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car pulled into the driveway. The couple who had come for a weekend visit were relatives from Ohio. They informed us that they intended to stay the night and leave sometime the next day. As young, immature Christians we were suddenly thrust into a spiritual dilemma. Our options were obvious:

1) Miss the morning service and spend time with our visitors. (After all, we would be able to attend the evening service; they would be gone by then.)

2) Kindly and tactfully explain our commitment to the Lord and tell them that they could either go to services with us or stay at our house until we returned. I remember the look on their faces until this day, when before going to bed Saturday night, we explained that we would be leaving the house at 9:30 A.M. the next day to attend Bible class and worship service and that they were welcome to come along or stay until we returned. They were up bright and early the next morning and ready to leave before we left for services.

Years have passed since that Saturday evening. Word soon spread through-

out the family that we would attend worship service even if we had company. Some family members considered our decision to be rude and inhospitable. Others commended our commitment, but none ever again arranged a visit which would interfere with worship service! As we have grown and matured in the faith,

we have thanked God many times for our decision that day. It was a boost of confidence to a couple of struggling newcomers to realize that we really could put God first.

What was a spiritual dilemma then, is second nature to us now. We never plan anything which interferes with the assembling together of the saints! We already have an appointment on Sunday morning, Sunday evening and Wednesday evening and nothing short of incapacitating illness interferes with these appointments! *“He who loves father and mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son and daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who does not take up His cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.”* (Matthew 10:37-38).

—Power, December 2003

“As young, immature Christians we were suddenly thrust into a spiritual dilemma.”



Liledoun Road ANCHOR

February 29, 2004

Church of Christ

240 Liledoun RD SW
Taylorsville, NC 28681
(828) 632-2998

churchofchrist@w4aw.org
<http://w4aw.org/church>

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Classes – 10:00 am
AM Worship – 11:00 am
PM Worship – 6:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Classes – 7:30 pm

Elders

Fred Watkins
632-5542
Ralph Lowtharpe
632-6145

Preacher

Jonnie Hutchison
632-7344

TO WHOM DO WE PRAY?

Gilbert Goins

People pray to Jesus. They pray to the Holy Spirit They pray to God the Father. That there is a tremendous amount of confusion about where to address our prayers is not difficult to observe. Literally thousands of religious bodies In the United States are teaching different things about where to address our prayers. We know God is not the author of confusion (1 Cor. 14:33); so therefore, He is not the origin of denominations and their doctrines. One particular doctrine that has been on the rise is that a person is saved from sin through “the sinner’s prayer?”



Each denomination has a different slant about this, but one way or another they pray to Jesus to receive forgiveness of sins; by this they “accept Jesus.” His followers asked Jesus, “Lord teach us to pray’ (Lk. 11:1). He

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News and Notes


To Our Visitors

It is always a joy to welcome visitors to our services. We are thankful for each one who has chosen to be present. A number of tracts and other materials are available in the lobby of the building. There is no charge for any of this material. If you would like to enroll in a free Bible Correspondence Course or an in home Bible study please mark that on your visitors card. We hope you will return and be with us at your every opportunity.



Remember In Prayer

 Alvin Bullington, Ethel Watson, Dena Bishop, Sandra Dixon, Philip Bullington, Alex White, Loretta Philips, Kris Koko, Hubert Keys, Ken Koko, Michelle Eggers, Don Heaston, Van Walls, James Walker (the grandson of Bert and Janice Lister has been diagnosed with leukemia), Dorsey Finn (surgery), Tom Miller (ETSP teacher) and Darrel Broking (gospel preacher in Mountain City, TN). Steve Mitchell's tests turned out well. He will be returning to the doctor in June for a checkup.

 The **6th Annual Carolina Men's Fellowship** is scheduled for Saturday

March 13, 2004. The theme is "A Way that Is Right and Cannot Be Wrong." It will be held at the Charlotte Avenue building. See bulletin board for details. We encourage all the men of the congregation to plan ahead to attend this event. It is always a wonderful period of instruction and fellowship.

Gospel Meeting at the South Stokes church of Christ in King, NC March 14-18, 2004 with Jeff Trotter preaching.

Gospel Meeting at the Wilkesboro church of Christ March 21-24, 2004. James Watkins from Lewisburg, TN will be the speaker.

Our Spring Gospel Meeting has been scheduled for June 6-11, 2004 with Nelson Brockenborough preaching. Please mark this date and plan other events around it.

The **Sixtieth Annual Carolina Lectures** are scheduled for April 4-8, 2004 at the Warners Chapel church of Christ in Clemmons, NC.

Catawba Valley Church of Christ

A building has been rented in which the Catawba Valley church of Christ will meet in southwest Hickory. A weekly Bible study is currently underway Tuesday nights at 6:30 pm at the Kenworth Hall. Please continue to pray for this good work.

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taught that if we ask anything according to His will, he hears us, answers our petitions (I Jno. 5:14, 15). Only Jesus forgives sins. He came for that purpose (I Tim. 1:15). While walking the earth, Jesus forgave sins immediately (Mt 9:1-6). Jesus ascended into heaven, so now we pray directly to the Father through Christ (Heb. 4:16). Jesus is our heavenly advocate before the Father's throne of grace (I Jno.1:8). Now before the throne of grace we approach in the name and by the authority of Jesus (Col. 3:17; Acts 4:7).



In the mountain sermon, Jesus told the crowd to pray to the Father in h e a v e n . Prayers are to be directed

only to the Father in heaven through the name of Jesus (Mt. 6:5-15). Again He

said, "And in that day you will ask Me nothing, Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you" (Jno. 16:23). We do not pray TO Jesus, nor TO the Holy Spirit, nor BY any authority the Spirit might possess. We pray TO the Father THROUGH Christ. God gave all authority in heaven and in earth to Jesus only (Mt. 28:18). That authority is enabled in the all authoritative words of Jesus. And His Words will be the basis and standard of Judgment on the last day (John 12:48-50). It is at repentance and baptism one loses his sins by the blood of Jesus, not through prayer. Kindly take notice to carefully observe Acts 22:16 — "And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord"

Via P.O. Box 375, Hillsboro, TX 76645
Bulletin Briefs January 2004

"I DON'T MISS BECAUSE OF COMPANY"

By Jerry Carmichael

After some years of unfaithfulness to the Lord, my wife and I were restored to the fold. We decided that once and for all God was going to be first in our lives.

A few short weeks passed and things seemed to be running smoothly. We were welcomed to the fold warmly by fellow Christians. We had begun to feel

like we belonged to the family of the local church. We informed non-Christian friends and family members of our decision as well.

One Saturday evening as we were preparing our children for bed, anticipating the next morning's worship service, a

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