



# Whispering Hills

## CHURCH OF CHRIST

— GROWING TOGETHER —

VOLUME II, ISSUE III

February 19, 2023

### 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:

James R. Jones  
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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.

## How To Overcome Negative Thoughts: Replace Them With God's Truth

Combat negative thoughts by fighting back with God's Word. Write out these truths and recite them often if necessary until they become part of your beliefs. Pray and ask God to help you truly believe them. That's the kind of prayer He delights in answering!

1. When you are tempted to think, "I can't figure it out," think instead, "God will direct my steps" (Proverbs 3:5-6).
2. When you are tempted to think, "It's impossible," think instead, "All things are possible" (Luke 18:27).
3. When you find yourself thinking, "I'm not smart enough," remember that God says He will give you wisdom (1 Corinthians 1:30).
4. When times are difficult and you feel like you can't go on, remember that God promises that His grace is sufficient for you (2 Corinthians 12:9).
5. When you don't think you can manage a situation, remember that God has promised that He will supply all your needs (Philippians 4:19).
6. When you are afraid, remember that God has not given you a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7).
7. When you feel alone, remind yourself of the truth that says that He will never leave you (Hebrews 13:5).
8. When you have made a mistake and find it difficult to forgive yourself, remember that God has already forgiven you (Romans 8:1).
9. When you feel unloved, remember the truth that God loves you (John 3:16).



### Continuous PRAYERS

Walter Simon, Mack Cloud, Ron Forge, Pat Harper,  
Patricia Skinner, Don Zeno, Mary Glaster



### General

Greg Owens (Bro Owens' brother)  
Jessica McCants (Bro Ramsay's daughter)  
Wesley Pollard (Bro/Sis Simon's brother-in-law)  
Baltimore Hernandez (Bro Spataro's brother-in-law)  
Miguel Graves, Jr (friend of Bro Owens, Jr)  
Christopher White (Sis White's son)  
Chantez Thomas (Bro Williams' cousin)  
Claudia Springer (Sis Williams' sister)  
Zaira Arteaga (Bro Ramsay's daughter friend)  
Ronnie Anderson (Bro Owens' friend)  
LeCreshia Phillips (Bro Ramsay's friend)  
Charlie Malone (Sis Gray's Uncle)

## 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, 17 **F**ebruary @ 09:30 **A**M): Book of **H**ebrews 4:1 - 10
- [3] **L**adies **B**ible **C**lass (Every **W**ednesday in **F**ebruary @ 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM): conducted virtually [Duncanville]
- [4] **F**ederal **H**oliday: **P**resident's **D**ay (**M**onday, **F**ebruary 20, 2023)
- [5] **D**ay of **R**ecognition: **D**aylight **S**avings **T**ime (**S**unday, **M**arch 12, 2023 @ 02:00 AM) [Spring forward **1** hour]
- [6] **S**is **B**ell was under the weather last week, **BUT** is improving daily [12 Feb]
- [7] **C**harlie **M**alone (Sis Gray's Uncle) was evaluated for surgery [12 Feb]
- [8] **R**ashan **J**ackson (Sis Gray's sister-in-law son) passed away [12 Feb]



HELLO  
**February**

[20] Ricqui Brager

[22] Mari Williams

[18] Kevin and Mari Williams



**FOOD FOR  
THOUGHT**

### **“Blessed Are The Pure In Heart”**

There are many doors into the life of blessedness. It does not depend on outward possessions (worldly goods or high birth). There is no soul of man, however illiterate, lonely or poor, not to step suddenly into this life of beatitude and begin to drink of the river making glad the city of God. Christ *lived* this life before He described it and has opened the doors for us. If you cannot enter by the gate of purity, can you not come in by that which is reserved for those who are: poor in spirit, mourn, meek, hunger and thirst after righteousness, merciful, pure in heart and peacemakers? Notice the *passive* side inherited of the blessed life in Christ. These dispositions do not purchase blessedness, but to cultivate them is to be blessed. On the *positive* side are mercy, purity, peace and willingness to suffer all things for Christ, which are to be anticipated in Him (1 Cor 13:1-13)!

Jesus was teaching in Galilee concerning the gospel of the kingdom. These teachings (Mt 5:3-12) are called the beatitudes. The impression was clearly conveyed all the sayings were spoken at one time and constitute one sermon (Mt 5:1-7:29; Lk 6:17-49). These important sayings were repeated again and again throughout His ministry. Repetition is one of the best ways of teaching.

Jesus says, “**Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God**” (Mt 5:8). Those who are pure, sincere, clean in motive and purpose. The one who does the right thing for the right reason. God is concerned not only with what one does, but the motives prompting. He wants the act and thought to be [pure] right. One must not only act right, but think right. Sincerity or integrity is not sufficient in and by itself. One may be sincere, but be wrong in God’s Sight. One must not only do right, but be sincere in worship and service of God. Only the pure in heart will see God in heaven (Mt 7:21-23). The impure in heart will not be in heaven.

Whether it is drinking water, the food we eat or the air we breathe, we understand contamination is harmful to our bodies. We can easily become obsessed with ingesting only the finest and purest food and water. If we are not careful, this can become an idol. But what about the contamination of our heart? Do we obsess with its purity as much as or more than our body? Jesus provides some perspective (Mt 15:17-20).

Jesus, our King, makes a powerful promise. If we work at keeping our heart free from contaminants like He listed above, we will see God. What does He mean by this “we will see God?” What does John the Baptist say, “No man hath seen God at any time...” (Jn 1:18). What does God, Himself, say to Moses “And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live” (Exo 33:20).

Keeping our heart pure certainly comes with blessings in this life. Solomon says, “He that loveth pureness of heart, *for* the grace of his lips the king *shall be* his friend” (Pro 22:11). What we can know with certainty is after this life, the blessing of a pure heart is to see our Father—to be in His presence, at last and forever.

The battle and struggle to guard our heart from sin and the stains of this world are worth it now and when our life here is finished. Someday the trumpet will sound and the Lord shall descend. We’ll be clothed in His brightness and transported to Him in clouds of the sky. On that joyful morning, we’ll be gathered to His glory, with a new spirit-flesh; no longer corruptible, no longer able to be contaminated, forever pure, ready for our portion and inheritance in heaven with Him (1 The 4:13-18; 1 Cor 15:50-58). The promise of our King, Jesus.

“Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure” (1 Jn 3:2, 3). **Beloved** is a term of love. Christians are God’s children and when Jesus returns, we shall see Him as He is. The Apostle John emphasizes our hope of being with Him in heaven; to be like Him. The Apostle Paul teaches we will have a Spiritual body perfectly adapted to the Spiritual world as this physical body is to the physical world (1 Cor 15:42-44). We will not know what it will look like until it is revealed upon His return. Everyone having the Christian’s hope must strive to live a pure life. Thus, looking for the coming of Christ is to be ready, always. Only His blood can cleanse one from their sins (1 Jn 1:7). We must continually strive to live a pure life in Christ until He returns because He is coming back (2 Cor 7:1; 1 Tim 5:22; Jas 4:8; 1 Pet 1:22).

~~ Author Unknown ~~



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“And I say also unto thee,  
That thou art Peter, and upon this rock  
I will build my church;  
and the gates of hell shall not  
prevail against it” (Mt 16:18).



Study to show thyself approved unto God  
a workman that needeth not to be ashamed  
Rightly dividing the word of truth.

2Timothy 2:15



**2023 Weekly Historical Bible Reading**

<b>February 19, 2023</b>	<b>Numbers</b>	18 - 20
<b>February 20, 2023</b>	<b>Numbers</b>	21 - 22
<b>February 21, 2023</b>	<b>Numbers</b>	23 - 25
<b>February 22, 2023</b>	<b>Numbers</b>	26 - 27
<b>February 23, 2023</b>	<b>Numbers</b>	28 - 30
<b>February 24, 2023</b>	<b>Numbers</b>	31 - 32
<b>February 25, 2023</b>	<b>Numbers</b>	33 - 34
<b>February 26, 2023</b>	<b>Numbers</b>	35 - 36

*Sermon Notes*

A series of horizontal lines provided for writing sermon notes.