

WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

Have You Ever?

Have you ever told someone about a radio station you like listening to, or a restaurant that has good food, or a store that has good bargains?

Have you ever told someone which ball team you like, or about fishing at the Lake or a recipe that all your family enjoys?

Have you ever told someone about a painter that does good work, or a person who does yard work reliably?

Have you ever told someone to watch out for wet paint, or for slippery steps, or held a door open for someone?

You've likely done many of these things, on many occasions. Not to show off, but because you wanted to help someone out; to give them the benefit of your experience; to let them do better; or to keep them from being hurt or making a mistake. That's good. We should care for our neighbor, even strangers.

But how much do you care? Have you ever told someone about the church you're a part of? Have you ever told someone of the great hope you have for eternity? Have you ever told someone of the peace we can have with God through our Lord Jesus Christ? Have you ever told someone of the Bible that has the answers to what we're looking for; that has words of comfort, encouragement, strength and hope to get us through this world?

Which things do you think are most important? Which things will make a difference 100 years from now? Is any ball team more important than the church? Is any TV show or movie or book more important than the Bible? Does any restaurant have a meal better than the Lord's Supper? Remember, “**out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks**” (Matt 12:34). You may not have thought of this, but what we tell others, is what we tell God is really important to us. Let's send God the right message. Tell others of Jesus' church and to come see. Invite many to our Bible studies ... before it's too late.

“But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only,
deceiving your own selves.” - James 1:22

“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

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

EYES ON HEAVEN IN 2011

www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org South Carolina 8/12/2013

THE BULLETIN—VOLUME 39, NUMBER 32 August 18, 2013

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: HARVEY ALLEN

PM: HARVEY ALLEN

“And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: that your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.”

- 1 Corinthians 2:4,5

KEEP YOUR HEART CLEAN IN 2013

JOIN US IN
NEW TESTAMENT
CHRISTIANITY
TODAY!

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

The Bulletin
(USPS-994-500)
Periodicals Postage Paid
West Columbia, SC
Published Weekly By:
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
West Columbia Church of Christ
1701 Augusta Road
West Columbia SC 29169

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

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“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** *Judy Walker, Miles Johnson, Richard Ramkinson, Margaret Herring, Wilson Burton, Betty Mathis, Lamar Reeves, Elma Berrier.*
- **Jan Kelleher** has been suffering severe joint pain, Lyme disease has been ruled out but she continues to undergo tests. Pray the Lord grants her relief.
- Please keep all these, and **the church here**, in your prayers. Our thanks and gratitude to those who watch, and work and pray for the church here. To those faithful in visiting and attendance, encouraging others by talking with them. To those quietly doing the many jobs necessary to keep the congregation functioning.

"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." -Psalm27:1

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **Please sign up to clean the building some time.**
- Remember to **send cards to our visitors!** Brother **Gamble** posts a list each week of visitors and those of our number who need encouragement.

“I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.” - Philippians 4:13

HALFWAY! TJ Bolen will be here at the end of September, Lord willing as evangelist to help the Lord's church grow here in West Columbia. Be inviting people to come visit!

PSALM 19

The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard. Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun, Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race. His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof. The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes. The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward. Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults. Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression. Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.

THE ESSENTIALITY OF ASSEMBLING TOGETHER

An indispensable ingredient of the Christian life is to congregate with those of like precious faith for the purpose of worshiping God and to edify and exhort one another. God, in His infinite wisdom, created man to be a social being, that is, in need of fellowship with other men. It is a misunderstanding and a disregard of the intent of God when men abstain from the assemblies of the Lord's people. The corporate worship of the body of believers is not the whole of Christianity; nevertheless, assembling together is necessary for the spiritual growth and welfare of the individual disciple. It has never been the design and purpose of God for His followers to isolate themselves from other children of God. One can readily read of the various assemblies under the Mosaic economy and to learn the necessity of such gatherings (Exodus 5:1, 3; 12:6; Deuteronomy 16:8).

A proper investigation of the disciples of Christ will determine that various assemblies were in evidence in the first century. At the beginning of the church in Jerusalem you can read in Acts 2:44: "All that believed were together...". Following the first persecution, saints "gathered together" (Acts 4:31). It is recorded in Acts 11:26, that Barnabas and Saul assembled themselves with the church for a year in order to teach the brethren. After the first missionary journey, Paul and Barnabas returned to Antioch and "gathered the church together: to rehearse all that God had done by them (Acts 13:27). All Bible students are aware that the early Christians met upon "the first day of the week "to break bread, that is, to partake of the Lord's Supper (Acts 20:7). In fact, when Paul wrote to the brethren in Corinth, he admonished them to give as God had prospered them "upon the first day of the week" (I Corinthians 16:1, 2). He knew that they were already meeting on the first day of the week to partake of the Lord's Supper because he mentioned this fact earlier in chapter 11. Notice in 11:18: "For first of all, when ye come together in the church (meet as a congregation)..." Again in 11:20: "When therefore ye assemble yourselves together..." In chapter 14:23: "If therefore the whole church be assembled together..."

The fact was, one sure way to denote a Christian who was becoming unfaithful to Christ was in their habitual absence from the assemblies of the saints. Please study carefully the context in which you find Hebrews 10:24, 25. In our assemblies, we can exhort one another in the matter of love, good works, and, in short, faithful Christian living. Even in our songs we can teach and admonish one another (Colossians 3:16). Redeemed people find joy, strength and security in coming together to praise God the Father and the Lamb, Jesus Christ. Expressions of gratitude, honor, homage and devotion are natural for one whose heart is filled with love for God because of our salvation and the hope of eternal life. It is God's desire that we worship Him "in spirit and in truth" (John 4:23, 24).

Raymond Elliott , former elder, minister, Prattville Church of Christ, Alabama

“And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is;” - Hebrews 10:24,25