

THE BULLETIN—VOL 45, NUMBER 38, September 29, 2019

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: Spencer Strickland

PM: Harvey Allen

A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services. Come see!

**"I have planted, Apollos watered;
but God gave the increase." - 1 Corinthians 3:6**

**ARE YOU PLANTING OR WATERING OR TENDING?
WHAT THEN?**

Test all things; hold fast that which is good. - 1 Thess 5:21

West Columbia Church of Christ
1701 Augusta Road
West Columbia SC 29169
www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org

**JOIN US IN
PRACTICING
NEW TESTAMENT
CHRISTIANITY
TODAY,
COME SEE!**

SERVICES

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

INFORMAL BIBLE STUDY

On Request
Everyone Welcome!
Bring your friends & Bible questions

EVANGELIST

Other than the members
none at present time
Full time man wanted

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WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

FROM MIKE MILES, GOSPEL PREACHER

One of the most interesting things about an Optimist and a Pessimist is that they are both right! Just ask them and they will let you know that what they believe is **The Way!**

In my role as a Psychologist I have found that people find in their life exactly what they are looking for. "Is the glass half empty or is it half full?" This is something one of our professors would ask to make a point. The answer? Yes!

Harry Pickup, Sr. would tell us preacher boys, "boys if you look for trouble – you are sure to find it! If you look for solutions – you'll find those too, **if you put God in the middle of it all.**" This came from an octogenarian who had preached for more than 60 years and been an Elder for more than 40. I felt then that he knew what he was talking about and living another 45 years has proved to me - he was right!!

The reality is that optimists tend to look at the future and pessimists tend to focus on the here and now. Both views have merit so as Christians maybe we should determine that we will be **optimistic realists.**

Our Father has promised us a perfect future in the life to come. He has given us all things to live this life here on earth in preparation for eternity. The realist part is that bad stuff happens to good people in the here and now and people don't always behave well. That will cause problems in this life.

Accept the premise that we must all walk this rocky road of life and we can do it by only seeing the bad and the ugly. Or we can keep our eyes open to the realism of daily living with a spiritual eye on heaven. Paul said it this way in Col. 3:2, **"Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth."** If we constantly think about heaven while we walk this uneven life on earth, heaven will be our home. I'm just Thinkin Out Loud.

Mike

[Lord willing, Mike and his wife Joyce will be here the next Saturday and Sunday]

www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org South Carolina 09/29/19

“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Don Blackwell, Merrie Christmus, Margaret Herring, Pat Joyner, Jan Kelleher, Gwen Pittman, Barbara and Melvin Reeder, Stephanie Rigney.

- Janet Boyd has shingles.
- Stephanie is in a lot of pain and is to see doctor Friday.
- Amy’s uncle passed away last week.
- Pat Joyner continues to suffer from severe dizziness, but was with us Wed PM though she isn’t better. Barbara Reeder continues in need of prayer, as well.
- Also, continue to remember: Jan Kelleher, Laura Nichols, and Steve Rigney.
- **Keep ALL these in your prayers**, that the Lord be merciful and pray also that we **all** grow in **faith, hope, love, humility, zeal, mercy, knowledge.**

“Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.” - 3 John 2

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **Men’s Breakfast!** This Saturday (10/5) 8 am at the Lizards thicket, 1824 Broad River Rd near I-26. Mike Miles will be there. The ladies will be meeting also with Joyce Miles.
- **FIRST SUNDAY!** All are invited to stay after the morning assembly to meet with each other, and also with Mike Miles and his wife Joyce, who is very interested in working with us.. He is a sound, experienced man. His resume is posted on the bulletin boards. At 6PM Saturday, the Gambles will be hosting a cookout at their house. **All are invited to these!** Ask for further details. All subject to the Lord’s will.

“But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing.” - 2 Thess. 3:13

“For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:” - 1 Peter 2:21

Test all things; hold fast that which is good. - 1 Thess 5:21

“PROVOKE TO LOVE AND GOOD WORKS” - Hebrews 10:24

Please re-read the article on right and **1 Timothy 3:15**. How we behave in the church (remembering that the church isn’t the building—it’s our brothers and sisters in Christ) is much more than just refraining from bad behavior. No, the apostle is saying we must actively participate and be involved in **good** behavior—i.e. Good works. We have a role to play as a lively stone (1 Peter 2:5) that has been added to the Lord’s church. Here’s one way we all ought to behave: Are you missing your brother or sister at bible class or the assembly? Well then, give them a call; write them a card, let them know they are missed. Love them, and fulfill the law of Christ.

“Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification.” - Romans 15:2

ORDER--AS RESPECTS DISCIPLINE

Good discipline is as essential to the moral health, peace, and prosperity of the church of Christ, as good doctrine. Without it no society can long subsist. The theory of discipline is not discipline itself; and, therefore, it is not discipline in the book, nor in the letter, but in the church, of which we speak.

...

Under a prudent and righteous administration of the affairs of the church, the purity and excellency of the Christian institution will be sustained--offences and apostasies will be of rare occurrence. The congregation, like a well ordered family, will move in harmony and affection--will not only grow and increase in the knowledge of God, but in favor and usefulness among the people. Its numbers will be increased, and its influence in the community will be sensibly and extensively felt. The imputation of licentious and unsound doctrine will be impotent, and the ignorance of foolish and wicked revilers will be put to shame and silence.

But when every one does what is right in his own eyes, and feels himself responsible to the oversight of no person; at liberty to absent himself from the brethren as often and as long as he pleases, despising government and the restraints of Christ; mingling in the society of them who profane that sacred name which he professes to worship and adore; indulging in loose behaviour and inattention to the study of God's Book; preferring the company of the enemies of the cross, the world that crucified his Saviour, to the society of those who fear God and keep his commandments, and still regarded as a brother in Christ: the zeal of Paul and the eloquence of Apollos would fail to sustain the gospel in the midst of such disorder and licentiousness.

- Alexander Campbell, 1788-1866, Gospel preacher
Excerpted from The Millennial Harbinger Extra 6 (October 1835): 513-518.

“These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly: But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.” - 1 Timothy 3:14,15

Our Savior

God has provided what we need to successfully resist Satan and to ensure our names are written in His Book of Life—His Word! Jesus is our example in this—Satan went after Him with everything he had. Read and study your Bible daily, follow it’s precepts, apply them to yourselves—**this** is how we will draw near to God.

“According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that *pertain* unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:”
- 2 Peter 1:3