

CHURCH OF CHRIST

1 N. Sunrise Highway,
Patchogue, NY 11772

Phone: 631-475-6556

E-mail: lanwat@live.com

www.patchoguecofc.org

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:	10/26	10/19
Bible Classes	23	25
Morning Worship	78	87
Contribution	\$2009	\$2739
Mid Week Bible Class—Wed.	31	28

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

Youth Corner

By
Jamal Colson



How Do You Serve?

Young people, are you encouraged? Are you encouraged when you serve? The bible offers relief and encouragement for us.

“Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people, ⁸ because you know that the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do, whether they are slave or free.” (Ephesians 6:7-8).

The bible teaches us to “Serve wholeheartedly” many times people are not encouraged and attempt to blame their circumstances. I hear young people say if more people were doing what they are doing it would be more fun. I also have heard young people say if only we had... Young people I want to encourage and remind you that God is working (Jesus never stops working). It could be your attitude on serving? If we are not serving wholeheartedly then we are just going through the motions enough to make ourselves unhappy or even miserable. Yet if we serve wholeheartedly as if we are serving the Lord we will receive a reward! Youth you are not just serving man, parents, teachers, siblings, etc. when you do dishes, sweep, watch a sibling, do homework, laundry; you’re not just serving man. Instead you are serving God. The same God who rewards us with great things like in Psalm 103 which lists many of the benefits.

In conclusion, young people don’t go through the motions of serving people and miss out on the true blessings of serving God.

1 Peter 4:10-12 (NIV):

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms. ¹¹ If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

THE GOSPEL TRUTH

Patchogue Church of Christ

1 N. Sunrise
Highway.

Volume 1 No. 6

November 2, 2014

Claim your blessing

I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.” (Gen 12:2).

The word “blessing” carries the notion of “a thing conducive to happiness or welfare” whereas “to bless” is to “confer prosperity or happiness upon,” Our Lord Jesus Christ blessed us - He died for us, paid the penalty for the guilt of our sins, washed us in his blood, thereby making it possible for us to access all the provisions of God our Father. Our loving Father blessed us with “everything we need for a godly life” (2 Pet. 1:3), and “in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ” (Eph 1:3). These rich and glorious provisions are in fulfillment of the great promise made by God to Abraham which stated “all peoples on earth will be blessed through you” (Gen 12:3).

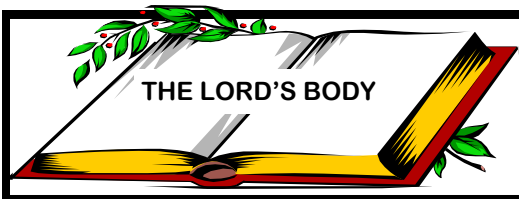
We see therefore that God is a blessing to us as He was a blessing to Abraham and his blood descendants. That Abraham, Isaac and Jacob were blessed by God is without question. What is striking is the number of times God reminded these patriarchs that He would bless them. Look at Genesis 17:16; 22:17; and 26:3-4 to name a few places. It would seem that God recognized the need in the lives of people for these kinds of reassurances. He gives us many, for example, “Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up” (Gal 6:9-10); “Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain” (1 Co 15:58); “So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of

God, you will receive what he has promised” (Heb 10:35-37).

Esau lost his blessing and he could not regain it. We must not surrender or walk away from our blessing as Esau did, “Afterward, as you know, when he wanted to inherit this blessing, he was rejected. He could bring about no change of mind, though he sought the blessing with tears”. (Heb. 12:17). Among the reasons why Esau lost his blessing was that he took it for granted and allowed short term circumstances to overshadow long term significance.

He was too preoccupied with the here-and-now - to the neglect of the spiritual and the hereafter. The end result was a broken heart and a lost soul. Listen, “when Esau heard his father's words, he burst out with a loud and bitter cry and said to his father, "Bless me-- me too, my father!"... "Do you have only one blessing, my father? Bless me too, my father!"” (Gen. 27:34,38). He pleaded and he cried, but it was too late! He had lost his blessing!

Let us not be like Esau; let us follow the example of our father Abraham (Gal. 3:7, 9, 29). This man believed God (Gal. 3:6) and lived a life of submission and obedience to the instructions of God. He consecrated his heart to serving God and the people of God. His hope was to spend eternity with and in the presence of God, (Heb. 11:10, 14-16). God blessed Him in every way and the same God will bless you and your life, your marriage and your family in a similar fashion. Let us therefore claim Jesus our Lord and Savior. Let us claim our blessings from Him and experience the abundant life He extends to each one of us.



The family by John Stallworth



LIVING IT OUT—
PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY
BY
BENJAMIN FIELD



Ladies' Corner
by
Paulette Watron

Privileged to Serve 11/2/14

Morning Service

Welcome/Prayer	Jason Harper
Song - Ben Field	528
Scripture Col. 3:12-17	Jason Hofman
Song - Ben Field	448
Song - Greg Watkins	23
Second Prayer	Mike Salimbene
Song - Greg Watkins	902
Lord's table and Collection:	
Lead	John Stallworth
Assistant	John Sicignano
Assistant	James Guiffre
Assistant	Steve Lynch
Song # - Kids to class	
Song - Jason Harper	959
Scripture Acts 2: 36-42	Jamal Colson
Sermon	Lancelot Watson
Invitation Song - G. Watkins	926
Responses & prayer:	
Derek Petersen	
Joe Cirnigliaro	
Announcements & Closing Prayer	Jason Harper
Song - G. Watkins	123
Closing Song - G. Watkins	703

The Gospel Truth

A publication of the Patchogue Church of Christ, 1 N. Sunrise Highway, (North Service Road), Corner of Hewlett Ave., Patchogue, NY 11772.
Editors:
Lancelot Watson - 781-420-4412
John Stallworth - 631-312-1597
Benjamin Field - 516-885-2365
E-mail comments, articles and questions to: lanwat@live.com

Stop, Drop and Roll

What does that mean?

Many of have heard this phrase: "*Stop, Drop and Roll*". These words were drilled into our minds when we were young. What for? This is the phrase that can save your life if you ever find yourself on **FIRE**. Now the intent of this catchy phrase is help you and I in a dire situation. Small but vital point: if we only hold the knowledge of the phrase, but are unable to carry it out when we really need it: we will die!

So what's the point? Knowledge of what the right thing to do and doing the right thing are different. Listen to what guidance Jeremiah gives us: *Jer. 17:9-10 – The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it? 10 "I the LORD search the heart and examine the mind, to reward a man according to his conduct, according to what his deeds deserve."*

1. You and I have a heart we need to be concerned about and watch more carefully than the most deceitful person we know.
2. The Lord will look at our motives and thoughts, but that is not necessary what he is judging us on. GOD WILL JUDGE US ACCORDING TO OUR "CONDUCT"; ACCORDING TO WHAT OUR DEEDS DESERVE.

You and I are responsible to know the right thing to do. However, we are also responsible to **DO** the right thing.

APPLICATION:

1. You are responsible to know what the Gospel is. Just as important, you are responsible for obeying the Gospel. 2 Thes. 1:8, 1 Cor. 15: 1-4, Rom. 6: 1-7

Already did #1

2. How is life treating you? Have some days you feel like you're going thru the fire? How about you "Stop, Drop and Pray".

"Religion" - What is in a word?

What does the word "religion" mean to you? What thoughts and feelings does it evoke?

It means differing things to differing people.

For some it speaks of obligation and duty, and for others it reminds of rules and restriction. For many, it evokes thoughts of tradition and heritage...even of their own race. Many think it is "comfort" and others feel disgust. Religion can mean evil and crazed lunatics, or it can represent the only way and means to true peace. Some say it represents a "weak mind" given to "myths," and to others it is the height of our possible consciousness. You might think of rank hypocrisy, and another think of a selfless kindness they once experienced when in need.

Where do you lie in this spectrum of thought? What does the thought of "religion" evoke in you?

Your impression of "religion" is valid regardless of where you stand. I mean that. No matter your opinion, it is likely it is based on something very real that you once experienced and internalized as a lesson to remember. Yet it is important that you also recognize that it is now the basis of your actions. No one can take that away from you, and what you know to be true is your fundamental theology.

The only question is what to do with your knowledge and experience. Do you stop here or move on? Does your experience make your *theology* true? Is knowledge of God *knowable*? Or does your experience lead you to seek more for THE God?

Today, someone thought enough of you to share the God that is so precious to them. Please consider love behind that.

May I suggest that you consider "religion" differently? Perhaps only as a relationship with God?

Not "spirituality," but a relationship where you interact and communicate. Not "routine" (imagine repeating the same monotone words and phrases to your spouse every day), but an expression of love and gratitude.

Our rituals and traditions are not a burden, but a privilege to offer our God. Our beliefs are based in reason and history. Because it is so rare, this might be the first time you have ever come in contact with true "religion." Do not let it go.

Friends

Today we are honored to have our friends with us supporting our "Friend Day." It seems apt to write a few things we learn from scripture about friends and friendship. Some of us have many acquaintances, but few friends. A friend is someone we feel some affection for, we enjoy being with, trust, and with whom we share our joys and sorrows.

One example of friendship in the Bible is that of David and Jonathan, which is described in these words: "the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul" (1 Sam. 18:1). Jonathan went against his own father, saving his friend David's life when his father sought to kill him. This is the type of friendship we crave and which, if we find it, we truly treasure. Proverbs 18:24 tells us that to have friends we must ourselves be friendly. So friendship means giving of ourselves and not only looking to others for it.

Jesus' friendship with Mary, Martha, and Lazarus is another Biblical example of friendship. John 11:5 tells us, "Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus." Jesus enjoyed spending time in their home, talking, and sharing meals. They also enjoyed being with Him and sharing their home with Him. We are told that Martha "opened her home to Him" (John 10:38). Friends share hospitality.

The expression "fair weather friends" refers to the type of friends that are not true friends. They only "love us" when times are good. "Wealth brings many friends" (Prov. 19:4), but Prov. 17:17 says, "A friend loves at all times." This is a true friend—someone we can trust, with anything, and count on in all circumstances.

Our greatest friend, Jesus, laid down His life for His friends (John 15:13). In return, we are His friends when we give our lives to Him.

Visitors thank you for coming today. Please let us here at the Patchogue Church of Christ be your friends.