

## CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Patchogue, NY 11772

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**Lancelot Watson- Evangelist**

Worship Opportunities

Sundays

Worship 10:30 a.m.

Bible Classes 9:30 a.m.

Mid-Week

Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

### Patchogue Church of Christ Patchogue, NY 11772

A multi-racial community of believers with a purpose and vision to live holy lives, fulfill the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ by serving each other and our community with compassion, love and the powerful gospel of Jesus Christ.

Records you Made:	3/08/15	3/01/15
Bible Classes	37	42
Worship Service	93	97
Contribution	\$1217.00	\$2414.00
Wed Bible Class	?	32
Baptisms/Placing membership	-	-

Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ send greetings. Ro 16:16

## Youth Corner

By  
Jamal Colson



### Guard Your Heart

Young people! There is a saying “if you know better, than do better.” We as young disciples and disciples in training need to first know better so we can do better. The knowing comes from one of our activities, reading and discussing the Word of God with one another. Take some time and read Proverbs 4:20-25:

*My son, pay attention to what I say; turn your ear to my words. 21 Do not let them out of your sight, keep them within your heart; 22 for they are life to those who find them and health to one's whole body. 23 Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it. 24 Keep your mouth free of perversity; keep corrupt talk far from your lips. 25 Let your eyes look straight ahead; fix your gaze directly before you.*

The scriptures teach us to pay attention. I need to hear that because I'm not always attentive. It's like trying to listen to someone when the big game is on. WE ARE DISTRACTED!!! We are encouraged to turn our ear to the word and not to let it out of our sight. Then the scripture focuses on the doing better, “for they are life to those who find them.” Next, “above all else guard your heart for everything you do flows from it.”

In conclusion, if we want to do better we need to first learn. To learn we need to be disciples, or rather, we should become students. When we choose to become students we need to follow the step of paying attention, Turn our ear to the word, do not let them out of your sight, and Keep them within your heart. And finally, the most important step: “above all else guard your heart for it is the wellspring of life.”

## THE GOSPEL TRUTH

Patchogue Church of Christ  
295 Sunrise Service Road N.  
Patchogue, NY 11772.

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### Let's make Christ our security

*“Men, why are you doing this? We too are only men, human like you. We are bringing you good news, telling you to turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made heaven and earth and sea and everything in them. In the past, he let all nations go their own way. Yet he has not left himself without testimony: He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; he provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy.” Acts 14:15-17.*

The words the apostle spoke to the people of Lystra are things to which you and I must give careful attention. When we accept Jesus as our Lord, we also embrace His teachings as the only moral and spiritual guide for our lives. This changes our value system; hence we transition from a love of - “worthless” - things to a love for the “Living God.” We serve the one and only “Living God!” He is our creator, “For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him” (Colossians 1:16-17). Since we were created by Him and for Him, we do not truly find ourselves until we find Him. Our life is “in Him” (Eph. 1:3) and living for Him is what gives life its meaning and purpose. Living for Him is living according to His gospel, His teachings - the moral, ethical and spiritual system He formulated for our salvation and completeness, (2 Cor. 2:9; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; Jn. 10:10; Jn. 6:63).

From the captioned text we understand that if we do not live by the gospel of Christ, we will continue to follow “worthless” things. In this post-modern era, many of us are still captivated by material things. Many find it easier to take comfort in the things that are made and not in the One who made all things. Too many of us con-

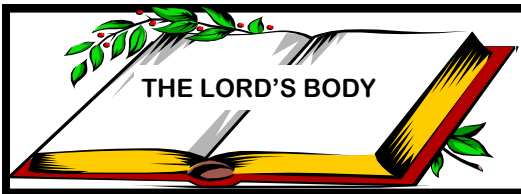
sider our future, our security and peace of mind, to rest on things like money, real estate holdings, stocks and bonds, pension plans, and the like. We have been deceived into thinking that with these things in place, our future happiness and well-being are secure. Friends, this is a huge mistake. Jesus said, “a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions” (Luke 12:15). Life is not what is around us; life is Jesus living within us! Our security is with Jesus Christ, not with “worthless” things.

The people who are happy and have fulfilled and contented lives are those persons who have deep spiritual fellowship with God; they strive to live their lives in accordance to His will. To emphasize that this is the case, Jesus told this parable:

*“The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.' Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I'll say to myself, 'You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.'” But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you.’” Luke 12:16-21.*

Beloved, let us not take comfort in the things we possess or hope to procure to the neglect of a harmonious relationship with God, instead, let us grow in our reliance and trust in Jesus our Lord. “Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord, the Lord, is the Rock eternal.” (Isa. 26:4). “Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be shaken but endures forever.” (Ps 125:1).

Lancelot W.



# The family by John Stallworth



*LIVING IT OUT—  
PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY  
BY  
BENJAMIN FIELD*



**ladies' Corner**  
by  
*Paulette Watson*

**Privileged to Serve 03/15/2015**

**Morning Service**  
**Song leader** Jason Harper  
**Song #** 180  
**Welcome/Prayer** James Guiffre  
**Song #** 957  
**Scripture – Luke 8:11-15** Brian Dunham  
**Songs #** **Hard Fighting Soldier**  
**Song #** 712  
**Second Prayer** Randall Colston  
**Song #** 909  
**Lord's table and Collection:**  
**Lead** Derek Peterson  
**Assistant** Ryan Costello  
**Assistant** Kyle Watkins  
**Assistant** C. Hendrickson  
**Song - Kids to class**  
**Song #**  
**Scripture - Amos 4:6-12** Tom Meehan  
**Sermon -** Lancelot Watson  
**Invitation #** 924  
**Responses & prayer:**  
**Derek Peterson**  
**John Stallworth**  
**Announcements &**  
**Closing Prayer** James Guiffre  
**Closing Song #** 703

**The Gospel Truth**

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**“I don’t wanna ... be Kind”**

*Gal. 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness ...*  
 We still ask: if these are “fruit of the spirit”, how are non-Christians able to do these things. Do you know someone really kind? Now, what does it mean?  
 I’m always convicted by really nice people. Seeing these folks working at soup kitchens, giving to charities, etc; may they be honored for their work. Praise God. Sometimes we Christians start offering them salvation for such works; as if their good deeds pay for sin. They may even feel that way themselves. However, Bible kindness is stimulated by 2 factors.

**First:** *2 Cor. 5:14 For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.*  
 Paul tells us God’s love compels us to action. Christians live and act because of the love of God.

**Second:** *Lk. 10:30-33 ... Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. 31 A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. 32 So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. 33 But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him.*  
 Jesus challenges us with the famous ‘Good Samaritan’. Verse 33 convicts us: showing the religious people walked by, but a lowly Samaritan ‘took pity’ on the man in need. Christian must be motivated by the love of our Lord, which drives us to compassion.  
*1 Jn. 3:17 If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?*  
**Do you know what the Spirit is calling you to do? Do it!**  
*1 Jn. 3:18 Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.*

**Never, Ever, Ever....Give Up**

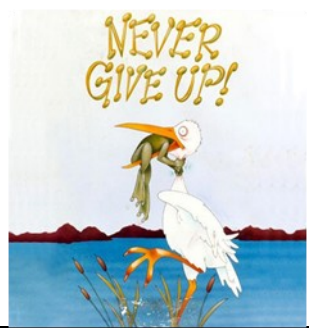
**“Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.”**

Luke is the only one to write this...which leads me to believe he thought it was important to mention, and that he likely gained strength from it. The more I consider it, the more *I think it is hard to overestimate the importance of this small phrase in the life of a believer.*

What was the difference between Peter denying and cursing Jesus at a most critical time, and Judas betraying Him? Both men were chosen by Jesus, loved Him, and gave up everything for Him. *Both were absolute ripe messes.* Both committed evil, selfish acts, worthy of the hottest hell. How could they both do **such wrong**, and have **such drastically different** destinies?

I am increasingly inclined to think that the difference between hearing “*Well done,*” and “*I never knew you,*” is a simple matter of *hanging on*. God knew Judas had given up, and that he checked out permanently. God knew Peter would keep going, would get up when he fell, and that he would accept an inverted crucifixion. Peter made it, and Judas didn’t. God proved that He will stick with anyone who sticks with Him - no matter how bad they are.

**Even if life swallows you whole- Just hang on.**



**How Can Prayer Help?**

We know that prayer is powerful. Yet we are often challenged to pray as we ought. The scriptures provide some strong incentives, pointing out numerous ways that prayer can help us. Let us look at a few.

Ephesians 6:18 provides the general circumstances of prayer: “Pray in the Spirit on **all occasions** with **all kinds of prayers** and requests.” From the word “all” we can conclude that there is no limit on when, and what we should pray about. In Luke 18:1 “Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should **always pray** and **not give up.**” This is an assurance that our prayers will be answered.

On a personal level, prayer can help us with temptation. We are told “pray so that you will not fall into temptation” (Matthew 26:41). So prayer can help us win battles over Satan. It can also help us win battles over other enemies. When others upset us, or mistreat us, if we follow Christ’s instruction, “bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you,” we relieve ourselves of stress and distress, because our hearts will be clean towards all men. If we do have evil thoughts or commit evil deeds, prayer again offers a solution. Like Simon the sorcerer we will benefit if we, “Repent of this wickedness and pray to the Lord (Acts 8:22). He will forgive us and cleanse us.

As women, especially mothers, we have a reputation for being worriers. If this is a problem, we are assured that praying for our loved ones, and about all circumstances, will give us peace: “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God” (Philippians 4:6). Many of us know this verse and keep it in our hearts as a reminder that our heavenly father is a God of power and He loves us. This verse is a strong encouragement to be “faithful in prayer” (Rom. 12:12), and to “devote [ourselves] to prayer, being watchful and thankful” (Colossians 4:2-3). We have looked very briefly at just a few ways that prayer helps us. Lord willing, we will continue and look at some others next week.