



# Whispering Hills

## CHURCH OF CHRIST

GROWING TOGETHER

VOLUME V, ISSUE IV

May 22, 2022

### SUNDAY Gathering Times

Bible Class **09:30 AM**  
Morning **10:30 AM**

#### Leadership

#### Elders:

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#### Minister:

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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 was  
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)



#### 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)

## STRUGGLING TO FOCUS ON JESUS?




Do you get  
distracted?

↓

*What distracts  
me from doing  
more for the  
Lord?*

✓

**Memorize  
scripture to  
fight against  
distracting  
thoughts.**




Do you seek  
personal gain?

↓

*What personal  
desires prevent  
me from serving  
my King?*

✓

**Use what you  
enjoy doing  
to bring glory  
to God.**



Do you put  
things off?

↓

*What can I do  
for Jesus today  
rather than  
tomorrow?*

✓

**Write a Ways  
to Serve list  
and place it  
where you  
can see it.**

**ASK YOURSELF...**

**THEN ...**



### Continuous PRAYERS

Walter Simon, Mack & Carolyn Cloud, Patricia Skinner,  
Ron Forge, Curtis Ward



### General

Greg Owens (Bro Owens' brother) is hospitalized  
Michael Porter (Sis Owens' brother)  
Bobby Osbourne (Sis Bell's brother)  
Jessica McCants (Bro Ramsay's daughter)  
Wesley Pollard (Bro/Sis Simon's brother-in-law)  
Lee Carpenter (Sis Simon's brother)  
Baltimore Hernandez (Bro Spataro's brother-in-law)  
Ronnie Sims (Sis Kaye's brother)  
Miguel Graves, Jr (friend of Bro Owens, Jr)  
Mark Gray (Sis Gray's brother-in-law)  
Christopher White (Sis White's son)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [1] Our PRAYERS should echo loud and clear on a daily basis for God's GRACE, MERCY and LOVE by taking nothing for granted continuing to live up to His Expectations and Commands through OBEDIENCE (Mt 7:21-23)
- [2] **B**IBLE **S**TUDY (**S**unday, 22 May 22 @ 09:30 **A**M): Book of **C**olossians 1:24 - 29
- [3] **L**adies **B**ible **C**lass (Every **W**ednesdays in **M**ay @ 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM): conducted virtually [Duncanville]
- [4] **F**ederal **H**oliday (Celebrated: **M**onday, 30 May 22): **M**emorial Day)
- [5] **S**unday **E**vening **W**orship (resumes on 05 **J**un 22 @ 5:00 PM)



[27] Sheree Miller



**FOOD FOR  
THOUGHT**

### **Distracted, Deceived Souls**

There is something far worse, more dangerous and more deadly than the pandemic...those souls, which are lost and dying daily, while facing eternity without being in a right relationship with the Lord God Almighty. “...**I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me**” (Jn 14:6). Jesus utilize the term **I am** (indicates Deity). **I am the way** (He is the road one must take to come to God). There is no other way to Him, except through Jesus (Ac 4:12). This is the reason the gospel must be preached to the world and in every generation. No man can have a right relationship with God, except through Christ. He not only shows the way to the Father, He is the way. Men are not saved by a principle or force, but by a person, Jesus Christ. **I am the truth** (Jesus is the truth, He is the truth about God). He reveals God. When one knows Jesus, this will, invariably, allow one to know God. In the Old Testament, God’s Truth was embodied in His Covenant law given to men; thus, in the New Testament, His Truth is embodied in His Son. He is the word (Jn 1:1, 14) and the dependable source of redemptive revelation ever known to man. **I am the life** [physical (Jn 1:3) / Spiritual (Jn 3:36)] come from Jesus. He is LIFE because the LIFE of the Father is in Him (Jn 5:21; 10:28). He is the source and giver of LIFE (Jn 3:16; 6:33; 10:28; 11:25). The emphasis is Eternal LIFE; this Fellowship with God carries all the joy and fullness of LIFE. Eternal Death forever separates from God. The summation is: the WAY brings men to God; the TRUTH causes freedom from sin; the LIFE produces Fellowship with God.

Most people in our contact (sadly, this includes a good number of Christians) probably express their own personal expending of far more time, talk, energy and interest consumed by pandemic-related matters, rather than ensuring everyone around is ready to meet God – no matter when and what their death may inevitably be. How does this happen, especially with Christians and in light of the greater, more deadly, long-lasting and devastating results of the latter (Rom 14:8; 1 Cor 15:18; 1 The 4:16; Rev 14:13)?

We must remember Satan is not only the master of **deception**, but of **distraction**. Before **deceiving** Eve, he **distracted** by getting her focus and attention off of all of the other trees of the garden God had blessed her and Adam so richly with (Gen 3:1-5). Once the **distraction** was successful, the **deception** was inevitable. This truth is likely why God warned Isaiah not to be distracted and caught up in what the people of his day feared and were caught up in (Isa 8:11-14). Remember: “**Once distraction is successful, deception is inevitable.**” The same holds true today. This could easily explain why Jesus and His Divinely-Inspired 1<sup>st</sup> century writers repeatedly addressed just exactly how deadly allowing Satan to distract us truly is. Jesus, in the parable of the sower, explains how (Mt 13:7, 22; Mk 4:18; Lk 8:14; 18:24). Paul commands how to set our minds, not to be conformed to this world/entangles with the affairs of this life (Col 3:1, 2; Rom 12:1, 2; 2 Tim 2:3, 4). What we must understand is in our world there is always going to be a “crisis of the day” (i.e. viral, financial, political, psychological, etc...) something the unbelieving world around us is always going to be distracted/consumed with and/or far too worried about to ever take the time to seriously focus on God, His Word and their eternity.

The news outlets are going to absolutely ensure they dissect and dramatize every divinely-distracting detail and morsel of it. After all, without a crisis to report, their criteria for existence ceases to exist (Mt 22:29). Perhaps, you remember the pre-COVID-19 crisis everyone was so up in arms about only a few months ago? Shootings at congregations. Before that, it was something else...and something else before that...just as there will also be some other “crisis” to be consumed with a few months from now...and continue so on after that and etc., well into the future. It just simply never ends. Satan ensures it does not. Because “**Once distraction is successful, deception, as well as death and destruction, are all, also inevitable**”.

The eternally-deadly danger for all Christians, comes the moment we forget (1 Pet 1:13; 5:8). If we begin to incrementally get so caught up in and sidetracked by whatever the current “crisis of the day” is, continually we start to forget/neglect what is most important; should we, like Martha, become so distracted with other things, we forget the only thing, to ever really matter – loving, listening to, being comforted and encouraged by God’s Word (Lk 10:38-42). Do not allow the “always-a-crisis” events of the current day’s news, consume, distract and/or draw you away from the incredibly encouraging and uplifting good news of God’s Word. The world and its news will not change much over a period of time, but your peace of mind surely will (Jn 16:33; Php 4:8, 9), if we allow ourselves to become distracted (Pro 26:4, 5; 2 Cor 11:1-15).

~~ Author Unknown~~

