Columbia

SC

Church of Christ

RECORDS VOLUME 31, 10/16/05 NUMBER October SERMONS 23, 10/23/05 2005

Study:

AM

Ed Kelleher

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies

of God, that ye

1st) 10 AM

WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

LOOKING TO CHRIST

There always seems to be discussion about **unity**. People say the religious world is lacking in unity. Just a casual look at the yellow pages under "CHURCHES" will show you this is true. There's a problem, but it's one of our own making, because people are NOT LOOKING to CHRIST.

Unity comes from the word ONE. If you have more than one, you don't have unity. God has told us how to have UNITY, and it's very simple:

"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus" - Philippians 2:5

If you have **your** mind, and I have **mine**, we have **different** minds, and consequently, no unity. However, if your mind was like that of Jesus, and my mind was like that of Jesus, we'd both have the same mind. How could we be different? How could we disagree? How could we do things differently? We couldn't! We would be one, and not just one period, but one in Christ! Not one in Kip McKean, not one in Sun Yat MOON, not even one in Paul or Peter, but one in Christ.

We don't have to have UNITY CONFERENCES and SUMMITS. We don't have to discuss our *differences*. The Lord has given us the **yardstick** that we're to be measured against, and it's Him:

"Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: "- Eph. 4:13

If we all went about making our **own** minds like Christ's we would be working directly and effectively on getting unified, we'd be true disciples. The Lord wants disciples, why do think that word is used so often in the New Testament? and he wants them to be HIS disciples—like Him:

> "The disciple is not above his master, but every one that is perfect shall be as his master." - Luke 6:40

Why do we make so many problems for ourselves by **not** looking to Christ? Do you like problems? I don't. We can do something about it, look to Christ.

- Ed Kelleher, Elder West Columbia church of Christ

"AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY"

- Change cans for SE Children's home will be counted at the end of October.
- The next scrapbooking Saturday is Oct. 29, 2 to 5 at the church building.
- Our thanks to Bro. Bobby Giles for organizing the letters for our signboards and to the Ladies (who beat out Gerald Boyd) to putting the messages on them.
- Oops! Last Wed. bible study attendance was 48, not the 31 incorrectly listed.
- **Grant Parks** has put a red change box in foyer for those who would like to contribute their loose change to support research on **Juvenile Diabetes**, with which Grant was recently diagnosed. **Grant** obtained permission and did this all by himself and we **commend** him for it and his fine example.
- This is an encouraging time here at West Columbia. All are working harder and many have commented joyfully on the renewed spirit being exhibited. The example of people working (like Grant and Bobby and Ryan and Brian) indeed is encouraging and catching. There's still plenty to do to build the church up. Check the bulletin boards. For example, we need folks to sign up to clean the building. It's good to stand a moment and look and enjoy the good things going on about us, but don't get too comfortable, remember:

"Every branch that bears fruit, he prunes, that it may bring forth more fruit." - John 15:2

<u>"IS ANY SICK AMONG YOU?"</u>

- Remember in prayer: MARGARET HERRING who is still in some pain, BERYL PARKS, MARY HONEYCUTT, and our shut-ins JESSICA HERRING, ZUDORA CLEGG, PHYLLIS JOHNSON and VIOLET BRUNSON. Prayers are also requested for SCOTT MAY (Anna Porter's nephew), NINA RUTH MEADOWS (Marcella Klieves' mother), JAMES MATHIAS (Tommy White's brother-in-law), and KATHYRN HALL (Melissa Parks' sister). Hagood Godley isn't doing well at this time either.
- Jessica Herring is suffering with a painful cellulites flare up.
- Frances Griffin, Melissa Park's aunt had surgery to remove her foot due to Diabetes complications. Please remember her in your prayers as this is going to be a difficult period for her and require much time in rehabilitation.

"Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord." - Psalms 31:24

<u>"WEEP WITH THEM THAT WEEP!"</u>

The mother of Sarah Kelleher's roommate at Lipscomb University is gravely ill
with a brain tumor and not expected to last very long.

"For in that he himself [Jesus] hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succor them that are tempted." - Hebrews 2:18

"REJOICE WITH THEM THAT REJOICE!"

 We rejoice as Bro. Ron Banks came forward wanting to rededicate his life to Christ and desiring the prayers of the church. He and his wife Margie want to be identified with the congregation here. They've recently moved down from Ohio. Ron is Carolyn Stidham's uncle. At present they're staying with the Stidhams:

128 Peak View Lane, Lexington, SC 29073 808-0796

- Our minister search is very active. We have 8 active prospects in various stages of evaluation. Scott Parker and his wife Tricia, from Denver will be visiting us Sunday 11/6 and staying through Tuesday 11/8 to hold a Gospel Meeting for us. We have several others to the point we'd like them to come visit as well. We intend to hold a Gospel meeting with each visiting preacher to see how we work together to evangelise here in West Columbia. Information on ministers is available in the fellowship hall before and after each assembly, including audio tapes or cd's of some of their sermons if we have them.
- Stacy Hooper, grand daughter of Elgene Sanders visited Sunday evening. She had been on a missionary trip to Iraq and spoke with members about it after the assembly. She is now on her way to Louisiana to help with the work there. Please remember Stacy and her family in your prayers.

"PROVOKE TO LOVE AND GOOD WORKS"

Details of events are posted on the bulletin board in the foyer.

- Ladie's Retreat Sat 10/22 at Kannapolis, NC. Jan Kelleher is going and has room for 1 or 2 more in her van. Good meeting, good company, easy trip.
- Windsor Lake Gospel Meeting Fri 10/28 –10/30. Stewart Schnurr, minister from St. Andrews Road will be preaching all 3 nights. Let's show our support!
- We're mailing 20,000 invitations to people near here to come visit us at West Columbia. They're in the blue Valpak envelopes and will start reaching homes next week. Pray for this work that many will come, hear the gospel and obey, that the church here will multiply and that the Lord be glorified.
- Gospel Meeting, West Columbia, Sun-Tue, 11/6-11/8 with Scott Parker from Denver Colorado. He's one of our prospective new ministers and will help us reach those who respond to our Bible Unity Valpak campaign.
- Let's continue to remember in our prayers and show the sincerity of our love to those hurt by the resignation of Bro. Richards. Let's pray we all will work to the benefit of the church Jesus died for and to the glory of God.

"I beseech Euodias, and beseech Syntyche, that they be of the same mind in the Lord." - Philippians 4:2