

# WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST



“every disciple that is perfect shall be as his master.” Luke 6:40b

## Requisites Of Acceptable Worship

“God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”- John 4:24

Three requisites of acceptable worship are set forth in this verse: 1-We must worship God. 2-We must worship God in spirit. 3-We must worship God in truth.

The first commandment forbade the worship of any other being. It said, “**Thou shalt have no other gods before me.**” (Deut. 5:7). Verse 9 of Deuteronomy 5 reads, “**Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them; for I, Jehovah, thy God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the third and upon the fourth generation of them that hate me.**” Hence, however sincere might be the idol worshipper, his worship is highly displeasing to God, because it fails in the first of the requisites above given. It is not directed to God.

Secondly, the worship must be in spirit, i.e., proceeding from a sincere heart and rendered with attention and understanding. This forbids worship that is merely formal—worship that consists of rites and ceremonies in which the worshipper may engage without attention. Catholicism is a system of such worship where the worshipper may not know, and indeed is not expected to know, the significance of much in which he engages.

There is some danger that this type of worship should come to obtain in Christ’s church. The unvarying routine of services, the formal and mechanical participation in song, prayer, and the Lord’s Supper, the failure to give attention and enter heartily into the worship leads to that which is not in spirit.

This is that which Jesus rebuked in the Pharisees in Matthew 15:9—vain worship. Such people as this worship him with their lips and give utterance to phrases of worshipful nature, but the heart is not in it, and God is not pleased. We should ever be on our guard that we do not fall into a mechanical, formal, heartless type of devotion to God.

“**This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.**” - Matthew 15:8,9

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RECORDS 5/24/2009

SERMONS 5/31/2009

Sun 10 AM Bible Study: 43  
Sun 11 AM Assembly: 66  
Sun 6 PM Assembly: 40  
Weds 7 PM Bible Study: 43  
43CONTRIBUTION: \$1780

AM: Jerry Manning  
THE SPIRIT BEHIND OUR PRAYERS  
PM: Jerry Manning

WHY WE WORSHIP

### WANT TO KNOW YOURSELF?

“For the word of God is quick and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” - Hebrews 4:12

#### SERVICES

Sunday 10 AM Bible Study  
Sunday 11 AM, 6 PM Assembly  
Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study  
Office Phone (803) 794-5320  
*Nursery provided*

*Bible Classes for all ages*

#### LADIES CLASS

2nd Tuesday of month 7-9 PM

#### EVANGELIST

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### “PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** Lamar Reeves, Beryl Parks, Nina Ruth Meadows (Marcella Klieves' mother), Jack and Elma Berrier, Lynn Drago (Jerry's sister) and Phyllis Johnson.
- Carolyn Lee continues to suffer from back pain
- Prayers are requested for Ayrel Herrington.
- Jerry Manning made it back from conducting a Gospel Meeting in New York. He was able to preach the word to many (> 200 in attendance at a congregation that normally has 60 or so) and study with many people. Pray that his efforts in the word will bring forth much fruit.
- Continue to remember Courtney Gamble and her aunt Margaret Gamble as they return from a trip to Japan.
- Prayers for Lynn Drago are especially coveted as she is in final stages of cancer.
- Remember all these, those that are grieving and recovering from loss, and brother Manning and those he studies the Bible with, in your prayers.

**"But we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope" - Romans 5:3,4**

### “AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- Young Ladies class starts June 5, 6:30 pm at Vernicia Matthews' home. Please see Lynn Manning if you need a book.
- Transportation is needed for sisters Betty Mathis and Marilyn Brooks.
- WORSHIP SERVICE training for the men, Wed 6 pm.
- Volunteers needed to clean the building. Sign up sheet in the foyer.
- Foundation Class, Saturdays 11 am at the building. All are invited.
- Visual Aids help needed for VBS, see brother Manning.

**"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." - Romans 5:1**

### “REJOICE WITH THEM THAT DO REJOICE!” - Romans 12:15

- Kelly Kennedy graduates from BC High School, Thursday 6/4 at 12:30 pm at the Coliseum.
- Ryan Sheppard graduates from White Knoll High School, Monday 6/8 at 11:30 am at the Coliseum.

Our congratulations to these fine young people and prayers for their continued success in the world and faithfulness to God in the future.

**“... forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.” - Philippians 3:13,14**

**Let Your Light Shine in 2009!**

### **Requisites Of Acceptable Worship—(Continued from page 1)**

Finally, worship, to be acceptable, must be in truth. To be “in truth” is to be according to God's word. Jesus said, "Sanctify them through thy truth; thy word is truth." (John 17:17). Any act of worship—however sincere might be the worshipper—is not acceptable to God if it is not in harmony with the scriptures. This teaches us that God will accept only that which he has specifically set forth in the scriptures for us to do in worship. We walk by faith and not by sight, (2 Cor. 5:7), and since faith comes by hearing God's word, (Rom. 10:17), we can offer in faith only that which is set forth in his word.

This will exclude from our worship everything not specifically mentioned therein. By this rule, we can never use instrumental music in worship, because it is nowhere commanded or even mentioned in Christian worship. Therefore, we cannot engage in it “by faith.”

True, David used instrumental music, but he also offered animal sacrifices and burned incense in worship. We do not take our orders from David today. Christ is our lawgiver and guide. (Matt. 17:5; 28:18; Heb. 1:1-2). He has nowhere authorized instrumental music, the Holy Spirit-inspired apostles did not sanction it, no New Testament writer mentioned it in Christian worship, and no apostolic church practiced it. To engage in it is to fail to worship “in truth.” But God is pleased when one only worships in truth. Therefore, instrumental music is not pleasing to him.

The items of worship are set forth in Acts 2:42 and Eph. 5:19. These are (1) teaching, (2) singing, (3) prayer, (4) the contribution, and (5) the Lord's Supper. These items were observed on every first day of the week by the church in apostolic times. (1 Cor. 16:2; Acts 20:7).

**“And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them ...” - Acts 20:7a**

The disciples were directed by men who were empowered with the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:42; 2:1). We can do no less than this and be assured to pleasing God today. What pleased him then will surely please him today. All else must be rigidly excluded from worship and service to God. **“Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.” (1 Sam. 15:22).**

**- Henry Leo Boles, 1874-1946, Gospel Preacher**

### “... PEOPLE, ZEALOUS OF GOOD WORKS.” - Titus 2:14

**WORK TEAM SCHEDULE: 5/31—A 6/7—B 6/14—C 6/21—D**

**All members in the congregation are assigned to a Work Team  
Check your Work Team assignment—your participation is vital!**

**Let Your Light Shine in 2009!**