



# Whispering Hills

## CHURCH OF CHRIST

Growing Together

VOLUME X, ISSUE II

October 09, 2022

### SUNDAY Gathering Times

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

### Leadership

#### Elders:

James E. Hunter, Sr  
(214) 215 - 4169  
[jaywood1@swbell.net](mailto:jaywood1@swbell.net)

Steve Owens, Sr  
(214) 354 - 0419  
[sowens621@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sowens621@sbcglobal.net)

#### Minister:

James R. Jones  
(214) 662 - 4665  
[jonesjr1cc@gmail.com](mailto:jonesjr1cc@gmail.com)

### 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)



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.

## Our Christian Values and Learning Behaviours go hand-in-hand

Respect Team Work

### Love



Because God **loves** us, so we respect each other and work together. Jesus taught us to **respect** one another, and we recognise that we need to **work as a team** to be effective and show what it means to live in community. We use these learning behaviours to support us in our actions and in our learning, giving the best with our behaviour and in our attitudes towards our work and others.

Responsibility Pride

### Forgiveness



As we understand God's love for us and the **forgiveness** he gives, so we share that **forgiveness** with others. We know we need to take **responsibility** in owning up to our mistakes and putting things right. We also know that our **pride** can get in the way, and we need to be careful. However we know that taking pride in our work and responsibility for our learning is a good thing.

Resilience Creativity

### Hope



The **hope** that God gives us spurs us on to do our best at all times and to support each other. We use our learning behaviours of **resilience** and **creativity** to challenge ourselves and strive for the best in all we do. We can find solutions by using our creative minds. We are never failures, but we getting things wrong can help us to better, and helps us realise we need God's help, the help of others, and to never give up.

Curiosity Risk Taking

### Faith



**Faith** helps us to know that we can step out in difficult times, knowing that we are safe in God's love. We use our learning behaviours to stretch ourselves by **taking risks**, and to understand we can achieve more than we think we can. We know that **curiosity** is important for finding out about ourselves, our world, and the bigger questions in life.



**Continuous PRAYERS**

Walter Simon, Mack Cloud, Ron Forge, Pat Harper,  
Patricia Skinner, Pat White, Santos Spataro  
Mari Williams



**General**

Greg Owens (Bro Owens' brother) is hospitalized  
Michael Porter (Sis Owens' 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)  
Chantez Thomas (Bro Williams' cousin)  
Julio Gutierrez (Sis Gutierrez's husband)  
Mattie Stafford (*former member*)  
Claudia Springer (Sis Williams' sister)

**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, 09 **O**ctober @ 09:30 **A**M): Book of **Colossians** 3:18 - 25
- [3] **Ladies Bible Class** (Every **W**ednesday in **O**ctober @ 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM): conducted virtually [Duncanville]



*Anniversaries  
and Birthdays*



- [18] Christina Jones
- [23] Ann Busby
- [23] Santos Spataro
- [29] Elvin Bell

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- [ 6 ] James & Patricia Hunter
  - [18] Mark & Darlene Sikes





**FOOD FOR  
THOUGHT**

### BY OUR LOVE

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another” (Jn 13:34, 35).

It was a relief when the traitor was gone (Jn 13:31-38). The Lord could speak freely of His love and of His Approaching Glory, expatiating on the shining tablelands, but not yet revealing even to Peter the dark ravine separating Him from them and the shadows He was already entering. Peter was most anxious to be with Jesus wherever He was. Life without Jesus seemed impossible as he relied upon His Strong Resolution to keep him faithful to Christ, but found it unavailing, as we have ourselves experienced many a time. Let us not vaunt in self-confidence what one will or will not do, but seek strength from the Lord. How little we know ourselves! Yet, the time would come when this ardent Spirit will be able to fulfill its vow through the Spirit of Pentecost, (Jn 21:18; 2 Pet 1:14).

In 1970, renowned author and philosopher, Francis Schaeffer published a little 35-page booklet entitled, The Mark of the Christian, in which he powerfully establishes love as the identifying characteristic of New Testament Christianity. He launches into his thesis by citing the words of Jesus who says, “By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another” (Jn 13:35).

While the forces of hatred are so clearly seen in the world around us, we must not be drawn into that way of thinking. On a personal level, we must “Never pay back evil for evil to anyone” (Rom 12:17). Why? Because the Bible says, “Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but *rather* give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance *is* mine; I will repay, saith the Lord” (Rom 12:19). “Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good” (Rom 12:21). The Apostle Paul goes on to describe governing authorities as established by God for the punishment of evildoers and encouragement of those who practice righteousness (Rom 13:1-3). We are thankful for those protecting us from harm; punishing those who practice wickedness.

Christians are not in a military crusade against the forces of hatred and revenge. But, we are in a Spiritual battle requiring firm resolve and resistance to the ideas and strategies of the devil (Eph 6:10-12). Where our religion is true, it will affect every relationship in life. But notice its duties are reciprocal. We must give on our side, just as we expect others to give. The first duty of children is *obedience*. They must be taught to obey because it is right and their conscience bears witness to this. Never *plead* with a child to do what is right nor *bribe* by a reward. Take your stand on the primeval sense of right and wrong, the foundation of morals and will be the stay of their whole after-life, once its supremacy is established. Parents should help their children by removing irritation or passion from their own speech. The center of all authority is Christ. He Will demand an account of our treatment of every servant He has sent into our homes.

Many are the battles individual disciples fight on a daily basis in their struggle to do what is right in the sight of God. We have a unique opportunity to show the world the substance of our faith as it is expressed in love. What a contrast between the practice of Christian love and the practice of religious and political hate designed only to terrorize others and subjugate all who stand in the way of their own desires.

It is unlikely that history will remember kindly those who opposed evil in the gentleness of Christian love. But, if such should one day occur, may we have the insight to give God the glory. After all, our love is but a reflection of the far-greater love bestowed on us in the person of Jesus Christ, our Lord (Jn 3:16; 1 Jn 4:19).

~~ Author Unknown ~~

**YOUR LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER  
WILL PROVE TO THE WORLD  
THAT YOU ARE MY DISCIPLES.**

JOHN 13:35 NLT

