

Noteworthy

Afternoon Singing: *Today* at 5pm in the auditorium.

Kid's Review Class: *Tonight* in classroom #7, shortly after the PM service.

Ladies' Bible Study: *Tomorrow evening* at Kaitlyn Sadler's home (7PM). *This will be the last study before the summer break. Ladies' class will then resume in October.*

Young Adult Study: Our next study will be at Bucky and Robyn Day's home on May 29th(7:30pm).

Prayer Requests: *Our brethren:* Kayla Cunningham, Marian Church, Mildred Church, Betty Eubanks, Linda James, Butch Morgan, Dottie Reynolds, Wayne Ryland, Danielle Sheffield, and the Wharton family. Leon Miller had successful surgery and the tumor is benign. He is now recovering well. Please keep in prayer Mary Henderson also, as she continues to undergo testing for her health concerns.

Our friends and family: Continue also in prayer for Elnora Bennet (Moses Stevens' sister), Pat Dickey, Hal Lewis, Joan Mott (A friend of the Days), Heather Tyre, Waylon Townsend, and Canera Wisdom (Larry Wisdom's mother).

Group Meeting: Group (3) meets tonight after worship. Please make an effort to be involved in this good work.

Traveling/Out of town: Betty Eubanks, Larry Hicks, Bob and Steph Marschall, Kirk Marschall, and David & Kyoko Williams. Paula Sullivan will also be traveling this week.

Gospel Meetings: There are two in the area coming up next week. The Fortune Road Church of Christ (in Kissimmee) will hold a meeting May 15-17 with Adam Willingham as the guest speaker. Also, the Trilacoochee Church of Christ (in Dade City) will hold a meeting May 17-22 with Derek Long as the guest speaker. See the bulletin board in the foyer for times, and let us make it a point to attend when possible.

Assignments for Worship Service

Wednesday Night: 5/13/15

Song Leader: Ben Cunningham
 Opening Prayer: Paul Lloyd
 Invitation: Larry Hicks
 Announcements: Mike Sadler
 Closing Prayer: Nick Ross
 Parking Lot: Colby Sadler

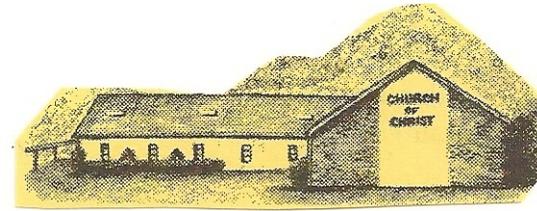
Sunday Evening: 5/17/15

Song Leader: Charles Rawdon
 Opening Prayer: Jim Elliot
 Lord's Table: Clay Sadler
 Announcements: Larry Hicks
 Closing Prayer: Butch Morgan
 Parking Lot: David Williams

Sunday Morning: 5/17/15

Lord's Table: Clay Sadler (B)
 Sherman Johnson (C)
 Serving: Norm Blackburn
 Bucky Day
 Song Leader: Bob Marshcall
 Opening Prayer: Paul Lloyd

Announcements: Larry Hicks
 Closing Prayer: Nick Groenhof
 Parking Lot: (9:00) Leon Miller
 (9:50) Ed Lawson



**Lakeland Hills
 Leader**

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ELDERS

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SERVICES

Sunday
 Bible Study 9:00 A.M.
 Morning Services 9:50 A.M.
 Evening Services 6:00 P.M.
 Wednesday
 Bible Study 7:30 P.M.

DEACONS:

Robert Marschall
 Charles Rawdon
 Michael Sadler
 Moses Stevens
 David Williams

EVANGELIST:

Ian Rice (863) 213-9795

If You Had Been There

(Note: Please read Acts 2 and keep your Bible open to it as you read this article.)

Try to imagine what it would have been like to have been in Jerusalem on that first Pentecost after the crucifixion of Jesus. That morning a sound like that of a strong wind would have gotten your attention and drawn you toward a multitude gathering around twelve men. As you drew closer to investigate you would have seen something really strange as these men appeared to have fire sitting on them and were speaking a lot of different languages.

You would have been both amazed and perplexed and known you were seeing something significant, even though you couldn't figure out what it meant. As you were thinking about it what it could possibly mean, you would have heard one of the twelve respond to the accusation from some that he and his companions were drunk. Maybe you would have thought the alcohol explanation was a possibility or maybe you wouldn't have, but the speaker, a man called Simon Peter, would have quickly dismissed that and turned your attention to a passage from the prophet Joel. As a regular at the synagogue you would have been somewhat familiar with this passage about God's Spirit being poured out, even

though you had never really understood all that it was saying. So, with the fire-like tongues on these men and their speaking different languages, you might have been eager to hear his explanation of all that the prophet had spoken of, but to your surprise he didn't spend much time on the prophecy of Joel; instead, he began to talk about a man who had been killed about fifty days earlier.

You might have heard about some of the man's miracles, but imagine the surprise you would have felt when this Peter claimed the man's crucifixion was part of God's predetermined plan. And not only did he make that claim, he made an even more astounding claim when he said that God raised this man from the dead. Perhaps you would have wanted to turn and walk away in disbelief of such strange claims, but the great sound you had heard, the fire-like tongues sitting on these men, their use of many languages, along with the matter of fact proclamation cause you to stay so that you might hear more.

If you had stayed, you would have heard him use David's prophecies in Psalm 16 and Psalm 110 to establish that the Messiah (or Christ) you had been looking for had to die and be raised from the dead. You would have then heard him assert that he and these other eleven men could give eyewitness testimony that one had indeed been raised from the dead—the Jesus you and others had wanted crucified about fifty

days previously. Yes, if you had been there that day you would have heard a sermon that cut people to the heart as it caused them to realize they had killed the one whom God had made Lord and Christ. Perhaps you would have been among those whose conscience moved them to interrupt and ask, "What shall we do?"

If you had been there and cut to the heart, you would not have been told that there was nothing you could do to right the great wrong done at Passover, but would have heard, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call." Now, what you would have done if you had been there that day? Would you have been one of the three thousand who, after some more words of exhortation, was baptized that day, or would you have walked away still feeling guilty?

Obviously, no one reading this today was there, but if we read Acts 2 carefully, we should see that "those who gladly received his word" because of the sound like a wind, the tongues like fire, the foreign languages, fulfilled Scripture, and the testimony of eyewitnesses didn't ask why they had to be baptized when the thief on the cross had not been baptized. No one there that day argued with Peter that grace eliminated all works of men, including baptism. Those who were cut

to the heart and convinced that Jesus was indeed the Christ did just as they were instructed without any argument.

Again, we weren't there that day, but why should our response be any different? If we understand that we have sinned and are cut to the heart with guilt, why don't we simply do the same thing they did? Why argue with the gracious offer of salvation? The same question could be asked of us that was asked of Saul (later known as the apostle Paul) a few years after Pentecost, "And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord" (Acts 22:16).

All quotes taken from the New King James Version, copyright 1994, Thomas Nelson Publishers.

- Written by John R. Gibson

Denominationalism

It is hard for most people to conceive of Christianity apart from denominationalism. When you begin to try to teach them they must leave denominationalism and simply become New Testament Christians, they look at you with an expression of bewilderment. Most people in the religious world have not stopped to think just how contradictory and Christ-denying denominationalism is to the New Testament teaching.

Let us look at a few things denominationalism does:

1. Denominationalism mocks the prayer of Christ and encourages infidelity (John 17: 20, 21).
2. It repudiates the passages on unity (I Cor. 1:10; Phil. 1:27; Eph. 4: 1 - 7).
3. It exalts human names above the divine (Acts 4:12).
4. It makes the God of heaven contradict himself; having one preacher preach one thing and another to preach something entirely different.
5. It declares that God's way is not sufficient by its use of the creeds of men (cf. II Tim. 3: 16 - 17).
6. Denominationalism demands acceptance of other gospels (cf. Gal. 1: 6 - 9).
7. It would make Christ a Polygamist, having many wives (cf. Rom. 7:4).

Friend, if you are a member of a denomination, will you not consider these truths and flee denominationalism and become a New Testament Christian before it is everlastingly too late?

- Written by Donald Townsley