

# Whispering Hills

## Church of Christ



Volume X, Issue III

October 18, 2020

### Gathering Times

Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

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

### Leadership

#### Elders:

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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)



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## 12 Symptoms of a Spiritual Awakening

1. An increased tendency to let things happen rather than make them happen.
2. Frequent attacks of smiling.
3. Feelings of being connected with others and nature.
4. Frequent overwhelming episodes of appreciation.
5. A tendency to think and act spontaneously rather than from fears based on past experience.
6. An unmistakable ability to enjoy each moment.
7. A loss of ability to worry.
8. A loss of interest in conflict.
9. A loss of interest in interpreting the actions of others.
10. A loss of interest in judging others.
11. A loss of interest in judging self.
12. Gaining the ability to love without expecting anything in return.

### Weekly Bible Reading

October 18, 2020	Daniel	1 - 3
October 19, 2020	Daniel	4 - 6
October 20, 2020	Daniel	7 - 9
October 21, 2020	Daniel	10 - 12
October 22, 2020	Hosea	1 - 7
October 23, 2020	Hosea	8 - 14
October 24, 2020	Joel	
October 25, 2020	Amos	

#### ***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

## He Will Provide The Food

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus makes a great contrast between how God's Children look toward food and the way unbelievers do. **"Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things"** (Mt 6:31, 32). Those not God's Children must, of necessity, be fearful they might not have food. Our Lord says we should not have a single concern and gives the reason. **"...for your heavenly Father knows you have need of all these things"** (Mt 6:32b). Jesus says God's Children are not to worry about the necessities of life (food, drink and clothing). It is a lack of faith in God to worry about these things. Gentiles were unbelievers and do not believe in God; therefore, not TRUSTING of Him in their lives because their main concern in life are the necessities. But, God's Children of God have a Heavenly Father who looks after and cares for them. They have no reason to worry. God knows what His Children needs and will supply (Psa 115:11; 118:8; Pro 3:5, 6; Nah 1:7; 2 Cor 3:4; 5:11; 1 The 2:4; 1 Tim 6:17; Heb 2:13). Later in that sermon, Jesus discussed how an earthly father would not give a stone to his child who asks for bread. The Lord's Prayer expresses we should ask every day for daily bread and with firm assurance He will provide. **"If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him"** (Mt 7:11)?! If humans, sinful and imperfect, give to their children the things they need, how much more will God our Heavenly Father who is perfect give to His Children the things they need. This does not mean God will give them everything they ask; but, will not give them anything that is bad. God loves His Children and will bless them; but, He wants them to PRAY and ask Him for the things they need (Mk 11:24; Jn 17:9; Php 1:9; Col 1:9; 2 The 1:11; 3:1; Heb 13:18; Jas 5:16). The Jews were provided food on their 40-year journey from Egypt to the Promised Land. **"And Jehovah spake unto Moses, saying, I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel: speak unto them, saying, At even ye shall eat flesh, and in the morning ye shall be filled with bread: and ye shall know that I am Jehovah your God. And it came to pass at even, that the quails came up, and covered the camp: and in the morning the dew lay round about the camp. And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness a small round thing, small as the hoar-frost on the ground. And when the children of Israel saw it, they said one to another, What is it? for they knew not what it was"** (Exo 16:11-14). The answer was given, **"And Moses said unto them, It is the bread which Jehovah hath given you to eat"** (Exo 16:15). As soon as they entered the Promised Land, the manna ceased (Jos 5:12). David understood, **"I have been young, and now am old; Yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, Nor his seed begging bread"** (Psa 37:25). **"But seek ye first his kingdom, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you"** (Mt 6:33). To **"...seek ye first his kingdom, and his righteousness"** is to give God the priority due Him (2 Cor 4:18) and love Him with all thine heart keeping His Commandments (Ecc 12:13; Lk 10:27; Jn 14:15; 1 Jn 5:2). He must be first in the Christian's Life (Mt 22:37; Mk 12:30). One cannot separate God nor Christ from His Kingdom. In the Christian Age, Christ is King and "the church" is His Kingdom (Mt 16:18). When one does this, the Spiritual part of man will grow, Spiritually. Putting Him first, God takes care of the physical needs of man. **"Be not therefore anxious for the morrow: for the morrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof"** (Mt 6:34). Jesus is teaching us how to live one day at a time. All anyone has is right now. Do not "worry" about the future nor anything else because it will not change anything and it is sinful to worry due to it being the opposite of faith (2 Cor 5:7; Gal 3:22; Jas 4:17; Heb 11:6). **"...Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof"** is not to worry about anticipated problems (which may never occur), but deal with the problems being present. The Christian is to do what is right each day, doing one's best having nothing to do with worry because God will handle everything, appropriately as He has demonstrated over the duration of our lives.





# 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), Bro Spataro's FAMILY (Theresa Faqua)

## UPDATES:

1. **Howard Curtis** (Bro James Curtis' father) has passed away [11 Nov 20]

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## Upcoming Activities/Announcements

1. **Door Knocking Campaign** Postponed until further notice.



## Study Carefully & Study Prayerfully

Scripture Reference:

## FOUR YOUNG MEN

### Daniel 1:3 – 7

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. Although there is a vast array of material in the book of Daniel dealing with the eternal kingdom, the thrilling story of many is: Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.
  - A. There is clearly a lesson to be learned from these Jewish youths.

#### BODY:

1. The besieging of Jerusalem being captive of the Jews carried away into Babylonian captivity.
  - A. Of that number Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were taken (Dan 1:3-7).
2. Would **NOT** defile themselves partaking of the meat/wine offered by the king (Dan 1:8).
  - A. To remove themselves from any association of idolatry practiced by the Babylonians.
    1. But even if we never know why they refused to eat and drink that which was offered, we should emphasize holding their convictions by **NOT** doing what would be wrong.
  - B. Perhaps, speculating just a little to visualize what happened when refusing to do as told.
    1. In doing so, [we] can see the peer pressure brought upon them.
      - A. “Ah come on, we’re all doing it” / “Just this once, after all once will **NOT** hurt”.
    2. The pressure placed by Melzar, fearing for his life if they loose weight (Dan 1:10).
  - C. **BUT**, regardless of the pressure placed upon them, they held to their convictions.
    1. This portion of the book of Daniel is one [we] should turn to and READ quite often.
    2. Especially, whenever the pressure to give up our convictions is strong.
3. [We] should see when they decided to hold their convictions in their efforts (Dan 1:9, 17).
  - A. This is a badly needed lesson today.
    1. How many times have we heard a person say, “Well, I’m not going to become a Christian until I know I can live like one” or something like that?
  - B. Remember, if [we] strive to serve Him, [we] have a promise He will be with us.
    1. Mt 28:20; Rom 8:18, 28, 35; 1 Cor 10:13
  - C. I hear Christians say, “I can **NOT** hold on” for this is true; **NOT** if one is trying to, alone.
4. Later on in this book, again [we] see these youths holding on to their convictions.
  - A. Nebuchadnezzar made a golden image and commanded when a musical instrument was sounded they were to fall and worship that image (Dan 3:4-8).
    1. Again, [we] can assume these youths were confronted with pressure from all sides.
    2. No doubt they experienced similar peer pressure as before.
    3. Great pressure from Nebuchadnezzar to fall before the golden idol and worship it.
      - A. Dan 3:15
  - B. **BUT**, they knew this to be in contradiction to God’s Will and would **NOT** worship it.
    1. Perhaps they could have said, “No one will know **BUT** us”.
    2. They knew the Lord would know and their actions were to please Him (Dan 3:16-18).
5. Again, [we] see the Lord being with them when the need arose.
  - A. Even though they were bound and cast into the furnace heated 7 times hotter than normal, they were **NOT** hurt the least (Dan 3:25, 27).
6. Because of their dedication to the Lord, the question asked by Nebuchadnezzar, “...and who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?” was answered (Dan 3:15, 26).

#### CONCLUSION:

1. From the story of these Jewish youths, [we] find a great example of keeping the faith.