

**Noteworthy**

**Prayer Requests:** Jo Anderson (*at Scott Lake Health and Rehabilitation*), Joe Brown (*ongoing medical*), Mildred Church (*shut in*), the Day family (*Robyn's father, Ricky, cancer*), Linda James (*at Northdale Rehab Center, 3030 Bears Ave., Tampa, FL 33618*), Paul Lloyd (*rehabilitation in Toledo, Ohio*), Linda McKenzie (*tending to mother's health*), Butch Morgan (*shut in*), Dottie Reynolds (*ongoing medical, needs encouragement*), DeeAnn Sprott (*recent gallbladder surgery and sickness*).

*Family and friends:* Marvin Brown (*from Plant City, cancer*), Ruth Fogel (*Jill Boyette's mother, cancer*), Ned Hicks (*Larry Hicks' father, ongoing medical*), Brian James (*cancer*), Diana Marcum (*Arlene Turner's sister, cancer*), John Marschall (*Bob's father*), Lyndell McReedy (*Cindy Hicks' aunt*), Betty Parrish (*Diana Jordan's mother*), Summer Rivera (*Erika Stevens' friend*), Alan Turner (*illness*).

**Out of Town:** Joe & Donna Brown, Bob & Stef Marschall.

**Group Meeting:** Group 1 will meet tonight after the PM worship service.

**Men's Bible Study:** The 4th Sunday of each month at 5 pm (*June 23rd*).

**Kids' Review:** Immediately following the PM worship assembly **tonight**.

**Area Meetings:** The Trilacoochee Church of Christ has a meeting this week (*Jun. 9-14*) with Nathan Peeler of Perry, FL. Other meeting flyers are also posted in the foyer. Please see bulletin board for details regarding those.

**Remember and encourage** others who are struggling physically and spiritually.

**Assignments for Worship Service**

**Wednesday Night: 6/12/19**

Song Leader: Joe Brown  
 Opening Prayer: Jordan Lawson  
 Invitation: Clay Sadler  
 Announcements: Larry Hicks  
 Closing Prayer: Colby Sadler  
 Recordings: Trent Stevens  
 Usher: Larry Hicks

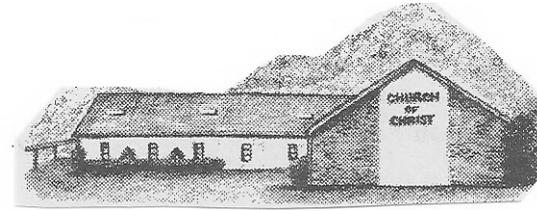
**Sunday Evening: 6/16/19**

Song Leader: Colby Sadler  
 Opening Prayer: Steve Parker  
 Lord's Table: Ryan Boyett  
 Announcements: Leon Miller  
 Closing Prayer: Bucky Day  
 Recordings: Clay Sadler  
 Usher: Larry Wisdom

**Sunday Morning: 6/16/19**

Lord's Table: Ryan Boyett (B)  
 Ed Lawson (C)  
 Serving: Jordan Lawson  
 Jerry Williams  
 Song Leader: Clay Sadler

Opening Prayer: Larry Hicks  
 Announcements: Leon Miller  
 Closing Prayer: Neil Miller  
 Recordings: Trent Stevens  
 Usher: Gus Johnson



**Lakeland Hills  
 Leader**

**LAKELAND HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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**ELDERS**

Larry Hicks (863) 899-7405  
 Leon Miller (863) 640-6378  
 Larry Wisdom (863) 583-4311

**SERVICES**

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

**DEACONS:**

Robert Marschall  
 Michael Sadler  
 Moses Stevens  
 David Williams

**EVANGELIST:**

Ian Rice (863) 213-9795

***“The Tragedy of a Lost Soul”***

One of the striking things about the teachings of Jesus is the way He gets to the heart of every issue. There is no better illustration than the following: "For what is a man profited if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" (**Matt. 16:26**). According to the context, Jesus is talking about the value of the soul of a person, not his physical body. In reality, man is a soul. In the beginning, God said, "Let us make man in Our image, according to our likeness...And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being (a living soul, KJV)" (**Gen.1:26; 2:7**). The questions Jesus raised in **Matthew 16:26** have some sobering implications:

**1. Humans possess an eternal, immortal nature.** Mankind has a physical body and a soul or spirit. When a man dies, the spirit leaves the body (**Jas. 2:26**). Observe that James said "the body without the spirit is dead," not the spirit without the body is dead. The word of God teaches us that "the spirit will return to God who gave it" (**Eccl. 12:7**). Jesus speaks of "both soul and body" in **Matthew 10:28**. Such

false philosophies as atheism, humanism, and evolution deny this truth---that man has a soul or spirit. This makes man merely a physical creature with no more soul or spirit than a rock.

**2. The soul is our most priceless possession.** It is worth more than all material things combined. It is of divine origin (**Eccl. 12:7; Heb. 12:9**), eternal in duration (**Matt. 25:46; Mk. 9:43-46**), and can transcend earthly relationships (**Jn. 4:24**). Concerning the soul, the Apostle Peter stated: "...you were not redeemed with corruptible things...but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot...Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit...having been born again not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever" (**1 Pet. 1:18-23**).

**3. The soul can be sold or exchanged.** Some people exchange their souls for pleasure (**2 Tim. 3:4**). Others sell out for popularity, loving the approval of men more than the praise of God (**Jn. 12:43**). Many exchange their souls for the love of the world (**1 Jn. 2:15-17**). Then there are those who trade their souls for error and the false philosophies of men (**Col. 2:8**). Others trade their souls for material prosperity (**Lk. 12:16-21**).

**4. Whatever the exchange, it is foolish and costly.** The world and all that is in it

can never satisfy the deep, vital need of the soul in order to be at peace with God. This world and all its material contents will ultimately be destroyed by fire (**2 Pet. 3:10**). At death we must leave everything behind. The Apostle Paul stated: "For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out" (**1 Tim. 6:7**).

**5. There is no loss as tragic as that of the soul.** The loss of health, of a child, of one's family, of one's life in attempting to gain the "whole world" would be tragic enough, but they are not comparable to the losing of one's soul. The damnation of the soul is a multiple loss: the beauties of heaven are forfeited and the agonies of hell must be endured forever. A lost soul in hell is everlastingly abandoned "from the presence of the Lord" (**2 Thess. 1:9**); there is no help or hope for such a horrible condition. A soul in hell is lost for all eternity!

What could possibly be more important to us than to obey "the gospel of Christ...the power of God to salvation" (**Rom. 1:16**) and do whatever the Lord commands and teaches in the New Testament for our soul's eternal salvation. Jesus, while on earth, stated: "For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost" (**Lk. 19:10**).

~ R. J. Evans

## "Some Vital Questions"

Here are some religious questions to ask. I hope for you to ask them with me, and let us see if we can find some answers.

### How Many Churches Does Jesus Have?

Who should I ask? Religious authorities? My friends? Why not ask Jesus? He said He would build His church. "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it." (**Matthew 16:18**) Why not ask Paul? He said there is one body. "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling;" (**Eph. 4:4**) We cannot keep there from being many different churches if men continue insisting on doing their own will instead of the Lord's, but we can refuse to be a part of the confusion.

### How Can I Be Saved?

Who should I ask? Just anybody? A neighbor? Some stranger? Why not ask Jesus? He says that it is not just those that hear, but who do. "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. But everyone who hears these sayings of

Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall." (**Matthew 7:24-27**) Not just those that say, but who do.

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven." (**Matthew 7:21**) He said that we must believe that He is the Christ. "Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins." (**John 8:24**) He said that we must repent. "I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish." (**Luke 13:3**) He said we must confess. "Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven." (**Matthew 10:32-33**) He said we must be baptized. "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned." (**Mark 16:16**)

These are vital questions that each one of us must answer for ourselves. We must be sure that we go to the right source and get the correct answers because the eternal destiny of our souls depends upon it.

~ Ian Rice