

The Lakeland Hills Leader

Lakeland Hills Blvd church of Christ

2510 Lakeland Hills Blvd
Lakeland, FL 33805
(863) 688-4336

Schedule of Services

Sunday

9:00 AM Bible Study
9:50 AM Worship
5:00 PM Worship

Wednesday

7:00 PM Bible Study

Visit our Website:

www.lakelandhillschurchofchrist.com

For Sermon & Class outlines,
Bible Study Materials and
Other Information.

Visit our Facebook Page:

www.facebook.com/LakelandHillschurchofchrist for events,
information, and links to our
YouTube Archives

Visit us on YouTube:

www.youtube.com/channel/UCu7AG_3jUtpBDlr2NPqB3iw for
Live Streams and Video
Archives.

Elders

Bob Marschall
Leon Miller
Larry Wisdom

Deacons

Bucky Day
Sherman Johnson
Michael Sadler
David Williams

Evangelist

Kent Heaton

Everyone, One

By T. Sean Sullivan

Every one of us is involved in an urgent situation wherein we have one opportunity to succeed, and failure means disaster. Now, that certainly sounds like an exaggeration, doesn't it? However, this is actually an understatement. We only have one life, one opportunity for success, and if we miss it, it is an eternal disaster. What are you doing with your life? There ought to be an urgency when we understand that we only have one. Let's open the Scriptures to consider these singular realities; the things wherein each of us has only one.

We Have One Life: Life is a gift from God. Genesis 1:26-27, we read, "*Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.' So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.*" What have you done with your gift? Are you using your time to reach the most important goals?

This life-opportunity provides for the goal of growing toward goals like: Being the best person: To be honest, full of integrity, morality, sincerity, respect, and love—*these traits characterize the best person we can be* (Gal. 5:22-25). Being the best worker: Whatever we do, we seek to do it well, with drive and passion—working, "*...as to the Lord, and not to men*" (Eph. 6:5-8). Being the best spouse: Loving and providing for the one with whom we share our life. Loving, supporting, and working with each other, as you should (Eph. 5:22-33). Being the best parent: Loving and providing for our children, as we should. Raising them "*in the training and admonition of the Lord*" (Eph. 6:4). Everyone has one life. What are you going to do with it?

We Have One Soul: To properly understand, we don't "have a soul"—*we are a soul*. Our true selves are immortal souls (Genesis 2:7 KJV). The Apostle Peter said that "he" was inside his tent (body) and that "he" would put off his tent (2 Peter 1:13-14). The "living and achieving" from our first point must now be directed with the understanding of a far greater goal to be achieved.

We tend to ignore the things we can't see—*out of sight, out of mind*. Since we cannot see the soul, we may not think about it at all. So many people pursue this world, as if there is nothing else beyond: They are focused on temporary goals (Luke 12:15, 16-21). Its lusts (1 John 2:15-17). Its sinful works (Gal. 5:19-21). If we ignore our souls, we will fail (2 Thess. 1:6-10). Everyone has one soul. What are you doing for it?

We Have One Plan: So many people have been convinced that we're all going to Heaven, we are just taking different roads to get there. Why would God give directions if "whatever man decides" will get him where he needs to go? Believing we can find our own way, or that there are many ways, rejects both God and His word—*putting man, and man's ways, in His place* (Rom. 10:1-3). Also, makes Jesus a liar, since He said, "*I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me,*" in John 14:6.

The Scriptures reveal only one plan (Rom. 1:16). In Acts 2:38, what did Peter state as required for salvation? Did he commend them for their religious dedication and say that their own way would get them there? No, Peter instructed those who believed to “*repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins...*” In Acts 8:5-13, what did the people do to be saved? Did they refuse the words of Philip and return to their worship on Mount Gerizim? No, they heard, believed, and were baptized (v.4). In Acts 8:26-39, what did Philip tell the Eunuch? Did he tell him to go on his own way, that all roads lead to Heaven? No, he taught him the gospel, which he heard, believed, confessed the Son of God, and was baptized. Everyone has one plan. What are you going to do with it?

We have been given an urgent situation wherein we must seek to be saved—*it is our life!* We only have one life; one opportunity for true success (Heb. 9:27). True success is being a motivated achiever, a driven believer, and an eternal life receiver. Many have found themselves so busy with achieving worldly success that they do not take care of the needs of the soul. They never make time for the one plan that can save them and give them the hope of eternity. What about you? God has blessed you with yet another opportunity to consider your soul, so what are you going to do? Come to God, through Jesus Christ His Son, in obedience to His one gospel plan, right now!