

Whispering Hills

Church of Christ



Volume XI, Issue III November 15, 2020

Gathering Times

Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

Updates will be forthcoming as to the continual changes with COVID-19.

Leadership

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HOW TO BE SAVED

1. Hear (Rom 10:17; Jn 6:45)
2. Believe (Jn 8:24; Heb 11:6)
3. Repent (Lk 13:3,5; Ac 2:38)
4. Confess (Mt 10:32; Rom 10:9, 10)
5. Baptized (Mk 16:16; 1 Pet 3:21)

Seek the Lord and his strength, seek his face continually.

1 Chronicles 16:11 KJV

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Lord God, fill me with your Holy Spirit

I receive your love & release my insecurity

I receive your joy & release my unhappiness

I receive your peace & release my anxiety

I receive your patience & release my impulsiveness

I receive your kindness & release my indifference

I receive your goodness & release my ungodliness

I receive your faithfulness & release my disloyalty

I receive your gentleness & release my severity

I receive your self-control & release my self-indulgence

Weekly Bible Reading

November 15, 2020	John	15 - 21
November 16, 2020	Acts	1 - 7
November 17, 2020	Acts	8 - 14
November 18, 2020	Acts	15 - 21
November 19, 2020	Acts	22 - 28
November 20, 2020	Romans	1 - 4
November 21, 2020	Romans	5 - 8
November 22, 2020	Romans	9 - 12

Our religious conviction:

God chose to save the world by sending His Son, Jesus to die on the cross for our sins (Rom 10:17).

Those who choose to listen and obey the Gospel message SHALL be saved (Ac 2:38).

God adds them to the Church of the Bible which His Son is coming for one day (2 The 1:7 - 10).



food for thought

How To Feed Your Spirit

Is it possible to feel burned out in caring for others? How does a Christian stay refreshed and fed, Spiritually? “**Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly *is* ready, but the flesh *is* weak**” (Mk 14:38). “**In that hour Jesus rejoiced in spirit, and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes: even so, Father; for so it seemed good in thy sight**” (Lk 10:31). “**It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, *they* are spirit, and *they* are life**” (Jn 6:63). “**Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come**” (Jn 16:13). “**And if Christ *be* in you, the body *is* dead because of sin; but the Spirit *is* life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you**” (Rom 8:10, 11). “**For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God**” (Rom 8:13, 14). Jesus said it is more blessed to give than to receive (Ac 20:35), but if all you ever do is give without refreshing your Spirit, one could quickly burn out. One’s body needs food and drink every day; thus, one’s Spirit needs His Word every day for nourishment (Mt 6:33; Lk 9:23; 11:3; Ac 5:42; Heb 13:3).

The Word, Our Food

Jesus is called the Living Word (Jn 1:14) and the Bread of Life (Jn 6:48). His Word literally feeds us, but it is our responsibility to READ and meditate (2 Tim 2:15). “**Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall not hunger, and he that believeth on me shall never thirst**” (Jn 6:35). “**But he answered and said, It is written, *Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God***” (Mt 4:4). By placing ourselves in the habit of eating this “Bread of Life” on a consistent, daily basis will cause growth and endurance for strength and happiness; thus, omitting the possibility of causing a burn out.

The Spirit, Our Drink

Jesus says, “**He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water**” (Jn 7:38). The fountain of living water is the Holy Spirit (poured out on His disciples after the resurrection). The Holy Spirit is our Comforter, Helper, Strengthener, Teacher, Helper, Advocate and our Standby. The simplest way to do this is to pray instead of worrying and doubting. “**But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,**” (Jude 20). Praying in the Holy Spirit builds us up.

Believers Support

“**A Psalm of David. The LORD *is* my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou *art* with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever. The more time we spend around Christians, the more their strength and experiences inspire us. We receive chances to encourage others and grow in our gifts. Together we are the Body of Christ. Stay refreshed in His Word and stay in close fellowship with Christians.**



The Powerful
WORD OF GOD



PRAYER REQUEST

Continuous Prayers: Walter Simon, Mack & Carolyn Clouds, Ron Forge, Christina Jones, Miguel Graves, Joyce Fair Patricia Hurd, Ruby Busby (Bro/Sis Busby's FAMILY), Sheila Harris, Curtis Ward, Joyce Gutierrez, Vernon Skinner (Sis Skinner's son), Mattie Stafford, Annette Rolette, Chris White (Sis White's son) Adam McCants (Bro Ramsey's daughter father-in-law), Ray and Byron Busby (Bro/Sis Busby's sons) Joel Sotelo Vazquez / Bertha Tapia [Mexico City, Mexico], Alfredo Cabrera/Ana Yescas (Bro Ramsey's friend) Maria Diaz (Sis Skinner's neighbor), Willie Gray (Sis Gray's brother-in-law) Anthony Yescas (Bro Ramsey's friend)

Sick: Arthur Henry, Dan Allen, Jerry Birdow, Jose (Bro Spataro's friend)

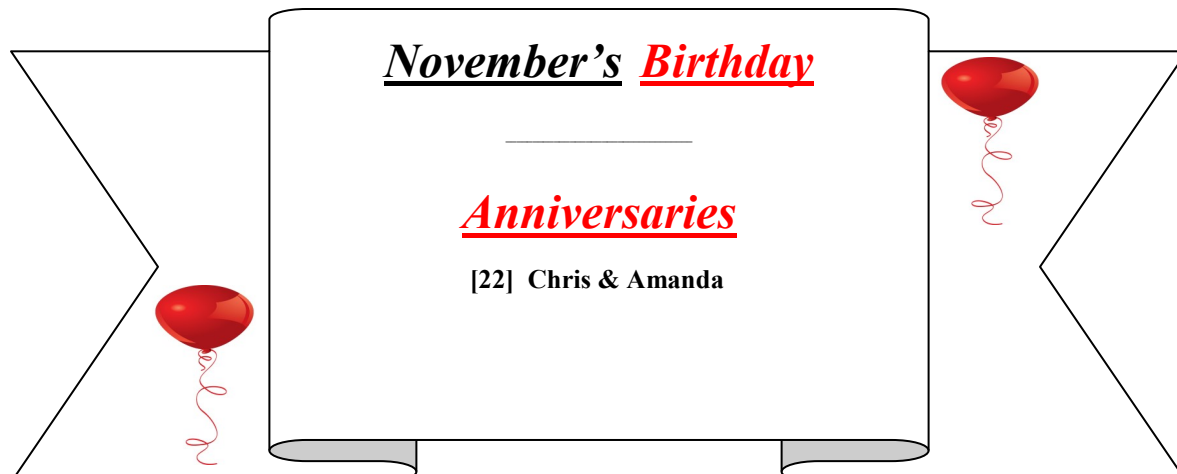
General: Demetria Washington, Greg Owens (Bro Owens' brother), Kelvin & Michael Porter (Sis Owens' brothers), Simon Young, Sam Lily (Sis Guthrie's stepson), James Hunter, Jr, Michael Neazer, M. Staton, Milicent Douglas (Sis Glasker's neice), John Carpenter (Sis Simon's brother)

UPDATES:

1. Please ensure [we] have ALL relevant information pertaining to birthdays and anniversaries for our Bulletin to be current, so [we] may collectively participate in these extra special events with you. If in doubt, please share it, again for ALL of us to know.
2. **Jason Reeves & FAMILY** (Sis A. Anderson's friend) have been diagnosed with COVID-19 [08 Nov]
3. **Bro Birdow** is in Methodist Central with bleeding ulcers [13 Nov]

Upcoming Activities / Announcements

1. **Door Knocking Campaign** Postponed until further notice.
2. **Thanksgivings Day** (Thursday: 11/26/2020)



ARE YOU CERTAIN YOU ARE A CHRISTIAN?

Acts 11:22 – 26

INTRODUCTION:

1. Many WORDS are misused and abused, **BUT** they have important meanings.
 - A. For example, the words “church” and/or “Christian.”
 1. To many “church” is merely a building; “Christians” are those who go there.
2. **BUT**, it is possible to be many things and still **NOT** be a New Testament Christian.

BODY:

1. ONE MAY BE RELIGIOUS AND STILL NOT BE A CHRISTIAN

- A. History has confirmed Heathen “religions” have sacrificed children.
- B. The Chinese have what is called a “god shelf” to worship any “god” they hear.
- C. The apostle Paul spoke to “religious” people (Ac 17:22).
- D. Many make the claim to serve Christ, yet they have a creed other than the Bible.
 1. For example, denominationalism is “religious”, **BUT** this is **NOT** in accordance to God’s Word because only Christianity is the Lord’s religion.
 2. Must be “religiously” right in order to be a Christian (Jas 1:26, 27; 1 Cor 15:58).

2. ONE MAY BE GOOD AND NOT BE A CHRISTIAN

- A. The world places a certain standard in morality, **BUT** it is **NOT** enough for heaven.
- B. It must be seen the only blessings promised by God are to be found in Christ (Eph 1:3).
- C. The Christian must be good (Tit 2:11, 12; 2 Pet 1:5-12).

3. ONE MAY BELIEVE THE GOSPEL AND NOT BE A CHRISTIAN

- A. Many who believe have been misled into human organizations instead of the true church.
- B. Many illustrations found in the New Testament clearly reveals more than one’s belief is necessary for salvation (Jn 12:42; Jas 2:19).
- C. Faith is important (Heb 11:6); **BUT**, in and of itself, it accomplishes nothing (Jas 2:26).

4. ONE MAY REPENT AND NOT BE A CHRISTIAN

- A. If [we] repent, **BUT** never is obedient to God (Jn 8:32; 14:15), [we] are **NOT** a Christian.
- D. Repentance is necessary (Lk 13:3; Ac 2:38; 17:30; 2 Pet 3:9).

5. ONE MAY GO THROUGH AN ACT OF “BAPTISM” AND NOT BE A CHRISTIAN

- A. One must be baptized by the method prescribed by and for the purpose given by Him.
 1. Mk 16:16; Ac 2:38; 8:38; Gal 3:26, 27; Col 2:12; 1 Pet 3:21.

6. ONE MAY BE A “CHURCH” MEMBER AND NOT BE A CHRISTIAN

- A. The same thing making one a Christian makes one a member of the church (Ac 2:47).
- C. To be “in” Christ is to be “in” His Body [the church] (Eph 1:22, 23; 4:5; Col 1:18).

7. ONE CAN WORSHIP GOD AND NOT BE A CHRISTIAN

- A. Many seek to worship God in institutions created by man and according to creeds written by men; **BUT** it is vain (Mt 15:9).
- C. True Christians must worship (Jn 4:23, 24; Ac 2:42; 20:7).

CONCLUSION:

1. It pays to be a Christian in this life and **NOT** the one to come.
2. [We] must ensure [we] are Christians and there is only One way to do this.
 1. That is by following Christ through obedience (Jn 14:6; Ac 4:12; Heb 5:9).
3. “*Are You Certain You Are A Christian*” in accordance to God’s Word?