

Second Street Church of Christ



August 19, 2018

MINISTER

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SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Bible Class...9:00am
Sun. Morn. Worship.10:00am
Sunday Evening.....5:00pm
Wed. Evening.....7:00pm

*Endeavoring to keep
the unity of the Spirit
in the bond of peace.
Ephesians 4:3*

Baptized into what?

“And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples he said to them, ‘Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?’ So they said to him, ‘We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.’ And he said to them, ‘Into what then were you baptized?’” (Acts 19:1-3, NKJV).

Prepositions are often overlooked as small and insignificant parts of a sentence. They are typically little words which lack the impact of the more impressive nouns and verbs on which we focus. Yet they give essential details to our communications. Without them, and especially without precise understanding of them, our messages are often misunderstood.

The picture accompanying this article was taken of a baptism in Dharan, Nepal which took place in the dry season. When the young lady expressed faith in Jesus and a desire to be baptized for the remission of her sins, a search began for water in which that could be accomplished. The river bed outside town was dry – not even small hold-over pools could be found. No one in the church there had any kind of pool or pond which could be used. Finally, a used and empty plastic drum was located and partially filled with water. Thankfully, she was small and agile, able to easily fit into the barrel, where her obedience to the gospel was quickly accomplished.

Into what was she baptized? Why, obviously, into a barrel, right? Well, not really. The vessel holding the water is simply a convenience – necessary of course, but of no spiritual significance. She, as all repentant believers must be, was baptized into Jesus Christ, being buried with him (Romans 6:3ff) and putting him on (Galatians 3:27). By doing so she was cleansed from her sins (Acts 2:38; Romans 6:6), was raised as a new creature to walk in a new life (Romans 6:4), was added to the Church which Jesus built (Acts 2:47), and received the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38-39; 19:5-6).

The twelve believers in Ephesus whom Paul located had been baptized previously, but not into Jesus (i.e., “in the name of the Lord Jesus” Acts 19:5). As a result, they did not receive the blessings which baptism into Christ confers. Only when they obeyed “that form of doctrine to which [they] were delivered,” was salvation accomplished.

People today are often baptized into many different concepts or ideas. Some are baptized into a particular church. Others are baptized into a symbol of their salvation which they believe has already been bestowed. But only that baptism which is “Into the Lord Jesus” is effective toward salvation from sin and fellowship with Christ. Into what were you baptized? Or have you been baptized at all? Until you follow the example of the twelve in Ephesus (and millions of faithful since) you cannot “taste the heavenly gift” or “become partakers of the Holy Spirit” (Hebrews 6:5).

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Announcements

Welcome Visitors!! You are our honored guest, and we are glad you came our way! We invite you back to our evening services at 5:00 and Wednesday Bible study at 7:00 pm.

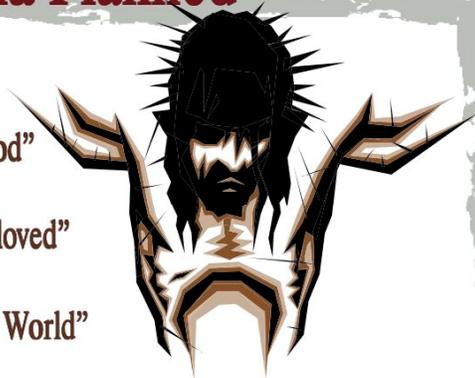


I will say of the LORD, *He is my
refuge and my fortress: my God;*
in him will I trust. Psalms 91:2

A Saving Formula Planned

John 3:16

- ☒ The SOURCE of Salvation - "For God"
- ☒ The STIMULUS of Salvation - "So loved"
- ☒ The SUBJECTS of Salvation - "The World"
- ☒ The SHARING of Salvation - "That He gave"
- ☒ The STAR of Salvation - "His only Begotten Son"
- ☒ The STIPULATION of Salvation - "That whoever believes on Him"
- ☒ The SHOULD of Salvation - "Should not perish"
- ☒ The SPAN of Salvation - "But have everlasting life"



How to overcome negativity, and other sundry thoughts

How to win over negativity? Overpower it! Repel it! The old phrase, like water on a duck's back, is suggestive. Don't let it penetrate. Power up your mental strength. Fill your head and heart with God's blessing and goodness.

The use of the word "overpower" against negativity sounds militaristic, and it is. To say we're in a battle might seem melodramatic, but the Bible describes the Way in such terms. So many of us go with the flow, however, we have yet to feel the heat of the conflict. We've been conquered.

¶ Everybody's an evangelist. The word is now being used even in the secular business world. Everybody wants to convince others to believe or buy something. Not a few are also little dictators. They'll have their way with you by force, if they can. They glory in power, be it political, psychological, or other.

You're an evangelist, too. Either for full dedication and allegiance to the Lord Jesus, or for lukewarmness in spiritual matters. By word and example, it shows. You can't hide it.

¶ Jesus taught that the spiritual family takes precedence over the physical family. Including, or especially, on Sundays. It's very easy to show that priority. When you become a Christian, or when you repent of your lukewarmness, tell your physical family that, under no circumstance, will you be available to them when the church meets.

Family members will test you. They will play dirty. They'll make you feel guilty. But whom do we please, God or man?

Family members may help us serve the Lord more fully, or may pull us away from the Way. It has always been so, Deuteronomy 13.6-8. Let us not be surprised, nor give in to pressure.

¶ God has been stretching me of late. I've been teaching the Bible at 7 am and at 10 pm. I've taught more non-Christians in the last month than I previously did in the last year, seems like. Praise the Lord for opportunities!

Most of them will not likely convert, but I've been challenged to speak so that people of varied religious backgrounds, or of none, can understand and appreciate the Good News. And, Lord willing, one or two may respond with faith.

¶ The word "routine" gets lots of bad press. It has become a synonym for "rut." It is used mostly in a pejorative sense. But good routines give structure to life. Time comes when, for health, moves, or age, we need to change them. So we are challenged to form new ones that will serve us well.

¶ Today we have two groups of workers in our house: one in the attic, removing part of the roof to replace our water tank; the other in the back, installing modular shelving in my new home office. The noise they're making with saws and hammers and other tools of the trade doesn't bode well for my routines.

¶ One of the best, most helpful routines, comes early in the day to commune with God through his word and prayer. At such times he works his image in us, strengthens our holy purposes, delights us with his presence.

With that kind of routine, we can overpower negativity easily.

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SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

Bible Study **9:00am**
Worship **10:00am**
Evening **5:00pm**

Wednesday

Bible Study **7:00pm**

Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is*
for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Psalms 133:1

Prayer List

Paula Wanner	David Alexander
Cassie Tierce	Rita Johnson
Betty Lindley	Francis Mortland
Barbara Trollinger	Lee Pounds
Ralph Montgomery	Linda Parker
Lou Dodson	Lynn Sander
James Adams	Christian Harris
Londyn Perry	Kaye Pope
Christy Hickox	Brenda Leatherwood
Susan Broussard	Kenneth Orrick
Tonia Martin	Misty Inmon
Julie Wilson	James Nevins
Henry Vandagriff	Charles Ashley
Stephen Saponara	R. C. Byram
Naomi Rodgers	Lanetta Girod
Pete Harris	



The process for becoming a Christian is the same as it was over 2000 years ago!
To become a Christian, one must:

Hear the Gospel - Rom. 10:17

Believe the Gospel - Heb. 11:6

Repent of Sins - Luke 13:3

Confess Christ - Rom. 10:10

Be Immersed Into Christ - Acts 2:38

Live a Faithful Life - Rev. 2:10

None of these alone will make you a Christian. These commands are from God and must be obeyed from the heart to become a Christian.



August Birthdays

Ronnie Taylor 8/1

Lily Robinson 8/6

Jerry Brewer 8/8

Wayne McCollum 8/8

McKenley Cleveland 8/21

Rajama Johnson 8/30

August Anniversaries

Sympathy

Swindle family