

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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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:	4/05/15	3/29/15
Bible Classes	42	40
Worship Service	143	97
General Contribution 2nd Sunday - Bldg	\$2269.00	\$2280.00
Wed Bible Class	25	GM-62
Baptisms/	-	-

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

Youth Corner

By
Jamal Colson



King Amaziah

Young people do you believe it matters if you do the right thing but your heart isn't into it? For example, does it matter if we show up to church service but our hearts and minds are somewhere else? We should take care to give our whole hearts to God or we can be led astray.

Let's look at king Amaziah: Amaziah was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem twenty-nine years. His mother's name was Jehoaddan; she was from Jerusalem. He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, but not wholeheartedly. (2 Chronicles 25:1-2 NIV)

When Amaziah returned from slaughtering the Edomites, he brought back the gods of the people of Seir. He set them up as his own gods, bowed down to them and burned sacrifices to them. The anger of the Lord burned against Amaziah, and he sent a prophet to him, who said, "Why do you consult this people's gods, which could not save their own people from your hand?" (2 Chronicles 25:14-15 NIV)

From the time that Amaziah turned away from following the Lord, they conspired against him in Jerusalem and he fled to Lachish, but they sent men after him to Lachish and killed him there. (2 Chronicles 25:27 NIV)

You see, God desires us to love him with all our heart, soul and mind. Jesus also asks the same of us: Jesus replied: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' (Matthew 22:37 NIV) In conclusion, it does matter to God we just can't show up to things and think because we are there that God is pleased. We need to be at services and we need to love God with all our heart, all our soul, and all our mind.

THE GOSPEL TRUTH

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The resurrection and discipleship

"Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'" Matt 28:18-20.

Jesus made it clear that all authority resides in Him. He is "the authority" in heaven and here on earth. The basis of His authority is His resurrection from the dead. By His resurrection He has established in the strongest way possible that He alone stands as Savior and Lord. Saviors, save. Jesus wants to save us. He wants to save us from the guilt and penalty of your sins. The way this will be done is stated in the commission He gave the apostles. They are to make us into disciples. A disciple is a "follower" so how are disciples made?

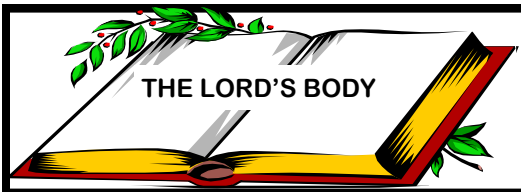
Jesus Himself showed how disciples are made. Disciples are made by teaching the gospel and encouraging those taught to obey and follow Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Look how it was done by Jesus, "From that time on Jesus began to preach, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.'" ... "He saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. 'Come, follow me,' Jesus said, ..." Matt 4:17-19. "The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, 'Look, the Lamb of God!' When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus," John 1:35-37. "The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, 'Follow me,' John 1:43.

Today Jesus wants us to follow Him in the same way and to the same degree and extent as

those disciples He personally called and taught. If we follow the example of those early disciples we will be as right with God just as they were right with God. They began by believing in God, repenting of their sins and being baptized for the remission of their sins, (Mk. 1:4; Lk. 3:30). Thereafter they spent time with Jesus, learning his doctrine and His way of living. They grew in knowledge, compassion, love, forgiveness and dedication to God. In the process of their growth and development they were trained to share with others their experience and knowledge of Jesus.

Those early disciples walked away from their former lifestyles went to Jesus who refashioned and reprogrammed them after Himself. Peter would remind Jesus that they had given up everything to follow Him, to which Jesus replied that they were the better for it. "Peter said to him, 'We have left everything to follow you!' "I tell you the truth," Jesus replied, "no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age (homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields-- and with them, persecutions) and in the age to come, eternal life" (Mark 10:28-30).

This is the kind of "disciple" Jesus wants you and me to become today in our own communities and among our circle of family, friends and acquaintances. We must be disciples that love Him, serve Him and expect to be rewarded by Him. Jesus wants you and me to be one of His. He died to make it possible and he rose from the dead to guarantee that His disciples will have eternal life through Him. Let us therefore accept His call for discipleship; He will make us into true disciples. Lancelot W.



The family by John Stallworth



*LIVING IT OUT—
PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY
BY
BENJAMIN FIELD*



ladies' Corner
by
Paulette Watson

Privileged to Serve 04/12/2015

Morning Service
Song leader Brian Maddox
Welcome/Prayer John Stallworth
Song # 162 (1,2,4)
Scripture – Matt. 13:1-9 Brian Dunham
Songs # 768 (1,2)
Song # 837 (1,2,4)
Second Prayer Tom Meehan
Song # 337 (1,2,5)
Lord's table and Collection:
Lead Joe Cirnigliaro
Assistant Barry Koeber
Assistant Steve Lynch
Assistant Barry Koeber
Song - Kids to class
Song # 860
Scripture - Mt 13:18-23 Ryan Costello
Sermon - Lancelot Watson
Invitation # 904
Responses & prayer:
Jason Harper
Mike Salimbene
Announcements &
Closing Prayer John Stallworth
Closing Song # 703

The Gospel Truth

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“I don't wanna ... be controlled”

Gal. 5:22-23 - But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy ... goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control...

We still ask: if these are “fruit of the spirit”, how are non-Christians able to do these things. We say: “No one is going to tell me what to do.” In today's “free” and independent society, we rebel against any kind of authority. However, the Bible will argue you will always have at least one master; whomever you love & serve. Amazingly enough, your master will unlikely be yourself. We'd naturally assume, ‘Self-control’ is control of self. Prisons are full of people who could not control themselves, but needed someone else to control them. So does it mean: “if I'm not in prison, I have self-control”? Biblically NO.

You see, “Self-control” from the spirit is keeping in step with the spirit (Gal. 5:25). Doing what I want to do is NOT Biblical self-control. The apostle Paul highlights this battle very well in Romans 7 (READ IT). Verse 15 will read:
Rom.7:15... what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do.

Biblical self-control can only be defined in context of Biblical values. Our society has lost sight of what SIN really is. Through the advent of what we call “freedom”, we've lost God's definition of what SIN is and the “self-control” of staying in-line with HIS word. “Self-control” is the discipline to fight and obey God's word even when it hurts or is inconvenient.

Do you know what the Spirit is calling you to do? Do it!
Lk. 14:25-35 "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters--yes, even his own life--he cannot be my disciple. 27And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple...33 In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple.

If Noah Can Do It....

There is no doubt – if you want to be a rebel, just be a conservative Christian. Jesus chastised the most religious of His day as being unable to recognize spiritual realities saying: “*When it is evening, you say, ‘It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.’ ‘And in the morning, ‘There will be a storm today, for the sky is red and threatening.’ Do you know how to discern the appearance of the sky, but cannot discern the signs of the times?’*”

RECOGNIZE YOUR SURROUNDINGS
 Paul wrote; “*The Spirit clearly says that in later times (latter, or last) some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. Such teachings come through hypocritical liars.....*” (1 Tim. 4:1-2) Note that Paul states there is a clear revelation from the Spirit to him personally declaring specific omens, spirits, and signs to look for. The gauge is within the context of Christianity, not the worldly culture trends. We all know the scary trends of the church. Some Christians are very alarmed by “churches” today because they believe what the Spirit said. God sees hearts, not church signs. Many Christians seem asleep and ignore “the appearance of the sky.” They seem to gauge their spiritual vision more on what they wish reality to be than upon what is clearly seen. It is not a salvation issue, but speaks to priorities, and readiness.

PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY
 Take heart, we know of those who held fast despite everything. Noah lived in a time where everyone around him was evil. He and his family were the only evidence that he had kept the faith. If Noah can do it we can to. Go against the culture. Fight for your own salvation and that of your spouse. Explain your belief to your little ones and train them. Refuse to allow your older children to live unfaithful lives without knowing you threw yourself between them and eternity. The bible doesn't say to cower in fear of “driving them off.” Why save the world and let your own family perish? Make sure your friends know where you stand. Do good deeds. Recognize the time you live in, and resolve that if Noah can do it, you can too- and you will!

Growth

I am excited about spring. It's a time for new growth all around us in nature. This can also be reflected in our spiritual lives with new spiritual growth. Peter instructs us to “grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ” (2 Peter 3:18), and the beginning of spring is a fitting time to reflect on our personal spiritual growth “in grace.”

We generally understand grace to be God's goodness in extending mercy and forgiveness to us although we do not deserve it. His grace enables us to enjoy his “approval, favor, — stay in His good graces” (Merriam Webster) because He has forgiven us of our sins through the death and resurrection of Christ, as we were reminded last week as the world celebrated Easter. This is the quality that Peter refers to when he says “grow in grace.” He is encouraging us to grow in this quality of extending mercy to those with whom we have to deal.

Peter links growing in grace with growing in the “knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,” and indeed, looking at Christ and considering how he dealt with his family, friends and neighbors teaches us how to grow in grace. Jesus was compassionate, kind, loving, and gentle in his attitude to those with whom He interacted. We can think of the woman caught in adultery, the Samaritan woman He met at the well, Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, Zacchaeus, Peter, and so many more. Being more like Jesus will make us grow in grace.

Jesus endured the torturous death on the cross, the sneering, and the mocking, and yet prayed, “Father forgive them...” (Luke 23:34). How do we react when we are criticized, mocked, and scorned? Do we retaliate? Or do we exercise patience and forgiveness? James teaches that “the testing of your faith develops perseverance. 4 Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything” (James 1:3-4).

As we observe nature's growth around us this spring, let us make a renewed commitment to “grow in grace” and to study to also “grow in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,” as this will enable us to meet our goal.