

WHISPERING HILLS

Church of Christ

Volume V, Issue III

May 16, 2021

Worship Times

Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

Location

Temporarily: TownePlace
Suites by Marriott
Dallas/DeSoto
(directions provided inside)

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

Leadership

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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 because it is
purchased with His Blood
(Ac 20:28; 2 The 1:7-10).

HOW TO BE SAVED

1. Hear (Jn 6:45; Rom 10:17)
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)

8 Reasons To Do The Right Things

1. Disobedience is sin.
2. Because He loves me, God will discipline me.
3. The natural consequences of my actions will hurt me.
4. Doing the right thing lays the foundation for a good life.
5. God sees my sacrificial acts.
6. God promises to reward me.
7. My obedience makes God smile.
8. I'll never regret doing the right thing.

Thank you for visiting with us

Our goal is to worship God according to His Will
just as the Christians in the first century did (Ac 2:42).
Please ask us a question about the reason why we worship the way we do (1 Pet 3:15).
Also, please take the time to fill out an attendance card today (in the holder facing you)
and give it to one of our members acknowledging your presence with us.

You BELONG Here!

Acts 2:42-47 and Romans 12:10

Prayer Request

We are here to Pray for you



Continued Prayers

Walter Simon, Mack & Carolyn Cloud, Ron Forge, Jewel Hunter, Joyce Gutierrez, Joyce Fair, Curtis Ward, Sheila Harris, Simon Young, Michael Neazer, Mary Ervin, Billie Guthrie, Jessica McCants (Bro Ramsey's daughter)

Grieving

General

Demetria Washington, Greg Owens (Bro Owens' brother), Kelvin & Michael Porter (Sis Owens' brothers) Charles Votaw (Sis Harper's brother) Joel Sotelo (Bro Ramsey's brother-in-law) Gary Forge (Bro Forge's brother)

Updates /Announcements

- [1] Our PRAYERS should echo loud and clear on a daily basis for God's GRACE, MERCY and LOVE by taking nothing for granted as [we] continue to live up to His Expectations and Commands through obedience (Mt 7:21-23)
- [2] PRAYERS should continue involving a successful and TIMELY completion of the building reconstruction [02 May]
- [3] MEMORIAL DAY [Monday (31 May 21)]

Birthdays & Anniversaries



May '21

[27] Sheree Miller





**FOOD FOR
THOUGHT**

DECISIONS and ACTS of the APOSTLES

Acts 1:1

The Bible says, “The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, concerning all that Jesus began both to do and teach,” (Ac 1:1). It is generally referenced this verse establishes Luke as the writer of Acts because Acts and Luke were addressed to Theophilus (Lk 1:3). **Theophilus** (lover of God). It is unknown who he was or where he lived. The book of Acts purpose seems to be how the disciples obeyed the Great Commission given by Jesus (Mt 28:18-20) to take the gospel into the entire world. It reveals the basic teaching of the gospel and shows how people became Christians. There is an introduction of the organization of the church (Mt 16:18). It shows how miracles confirmed the truth and how the church dealt with some of her problems. Many have referred to it as a history book with great doctrinal teachings.

In the 1st chapter, Luke presents a situation in which Jesus has ascended, Judas is dead and what was once a group of 12 apostles have been altered to 11 frazzled men without a leader to follow. With the 12th position being opened and needing to be filled, the apostles had a huge task ahead. With Luke’s account of the apostles handling of this issue, should cause Christians to evaluate how difficult decision(s) are still handled today and without the apostles, but with the same level of expectation towards pleasing God (Col 1:10; 1 The 2:4).

If we were to “classify” the book of Acts, it would be of history because it is a history of the first generation of the church. Its beginnings, traces the church from the 1st Pentecost (after the resurrection of Jesus from the dead) to about the year 64 AD. This is exciting because of the spread of the gospel in the first 35 years.

In dissecting the 1st chapter, Luke makes the transition from the life of Jesus to the story about His Church. He tells how Jesus showed Himself to witnesses after His Resurrection from the dead, then tells His Disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the baptism of the Holy Ghost. Seeing Jesus ascend into heaven; thus, they obeyed His Command by going to Jerusalem. There are 3 observations in this account beneficial for today’s Christians.

[1] They Were Together (Ac 1:6)

This verse proves the church was not established during Jesus’ Lifetime on earth, but the future (1 The 5:21). The apostles did not fully understand the nature of the kingdom, but were being included in the process due to their immediate impact involved in the decision. There is no indication of bickering/arguing between within, but all were in one accord (Ac 2:1). Christians today make tough decision(s) impacting one another. When a major decision is to be made, the ones who are to be immediately impacted by the decision should be involved (to some degree) in the decision making. This does not mean one has the final say, but it goes a very long way to at least understand the input of others to show a high level of care. The people involved should learn not to bicker or lash out in anger, but learn to hear one another to effectively come to an agreement (Ac 15:12-21).

[2] They Were Devoted To Prayer (Ac 1:14)

Devoted (busy oneself with). The apostles and the people accompanying them were *busy* praying. Part of this time was spent in the temple (Lk 24:53). The women from Galilee were present at His Crucifixion (Lk 23:49). This is the last mention of Mary in the New Testament. There is nothing to indicate they esteemed her in any divine way, but a follower of Jesus just like they. **His brethren** were His Physical Brothers: James, Joseph, Simon and Judas (Mt 13:55). These were His Half Brothers after His Birth. During His Earthly Ministry they did not believe in Him (Jn 7:5). But, now they were believers/followers. How often does one say they are too busy to pray? How often are we too busy *praying*? We must do some serious evaluation of our PRAYER life!!

[3] They Let God Make The Final Decision (Ac 1:24, 25)

The qualifications produced two men. They prayed God would show them whom He had chosen. Their prayer proved their trust was in Him. The most remarkable thing about the prayer is the mention of Judas—he might go to his own place. This no doubt referred to his being eternally lost. Imagine if the apostles would not have sought Him out through prayer nor trusted His Decision. Today, His Decisions are not revealed through the casting of lots, but through Scripture. Imagine a world not seeking out God through prayer and not trusting the decisions He made for mankind through Scripture. That image may look a lot like the world we live in today.

