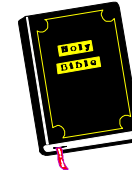


WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

WELCOME THE WORD

“Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls..” - James 1:21

It is one thing to hear the Word of God, it is something else to **welcome** it. There are two words in the New Testament translated *receive*. One is a word that means to reach out and take. But that is not the word James uses in James 1:21. The word that James uses is one that means to welcome as you would **welcome a friend**. You open your heart to the word as you would open your home to receive a friend. In this text James identifies three ways to receive the word.

First, you welcome the word with **repentance**: “Lay aside all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness.” The word filthiness is a word, a medical term that means “wax in the ear.” The Christian life is one of ongoing repentance. Remove the wax that keeps you from receiving the word — that’s repentance. The “superfluity of naughtiness” means that which remains, the things that are left, the hangovers of the past. Remove the leftovers of the old ways, the old habits — the old sinful practices. The point James is making is you’ll never be able to welcome the word until you remove the hangovers of the old life.

Second, you welcome the word with **readiness**: “Receive with meekness,” i.e. a compliant, ready spirit. It means to be teachable, trainable. Meekness is power under control. When you hear the word of God do you try to figure out whether it is true or not? Whenever you think that the word of God cannot be true until you approve it, you will never receive it. Samuel welcomed the Word when he said, “Speak Lord for your servant hears” (1 Samuel 3:9, 10). The people on Pentecost “gladly received the word and were baptized” (Acts 2:41). The Bereans were called noble because “they received the Word with all readiness” (Acts 17:11).

James says that if we welcome the Word, we must receive it with repentance — be clean; and welcome it with readiness — be meek.

Continued on page 3

GOD’S WORD WITHIN WILL ... OUT WITH SIN IN 2010!

VOLUME 36, NUMBER 20 May 16, 2010

RECORDS 5/9/2010

Sun 10 AM Bible Study: 49
Sun 11 AM Assembly: 88
Sun 6 PM Assembly: 61
Weds 7 PM Bible Study: 54
CONTRIBUTION: \$2092

SERMONS 5/16/2010

AM: Jerry Manning
ADORNING THE DOCTRINE OF GOD
PM: Jerry Manning
THE BRIDE OF CHRIST

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.” - 2 Timothy 3:16,17

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:** Lamar Reeves, Nina Ruth Meadows (Marcella Klieves' mother), Jack and Elma Berrier, Lynn Drago (Jerry's sister) and Phyllis Johnson.
- **Tom Rinehart** is in the hospital with diverticulitis but is doing much better though surgery might be required later. Keep him and he family in your prayers.
- **Deborah Stoyk** is not at all well, and was to have tests Thursday as she continues to fight brain cancer.
- **Vince Reusser**, who with his wife **Helen**, visit us often when down from Ohio visiting their daughter **Debbie Sightler**, had triple bypass surgery and is doing well, though it was touch and go for awhile. Your continued prayers are coveted.
- **Tommy White** requests prayers for his sister-in-law **Nancy White**, in Georgia who had a seizure and was diagnosed with a large mass on her brain.
- The **Klieves** request prayers for their son-in-law **Mike Alvarez** who has heart problems, but is back at work, and their daughter **Angela** who is coping with a torn cornea and 2 young children.
- **We have many that are ill:** Jean Boyd, Marilyn Brooks, Ron Banks, Margie DeYoung, Margaret Herring, Anna Porter and Carolyn Lee.
- **Anne Louise Gordon** is to have a sentence reduction hearing May 18.
- Congratulations to **Evan Manning** who has completed high school also, and has a very interesting and exciting job offer.
- Remember all these in your prayers. Write them a card, give them a call, let them know you're praying for them and see if they'd like a visit:
- **Brother Manning** has many Bible studies during the week, remember them.

"The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in Him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise Him." - Psalm 27:1

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- Hopefully our youth, and not so young, will have made it back safely from the **camp out devotional** with the church in Thompson Georgia. Our youth group is doing much good work in evangelism, pray for them.
- **Congregational Meeting** 4 pm to plan our **VBS**. All are requested to attend as there is much to do in preparation for our **VBS** coming up 7/26-7/30.
- **Youth Devo SATURDAYS 7 pm, College age Bible study TUESDAYS 7 pm.**
- **Pantry items** to bring to the church building. Remember, pop-tops are best.

5/16 Delmonte Citrus Salad 5/9 Campbells Chunky Chicken & Dumplings

“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another:” - Hebrews 10:25

LOOK TO HEAVEN AND ... OUT WITH SIN IN 2010!

GIFTS: OF GOD, OF CHRIST, OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

“Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God,” John 4:10
The gift of God is His grace that will save us—not God Himself.

“But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.” - Eph 4:7
The gift of Christ is access to God's grace—not Christ himself.

“and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.” - Acts 2:38
And in *exactly* the same way the gift of the Holy Spirit is the revelation of the Gospel, the Word of God, that will save us in the end—*not* the Holy Spirit himself. The original Greek language in all three cases is *identical*, and so is the meaning: the gift is *not* the giver.

- Foy E. Wallace, Jr. 1896-1979 Gospel preacher,
Adapted from— *The Work, Mission and Medium of the Holy Spirit*

GOOD TO MEMORIZE AND KEEP WITH YOU

“Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing. Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.” - Psalm 100

WELCOME THE WORD (continued from front page)

Third, you welcome the Word with **responsiveness**. James speaks of one “Beholding his natural face in a mirror, then turns and goes his way and forgets what he saw.” (James 1:23,24) This is just a casual glance that brings no response, no change. The other man looks, keeps looking and responds. This man is blessed in his doing. His is a careful gaze, a steadfast, continual, intentional look. He responds! He searches! He applies it! When we respond to what we know, we will know more.

When you receive the Word with **repentance**, **readiness** and **responsiveness**, you have **welcomed** the Word as you would welcome a friend.

— **Clarence DeLoach**, minister Pond Church of Christ, Dickson, Tennessee

“If ye fulfill the royal law according to the scripture ... ye do well:” - James 2:8

“Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God;” - Colossians 1:25