

THE BULLETIN—VOL 45, NUMBER 48, December 22, 2019

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: Daryl Macon

PM: Harvey Allen

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

**A GRACE—MINISTERING TO THE SAINTS**

“Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints. ...

Therefore, as ye abound in every thing, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also.” - 2 Corinthians 8:4-7

**Are you ABOUNDING, just making do, or running on empty?**

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

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CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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

**A FEW SIMPLE POINTS ABOUT SPREADING THE WORD**

If we're concerned about lost souls and if we desire to build up the local church, there are a few necessary matters to which we must give careful attention. Consider the following.

**We must have a perception of the need.** This includes understanding that Christ obligates us to take the gospel to those around us (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16), as well as simply observing that the local church must be perpetuated.

**We must follow the pattern of God's Word.** While reaching the lost is essential and building up the local church is vital, we must not go beyond the limits of God's Word to accomplish the tasks. Pragmatism says if it works, it must be right; the Bible says if it is authorized, it is right (cf. Colossians 3:17).

**We must apply the principle of Acts 8:1,4.** These two verses show the scattering of the saints and then the scattering of the seed. They indicate that every member was involved in the process of evangelism — not just those in leadership positions.

**We must recognize the power of the gospel.** While some shy away from personal work believing that they are not assertive or eloquent enough, the bible shows that the power to convert the sinner from the error of his way is in the message, not the messenger (cf. Romans 1:16; Hebrews 4:12).

**We must understand that persistence is essential.** Consider 1 Corinthians 15:58 in light of the subject at hand: "Therefore my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

So, are we really concerned about lost souls and do we really care about building up the local church? Then let's get to work!

- Preston Silcox, minister, Bethel church of Christ, Martin, Tennessee

“For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?” - Mark 8:36

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

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## **“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.

- **Adler** went to the ER with stomach pains. She is better now, but the doctors are still looking for a cause.
- **Stephanie** had another surgery Thursday. Keep her and **Steve** in your prayers.
- **Janet** is still suffering with shingles, is getting out regularly now.
- **Pat Joyner** remains bed ridden with dizziness and pain. Surgery is not an option, the doctor's offer no other relief.
- **Barbara Reeder** is waiting to start dialysis. Someone is needed to sit with **Melvin** while **Barbara** is undergoing the treatments.
- **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**.

"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love, one to another"  
- John 13:35

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

- The **new sign** is in place. Please give Ed comments and suggestions.

“Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned:” - 1 Timothy 1:5

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

## **“PROVOKE TO LOVE AND GOOD WORKS” - Hebrews 10:24**

It's good to encourage our brothers and sisters with a kind word of recognition of their work—a Thank You! Being human though, we sometimes forget or worse, don't notice. This can discourage anyone—so tell them you care. To help those working, remember who it is we really are working for; **He** never forgets or doesn't notice:

"For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love,  
which you have showed toward his name,  
in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister." - Hebrews 6:10

But an even better way to say “thank you” is by pitching in and helping in the work **yourself!** This will be a great encouragement to others and of great benefit to **you!** We **all** need to help build up the church and spread the Gospel. Invite people to our Sat bible study, and remember: **We need people to sign up to help clean the building! Everyone can contribute something! Many hands make light work. ☺**

## **DO YOU HAVE AN ACCENT?**

A few weeks ago, I had the opportunity go to Edmonton, Alberta, Canada and speak in a weekend seminar hosted by the Edmonton Church of Christ. It was such an encouragement to go so far away and find so many good people who are striving to conform their lives into the image of Jesus, just as we are here in Glasgow, Kentucky.

However, here's something that came to my mind as I spent some time with these good brethren. You know what? These people had an accent. I could tell I wasn't in Glasgow, KY anymore. Don't you suppose they were thinking the same thing? "Where's this guy from?" "He's certainly not from around here, that's for sure."

My point is, that from hearing one another speak, we were able to immediately learn something about each other. Now, here's my question. If you began speaking, how long would it take for someone listening to you to discover that you belonged to Jesus? In Acts 4:13, when the people heard Peter and John, they "perceived that they had been with Jesus."

My prayer is that my "Christian accent" will be as strong as my West Virginia/Kentucky accent, and that the "Christian accent" of my Canadian friends will be as strong as their Canadian accent. Eh?

- **Steve Higginbotham**, preacher, South Green Street Church of Christ, Glasgow, KY

“Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. Let your speech be alway with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.” - Colossians 4:5,6

## **Is your heart like Paul's, whose heart was like Christ's?**

“Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. ... For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. ... For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?” - Romans 10:1-14

People believe in God, but they have not obeyed the Gospel, because they have not heard the whole counsel of God preached. They will hear it here! Tell them of it! Invite people to attend or join us on a Saturday afternoon Bible study. Follow up with them, to see they come **hear—that they might be saved!** Remember ...

“... know ye not that I must be about my Father's business?” - Luke 2:49