

WORSHIP—SUNDAY—6:00 PM

Announcements.....Kaleb Bush
Song Leader.....Jacky Carver, Sr.
Scripture Reading.....Dallas Eddie
Opening Prayer.....Mitchell Brooks
PM Sermon.....Sam Willcut
Lord’s Supper..Roger Draper & Ethan Leonard
Closing Prayer.....Glen Reece

BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAY —7:00 PM

Announcements.....Kaleb Bush
Song Leader.....Dallas Eddie
First Prayer.....Justin Draper
Opening Prayer.....Jacky Carver, Sr.
Invitation.....Mitchell Brooks
Closing Prayer.....Justin Draper
Prepare Communion for **JANUARY**—Karen Halliburton & Diana Preston
Suggested Daily Bible Reading for January —**James 1-5**

PRAYER LIST

Opal Agee (Concordia Nursing and Rehabilitation of Smith County, Carthage, Room 705B),
Patti Birdwell (sister-in-law of Mel Smith, upcoming surgery for brain aneurysm), **Raymelle Cole** (mother of Lesa Leonard), **Sawyer Cole** (grandson of Larry & Vickie Cole), **Linda Phillips** (friend of Janice Pinckley, battling pancreatic cancer)

OUR RECORD OF LOVE FOR CHRIST

The week of 1/13/19
Worship Sunday AM.....100
Bible Study Sunday AM.....94
Daily Bible Readers.....45
Worship Sunday PM.....80
Wednesday (1/9/19).....70
Offering.....\$3,549.00

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

January 20—Annual Treasurer’s Report
January 27—Timothy & Dorcas Classes, 4:00 PM
January 27—Fourth Sunday Fellowship Supper, 5:00 PM

AREA EVENTS

January 20-23—Gospel Meeting with BJ Clarke, Willow Avenue, Cookeville, TN, 7:00 PM
January 25—Mid-TN Friday Night Singing, Corinth Church of Christ, Portland, TN, 7:00 PM
January 26—Gospel Meeting with Eric Lyons, Center Grove, Gainesboro, TN, 6:00 PM
February 2—Young Men’s Seminar, East Main, Murfreesboro, TN
February 22-24—CYC, Gatlinburg, TN

The Church of Christ

Whenever we are talking about the church of Christ, we are not talking about a denomination or conglomeration of denominations, because God purposed the church of Christ, just as the Bible reveals (Ephesians 3:10-11). Prophets prophesied of it (Isaiah 2:1-3; cf. 1 Timothy 3:14-15). Jesus Christ promised it (Matthew 16:18; Mark 9:1). He purchased it with His blood (Acts 20:28). On the Day of Pentecost following His death, burial, resurrection, and ascension, it came with power (Acts 2). Notice with me this undenominational church in light of the religious confusion today by answering the following important questions.

In times of the New Testament, were Christians members of some denominations? No, Christians in New Testament times were not members of some denominations, because denominations did not exist. In fact, the first denomination did not form until hundreds of years later. Were Christians in the times of the New Testament members of the church of our Lord? Yes. Why were they members of the church of Christ? They were, because the Bible says so (Acts 2:47; 1 Corinthians 1:2; Philippians 1:1). Therefore, it is possible to be a member of the church in the Bible without being a member of a denomination.

If we were to follow the New Testament, would its commands lead one to become a member of a denomination? No, in order to become a member of a denomination, one must do something more than what the New Testament commands. Would it lead one to become a member of the church of our Lord? Yes!

If following the New Testament will not lead one to become a member of a denomination, what must one do to become a member of a denomination? He must leave the teachings of the New Testament. This shows us that there is a great difference between the church of our Lord and denominationalism.

Do those in denominations strictly adhere to the teachings of the New Testament? If they did, they would not be a denomination. We can see a difference in what some do and what the New Testament teaches. For example, concerning the plan of salvation, most denominations teach other things. Concerning worship, most denominations teach other things, although God means what He says and says what He means—Cain and Abel, Nadab and Abihu, and such like illustrate this clearly (cf. John 4:24; Acts 20:7). Scholars agree to what these things mean, but it is a matter of believing whether God means what He says.

If everyone quit following everything but the New Testament and just followed the New Testament, what would happen? Denominations would crumble and go away. Would the church crumble? No, because following the New Testament makes one a member. Are there Christians in denominations? If so, how did they get there? (cf. Acts 2:47).

Therefore, we learn that Christians were not members of denominations in the times of the New Testament. Obeying the New Testament does not make one a member of a denomination. To become a member of a denomination, one must leave the teachings of the New Testament. Those in denominations do not strictly adhere to the teachings of the New Testament. If everyone followed only the New Testament, no one would become a member of a denomination!

—Sam Willcut

Getting the Most out of Worship

1. Always pray before you go to worship God.
2. When you enter the auditorium, let all unnecessary conversation cease. Spend a few minutes in quiet meditation.
3. Come expecting to enjoy the service and to receive a blessing, as well as being a blessing to others.
4. Come to worship God. Remember that worship is not to amuse or to entertain, but to honor our God.
5. Enter enthusiastically into every part of the worship. Sing from the heart; pray, study, listen, give. In other words, be a worshipper, not a spectator.
6. When worshipping, forget the faults of others and think of your own sins, and of how you may improve your life with the aid of the Lord.
7. When listening, remember that you are listening to the word of God. It is manna to your soul; feast upon it.
8. When the service is over, be warm and friendly to those around you.

—Author Unknown