



Whispering Hills

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Growing Together

VOLUME X, ISSUE IV

October 23, 2022

SUNDAY Gathering Times

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

Leadership

Elders:

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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)



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.

Are you **operating** in
the flesh or the Spirit?

The Flesh	The Spirit
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- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| - Lies | - Truth |
| - Control | - Peace |
| - Manipulations | - Humility |
| - Lust | - Patience |
| - Adultery | - Submission |
| - Fornication | - Purity |
| - Distrust | - Self Control |
| - Jealousy | - Faith |
| - Defensiveness | - Seeks God |
| - Pride | - Gentleness |
| - Fear | - Loving |
| - Greed | |
| - Idolatry | |



Continuous PRAYERS

Walter Simon, Mack Cloud, Ron Forge, Pat Harper, Patricia Skinner



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, 23 **O**ctober @ 09:30 **A**M): Book of **Colossians** 4:1 - 18
- [3] **Ladies Bible Class** (Every **W**ednesday in **O**ctober @ 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM): conducted virtually [**Duncanville**]
- [4] **Mike Harper** (Sis Harper's son) passed away from a massive heart attack (previously experienced brain cancer) [18]



Anniversaries
and Birthdays



- [23] Ann Busby
 [23] Santos Spataro
 [29] Elvin Bell



**FOOD FOR
THOUGHT**

I Need You To Help Me Get To Heaven

“Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time” (1 Pet 1:3-5). Notice how Peter gives praise to God. He is praised as the Father of the Incarnate Son (Raised this Jesus from the dead) and has given men eternal redemption. God made this Jesus to be Lord and Christ (Ac 2:36). The Christian's Hope is in Him (1 Cor 15:20; 1 Tim 1:1).

Mercy is used to describe God's Kindness in bringing in the sinner and unworthy to share in His Salvation and in the riches of Christ (Rom 11:30-32; 16:9; Eph 2:1-7; Tit 3:5). By His Kindness, God begat again unto a living hope (1 Pet 1:23). This phrase describes the conversion of a Christian. It is completed when one believes and obeys the command to be baptized and, therefore, comes in contact with the saving blood of Christ (Rom 6:3, 4). It is at baptism one rises to walk in the newness of life. At this point, a Christian has a living hope. When this life is over, one will live eternally with Him in heaven.

The Christian's hope is an inheritance (a settled/secure possession of reality not to be taken away). Three phrases are used to describe its permanence: **incorruptible** (imperishable). Eternal and cannot be changed by destruction or decay; **undefiled** (cannot be polluted with impurities); will **not fade away**. It will not wear out or waste away. It has been set aside and is waiting for Christians. Jesus has prepared the inheritance for His Disciples (Jn 14:1-3).

God provide guidance through this life keeping Christians safe for the eternal salvation. "If God is for us who is against us?" (Rom 8:31). This is a great assurance for Christians. It is conditioned by faith (Eph 2:8, 9). Christians are guarded by the power of God through faith (believe, trust and obey Him). When one does this, God protects. He does not protect one from the troubles, sorrows and problems of life; but, enables one to bear (1 Cor 10:13). If a Christian is faithful to God, God will allow anything to abolish, Spiritually (Rom 8:18, 28, 35).

We are pretty independent in our thinking regarding our salvation. Not considering how our fellow Christians' influence on our salvation nor about our influence on theirs. Perhaps, it's pretty much up to each, individually. But, the Scriptures indicate the exact opposite is actually true. We seriously need the help of our brothers and sisters in Christ to help us get to Heaven. They seriously need our help on their Spiritual journey. Perhaps it's because we do not realize how important our influence is; we tend to be careless, often are in our actions toward one other. Maybe this is also one reason why so many members of the Lord's church are as weak as they are Spiritually. One of the main sources of Spiritual strengthening is going largely neglected.

The Bible refers to the church as the "*house of God*" (1 Tim 3:15). Each member is like a living brick within the structure of that house (1 Pet 2:5). If one brick is missing from a house, the whole house is weakened. The bricks around the hole left by the missing brick become extra stressed due to the lack of support from the one missing. This presents a serious situation, even if only one brick is missing. Would you buy a house missing even one brick?

Now imagine what it would be like if five or ten bricks were missing, or twenty or thirty, scattered throughout the house. We would quickly become concerned about structural integrity. We would wonder if it was safe to live in that house. The image such a house would present would be extremely negative. Why would we come to such quick, clear and obvious conclusions in regard to a physical house missing a bunch of bricks, but we don't seem to give much thought at all to what a serious state of affairs it is when a number of living bricks are missing from the Lord's house? We normally emphasize the responsibility of faithful church attendance (Heb 10:25). But if we're only getting the point that it is obligatory for a Christian who would be faithful to attend church services as often as possible, then we're missing most of the teaching in that context.

There are major reasons for faithful church attendance. One obvious is to pay God proper respect through worship. Another is to nurture our personal Spiritual strength as much as possible. We need to worship and study when the church meets because we become stronger (Heb 10:23). A third, very important reason is our fellow Christians need strength from us (Heb 10:24). We encourage as we worship and study together. Learning His Word, praying, singing together encourage each other. Joining together in like worship strengthens us. The nature of that strengthening can only occur when we are together (1 Pet 5:10). Truly, I need you to help me get to Heaven. *Will you help me? ...*

~~ Author Unknown ~~

