

WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

LIVING WHERE YOU DO NOT BELONG

In Jesus' prayer to the Father in John 17, He states that His disciples are not of this world, just as He is not of this world. How can that be? Were we not born in this world? Of course we were. But, we have been called out of this world (2 Cor. 6:17, 1 Pet. 1:13-15), and we have been purchased with the precious blood of Jesus (Acts 20:28; 1 Pet. 1:18,19). We do not belong to this world, or even to ourselves (1 Cor. 6:19-20).

If we do not belong to this world, than how do we live in this world? Missionaries, diplomats and others could give us some insight living in a culture that is not our own, but let's learn how from one that knows more than all of these put together, Jesus - the Son of God, who left heaven and dwelt as a man in a world in which He did not belong. How did He do it, and what did He teach that will help us do it?

1. **Remember that you do not belong here** (Matt. 6:19-21; 22:17-21). Jesus knew where He was from and often spoke of returning.
 2. **Do not fall in love with this world** (Matt. 6:24; 1 Jn. 2:15-17; 2 Pet. 2:20). Jesus knew a better place, heaven, and knew that He was returning there when His mission on earth was complete.
 3. **Live holy lives** (Matt. 5-7; 1 Pet. 1:15). Jesus lived a perfect life, without sin, even in this dark world.
 4. **Stay focused** on why you are here (Matt. 6:33; Col. 3:22-24). Jesus constantly was concerned with fulfilling the will of His Father.
 5. **Stay in touch** with the home land (1 Thess. 5:17; Matt. 22:29; 2 Tim. 2:15). Jesus frequently separated himself from the mob and disciples to pray. Know the Scriptures thoroughly. He also taught others to pray, and the importance of knowing the Scriptures.
 6. **Look expectantly** to going home (Jn. 14:3; Lk. 12:36-37; 1 Cor. 11:23-26). Jesus spoke about returning to the Father and taking His disciples with Him.
- If we will observe and practice the way Jesus lived and what He taught, then we too can live as we should in this world to which we do not belong.

- **John Curtis**, minister church of Christ, Paul's Valley, Oklahoma

“And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again” - 2 Corinthians 5:15

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SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: ED KELLEHER

PM: ED KELLEHER

IN THE BIBLE WE'LL DELVE IN 2012

“God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, ...” - Hebrews 1:1,2

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

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JOIN US IN
NEW TESTAMENT
CHRISTIANITY
TODAY!

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

EVANGELIST

BULLETIN EDITOR

Ed Kelleher

Office Phone (803) 796-8858
E-Mail: Ed@macro-inc.com

“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** *Wilson Burton, Betty Mathis, Margaret Herring, Lamar Reeves, Elma Berrier and Phyllis Johnson.*
- **Anna Porter** is doing well but will be at **Still Hopes** a little longer.
- **Margaret Herring** continues to suffer many health problems, sinus and bronchitis.
- **Tommy White** requests prayers for Hildee, a friend in Orlando, who is not well.
- **Eddie Sheppard** was in Lexington Medical Center.
- Give thanks to God for His mercy, and pray for all these, and the work of the Lord here at West Columbia.

“For he hath not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; neither hath he hid his face from him; but when he cried unto him, he heard.” - Psalms 22:24

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **Floyd Richbourg** will be teaching the Wed. night Bible class, starting with 1 Corinthians.
- **Building Cleaning** signup for the New Year is posted in the Foyer.
- **Marshal Mancuso** has gotten some special cards to send to visitors and those we haven't seen recently, see him to get some to use. Brother Gamble publishes a list each week of visitors and those we missed on Sunday. Give those folks a call, or send a card to see if their ok, and to encourage them and let them know we miss them.
- **Bible Study at Church Building, Saturdays 3 pm**, all are invited and please invite visitors to come! It's a good way for people to learn more of us. An informal session around a table with everyone using their bibles and Strong's Concordances.

“If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, ...” - James 3:2

Studying God's Word is one way how ...

IN THE BIBLE WE'LL DELVE IN 2012

SAVE THE DATES!

- **Ladies Day**, Augusta Road Church, Greenville, March 17
- **Gospel Meeting** at West Columbia with David Pharr Sun-Wed April 22-25.
- **Bible Studies** at the building, most Saturday afternoons at 3pm. Invite people!

**“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**

OVERCOMING HUMAN TRADITION

Many times a person will have difficulty accepting the truth taught in God's Word because it goes against what was formerly believed by the individual, and perhaps contradicts what he was always taught. This very thing happened to Alexander Campbell, who set out to restore New Testament Christianity in the 19th century. Campbell's family had always practiced infant baptism, and Campbell himself had been sprinkled. But when a child was born to Campbell and his wife in March of 1812, he determined to study the subject in light of the Bible alone.

Throwing aside the Presbyterian tradition in which he had been raised, Campbell was convinced through a study of the Bible that only penitent believers were appropriate subjects for baptism. He studied further and looked at the original language, and discovered that baptism was actually immersion.

Alexander related these conclusions to his father, Thomas Campbell, who agreed with his study. They realized that they had never been baptized into Christ. On June 12, 1812, Alexander Campbell and six others — his wife, sister, father, mother, and James Halen and his wife — were all baptized into Christ for the remission of sins.

The gospel is the power of God to save (Romans 1:16), but when men pervert the gospel it loses its power. This is the reason there are such stern warnings against changing what is revealed. "As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed" (Galatians 1:9). Adding to and taking away from the message is strictly forbidden (Revelation 22:18-19).

The Campbells recognized and respected the Lord's authority on the question of baptism by immersion by penitent believers, as well as other points. While Alexander Campbell is not the founder of the church of Christ, nor is he our authority in religious matters, he serves as a good example on this point that we would all do well to imitate. Search the Scriptures for the answers to religious questions, and submit to the ordinances of God.

- **Jason T. Carter**, evangelist, Mt. Vernon Church of Christ, Park City, Kentucky

“The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) ...” - 1 Peter 3:21

Leave man's traditions, use God's word instead, remember ...

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