



# Whispering Hills

## CHURCH OF CHRIST

Growing Together

VOLUME VI, ISSUE II

June 12, 2022

### SUNDAY Gathering Times

**Bible Class** 09:30 AM  
**Morning** 10:30 AM  
**Evening** 5:00 PM

#### Leadership

#### Elders:

James E. Hunter, Sr  
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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)

**WELCOME**  
WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE

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.

<p>Whatever You Do Do your <i>Work</i> <b>HEARTILY</b> <i>as</i> for the <b>Lord</b> and not for <b>MEN.</b> Colossians 3:23</p>	<p><b>Children</b> <i>Obey</i> <b>Your Parents</b> <i>In Everything</i> — For This Pleases The — <b>Lord</b> Colossians 3:20</p>	<p><b>BE KIND</b> and Compassionate to one another <b>FORGIVING</b> each other just as in <b>Christ God</b> <b>FORGAVE YOU</b> Ephesians 4:32</p>
<p>The <b>Lord</b> is <b>With Me</b> <b>I WILL NOT</b> be <b>AFRAID</b> PSALM 118:6</p>	<p><b>I CAN DO</b> <b>ALL</b> THINGS — Through — <b>Christ</b> WHO STRENGTHENS ME Philippians 4:13</p>	<p><b>Do</b> <i>to Others</i> <b>as YOU</b> <i>Would Have</i> <b>THEM do</b> <i>Unto</i> <b>YOU</b> Luke 6:31</p>
<p>Love The <b>LORD</b> Your God <b>With All Your Heart</b> → <b>And With All Your Soul</b> <b>And With All Your Mind.</b> Matthew 22:37</p>	<p><b>GIVE THANKS</b> to the <b>Lord</b> <b>FOR HE IS GOOD</b> HIS <b>Love</b> ENDURES FOREVER PSALM 107:1</p>	<p><b>I Praise You</b> because <b>I am Fearfully</b> <b>and Wonderfully</b> <b>Made</b> Psalm 139:14</p>



### Continuous PRAYERS

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



Grieving:

- ◇ The Cloud **FAMILY** (Carolyn E. Cloud)
- ◇ The Simon **FAMILY** (Nicole Simon)

### 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)  
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] **BIBLE STUDY** (**S**unday, 12 June @ 09:30 **A**M): Book of **Colossians** 2:1 - 15
- [3] **Ladies Bible Class** (Every **W**ednesday in June @ 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM): conducted virtually [Duncanville]
- [4] **F**ather's **D**ay & **F**ederal **H**oliday: **J**uneteenth (**S**unday, 19 June)
- [5] **Chantez Thomas** [51] (Bro Williams' cousin) diagnosed with a muscular disease, Myositis [08 Jun]
- [6] **Sis Mari Williams** diagnosed with DCIS (Breast Cancer) stage **0** (**98%** chance of not spreading, if treated) [10 Jun]



- [21] Steve Owens, Jr.
- [22] Mary Glaster
- [30] Chris Hunter

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[15] David & Sara Ramsay



**FOOD FOR  
THOUGHT**

## Where Does Faith Come From?

Jesus says, “**Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them**” (Mk 11:24). Prayer and faith go together (Jas 5:16). There is great POWER in prayer. In order for prayer to be effective, it must be conducted in faith. All of the teachings of the Bible on prayer must be considered in this verse to understand it correctly. Not only must prayer be in faith, but according to God’s Will (1 Jn 3:22; 5:14). Prayers of Christians are the most powerful things in the world. How does one acquire FAITH? Perhaps, it may appear some have stronger FAITH than others? Why is the FAITH of some so weak compared to others? Where does FAITH come from?

It would be interesting to hear the answers given by many on such a fundamental question. I would not be surprised if a good number of people would actually be at something of a loss to give a definitive answer. I am unsure if some actually know where faith comes from and almost certainly a great many people who think they know, probably do not. Some may think faith is instinctive, something with which we are naturally born. For some, faith may well be more of a feeling. Others may think faith just sort of happens to some people, whether they seek or want it or not. This is almost akin to catching a cold or picking up a viral or bacterial infection, like an accident! Still other people believe faith is a gift from God. The obvious follow-up question should be, “If faith is a gift from God, then why does God not give that gift to everyone?”

In truth, faith is a product of a person’s learning, believing and living by the teachings of God’s word. The apostle Paul states, “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Rom 10:17). Basically, a person has to apply oneself in order to develop faith. In some way, one has to go establish the exercise of learning God’s Word. That can be done through personal reading and study, or through study with someone else or through listening to God’s word being taught by someone else.

As a person learns God’s Word, one must make a decision as to whether or not believing (Jn 8:24) what one has learned is understood. Even if one believes, that does not necessarily indicate one’s possessing true faith. A person who fully understands faith will obey (Heb 5:8, 9) the teachings learned by believing in God’s Word (Jn 14:15). Being the Son of God did not bring Jesus special privileges in His life on earth. He lived life just like others with common frailties. When living a right life, one will suffer persecution (2 Tim 3:12). He lived the perfect life. He suffered just as the Scripture prophesied (Isa 50:5). In order for Him to be high priest, He learned from experiences what it meant to live righteously and suffer consequences. He lived righteously even though it meant His Death; made a perfect Savior by means of these sufferings. He was morally perfect by not being a sinner. But, to be completely qualified as the Savior of mankind, He endured the sufferings originating salvation; eternal reward in heaven. Salvation is offered to all men, but only those who believe and obey Jesus receive it (Mt 7:21). Just as Jesus learned obedience through suffering so must men today. Again, it is seen one is not saved by faith alone (Jas 2:24, 26), but by an obeying faith.

Obviously, the faith described in the Bible is not instinctive. It is not a feeling, nor does it just happen to some people. Neither is true faith a gift from God, in the sense it is totally given by God with the recipient doing nothing on one’s part toward its individual development within himself.

In a real sense, faith is a process. First, it must be developed. Then, it must be nurtured and strengthened. The nurturing and strengthening is essential for faith to grow and be the directing and sustaining force within the true believer’s life that God intends it to be. The nurturing and strengthening is itself a lifelong process that never comes to an end (1 Cor 16:13; Col 1:22, 23).

Knowing where faith comes from, it should be easy to recognize that the condition of your faith is **up to you!** Are you giving proper attention to the development and strengthening of your faith? Give this question great consideration, for the answer could determine your eternal destiny (2 Tim 4:7, 8)...

~~ Author Unknown ~~

