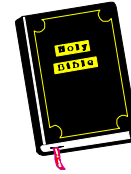


WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

GIVE ME A CHANCE

Have you ever asked the Lord to open a door for you? To give you a chance to serve him? It's a good thing to pray for. In Matthew 7:7 the Lord promised us "**Knock, and it shall be opened unto you**".

How many of us, though, **believe** that promise? How many of us **keep** asking, and asking, and asking? But maybe we never seem to get the chance we're looking for. Maybe that's the problem—we're not **seeing** the chances or opportunities to do good the Lord is giving us. Maybe we're being too picky or choosy: "Not that one Lord, I want a **really** good work to do!"

Let's remember that it is the **Lord's work** we're about, not ours. It's He who gives us the opportunities we have. It's He that gives the increase (1 Cor 3:6, 2 Tim 2:25). Let's trust Him, that He'll give us what we need, because He **has**—His Word, the gospel! Let's take advantage then of the opportunities we have, no matter how small they might seem to us. Let's open our eyes and hearts to them:

"He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much." - Luke 16:10

Maybe when we want to do some great thing, what we're **really** wanting is to say: "Look what **I** did." **We** want the recognition for the deed; from people instead of from God. But the real power and strength we have can only come from God:

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me"—Philp 4:13

He wants us to know this and **act** like we know it. He'll be pleased with us if we do—if we trust in His power and strength, just as He was pleased with the church in Philadelphia. Look at what the Lord praised about them though:

"I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name." - Revelation 3:8

They didn't **deny** the name of Christ by seeking to please themselves and trusting in their own power or wisdom. They humbly **did** what the Lord put in front of them, trusting in Him and His word - looking to please God and not themselves. Let's do the same, so our Lord will say the same—of **us**.

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

USE WHAT GOD HAS GIVEN US ... OUT WITH SIN IN 2010!

www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org South Carolina 12/5/2010

VOLUME 36, NUMBER 47 December 5, 2010

RECORDS 11/28/2010

SERMONS 12/5/2010

Sun 10 AM Bible Study: 35
Sun 11 AM Assembly: 55
Sun 6 PM Assembly: 34
Wed 7 PM Bible Study: 31
CONTRIBUTION: \$1380

AM: Brock Shanks

PM: Brock Shanks

THE BEST DAY OF MY LIFE

PARABLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN

“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.” - 1 Corinthians 15:58

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

2nd Tuesday of month 7-9 PM

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“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** Margaret Herring, Jean Godley, Amy Wintermute, Lamar Reeves, Nina Ruth Meadows (Marcella Klieves' mother), Jack and Elma Berrier, Lynn Drago (Jerry's sister) and Phyllis Johnson.
- **Faye Parks** requests prayers for her brother **Dale Smith** in Atlanta that he be receptive to the Gospel. Faye has asked **Matthew Johnson** who is preaching in that area to contact him.
- Many that had been out ill were back with us last Sunday: **Kathy Smith, Lorraine Porter, Eddie Sheppard**. Remember to thank God for His mercy.
- **Margaret Herring** hasn't been at all well and covets our prayers, nor has **Ron Banks** been well.
- **Lorraine Porter** thanks the ladies who sent her flowers while she was ill.
- **Jerry Manning** and the family are travelling on some personal business, however Lynn's mother **Lorraine Welch** will be with us. **Brock Shanks a student** at the Central School of Preaching will be preaching Sunday in Jerry's place. Jerry said of brother Shanks, *“He has a very humble attitude and a zeal for learning.”*

“I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.” - 1 Timothy 2:8

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **First Sunday luncheon** after the morning assembly, all are invited.
- **Men's business meeting** at 1:30 pm to review budget and other work, all men of the congregation are encouraged to attend.
- **Thank you to the many who are contributing to our building fund.** Our treasurer **Jones Gamble** is applying these donations immediately against the mortgage on the building, helping us pay it off sooner and also reduce our interest costs.
- **BIBLE BOWL 2011—BOOK OF MATTHEW—**Sign up sheets in the foyer for youth and adult teams. We need people to write out practice questions.
- **Building Cleanup** volunteers needed for December.
- Can you think of a good theme for 2011? Maybe, **CLOSER TO HEAVEN IN 2011?**

“Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.” - Philippians 1:6

SERVE GOD ... OUT WITH SIN IN 2010!

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

- **Lamar Reeve's** step mother passed away suddenly. He has been studying the Gospel with her before she passed away. Lamar is up in Newberry with the family. Our prayers are with Lamar during this time. Pray the family will be receptive to the Gospel.

“And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; “ - 2 Timothy 2:24,25

SHOW GOD YOU'RE THANKFUL

How do you **thank** someone? You might shake their hand, or give them a kiss and tell them so, or you might write them a note. But the best way is to **show** them you're thankful for what you've received, that you treasure it and use it. God hasn't neglected instructing us in this regard either. In **1 Peter 1:3** God said He would give us **“all things that pertain unto life and godliness”** and He has done so in giving us a way we can **show** Him we are thankful for the great gift of life, hope and peace He has given us through His Son:

“And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins. Use hospitality one to another without grudging. As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.” - 1 Peter 4:8-10

The gifts (manifold grace) we have received He wants us to give to others. As good stewards He doesn't want us to lock up and guard what we've received, instead He wants us to minister, give, the same to others. Show Him you're thankful.—**“freely ye have received, freely give” - Matthew 10:8**

God gave us His word, to **keep** us from sin, so we might live and be with Him—**STUDY IT!** This little snippet tells us **what** we should do (walk, even as He walked) and a good reason **why** (he is the propitiation, our satisfaction to God).

“My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.” - 1 John 2:1-6

And if we aren't thankful?

“Because that, when they knew God, they glorified *him* not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.” - Romans 1:21

But, if we are:

“And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.” - Colossians 3:15

- Ed Kelleher, West Columbia church of Christ

THANK GOD ... OUT WITH SIN IN 2010!