerly of West Columbia South Carolina

**Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth" - John 17:17**

## **"PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER" - James 5:16**

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** *Don Blackwell, Merrie Christmus, Margaret Herring, Pat Joyner, Jan Kelleher, Gwen Pittman, Barbara and Melvin Reeder, Stephanie Rigney.*

- Keep **Jordan Beard** in your prayers, that he will be encouraged and strengthend.
- Keep **Judy** in your prayers as she travels to Texas, back in December.
- **Stephanie Rigney** continues fighting the flesh eating bacteria in her leg, having several more surgeries at the hospital in Georgia., she feels though that she is on the mend. Stephanie wrote: *"I'm still in Augusta. Getting better everyday. I've had a total of five surgeries. Today was busy with PT. Able to get in out of bed by myself. With a nurse standing by. It's slow but going in the right direction. Thanks for all the prayers."* Pray God will have mercy on she and Steve as they deal with this.
- **Janet Boyd** continues dealing with shingles, but is able to be with us.
- **Pat Joyner's** dizziness may be due to a spinal stenosis. It might need surgery, but this is not in the offing. Pray for her relief.
- **Barbara Reeder** is soon to start dialysis, and continues in need of prayer.
- **Keep ALL these in your prayers**, that the Lord be merciful and pray also that we all grow in **faith, hope, love, humility, zeal, mercy, knowledge**.

**"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth." - Psalms 121:1,2**

## **"AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY" - Acts 2:42**

- Our thanks to the **Gambles** for having us all at their home last Saturday with Mike and Joyce Miles who were visiting as Mike was being considered for working with the church in evangelism. The men will decide about this, this Sunday.
- **"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."**  
- Psalms 133:1

**Test all things; hold fast that which is good. - 1 Thess 5:21**

**"... choose you this day whom ye will serve; ... but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD" - Joshua 24:15**

## **WHY WAS JESUS A MAN OF SORROWS AND GRIEF?**

**"He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief:" - Isaiah 53:3a**  
Here's one reason:

**"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!" - Matthew 23:37**

Don't YOU add to His sorrow. Be involved in the Lord's work. Do more! He knows.

## **ARE BIBLE CLASSES A WASTER OF TIME?**

In the minds of some people, Bible classes are not important. They may even consider them just "a waste of time." What should our attitude be toward them?

Why do we have Bible classes on Sunday and Wednesday? Do we have classes just because others have them? Do we have classes just so we can say that we are at least doing something? Until we come to learn the significance of them, we will not appreciate them as we should. If we appreciate them, then and only then will attitudes and attendance change for the better.

Bible classes are significant because they help promote the work of the church. The Bible classes are one avenue through which the Word of God can be taught. We certainly want to take advantage of every opportunity to teach and study from the Bible (2 Tim. 2:15; Psa. 1:1-3).

Bible classes are significant because they help provide a way for the elders "to feed" the flock. The apostle Paul, in speaking to the Ephesian elders, said, **"Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood"** (Acts 20:28). Peter declared to the elders, **"Feed the flock of God which is among you"** (1 Pet. 5:2). Through our Bible classes, we are helping the elders carry out their work.

Bible classes are significant because they help produce tomorrow's elders, deacons, preachers, and teachers. We want to encourage our young people to grow up being servants of God. In our Bible classes, we are training potential soldiers in the Lord's Army. The Bible classes are helping to train the young in the way they should go (Pro. 22:6)..

Bible classes are significant because they help prevent unfaithfulness in the church. We all need encouragement in living the Christian life. Through our Bible classes, we can encourage and edify one another (Heb. 3:13; 10:24-25) to be strong in the Lord.

Bible classes are significant because they help prepare one for eternity. Who is it that has doubts about the importance of studying the Bible? We must come to understand and know God's will (John 8:32; 1 Tim. 2:4). The time we spend in studying the Bible in our classes is helping us to be prepared for eternity to come.

Are Bible classes a waste of time? I think not!

- **Jerry Jospeh**, elder, Charbo & Karen church of Christ, St. Charles, MO

**"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." - 2 Timothy 2:15**