

**SUNDAY MORNING**

**Announcements**

Jon Barry

**Song Leader**

Jack Calvert

**Lord's Supper**

Bryan Garlock Mark Davis

Bill Rinehart

**Prayers**

Clay Morris Willie Standokes

**WEDNESDAY EVENING**

**Announcements**

Daniel Allgor

**Song Leader**

Bryan Garlock

**Prayers**

Jerry Schnelle Rodney Ellis

**Invitation**

Willie Standokes

If we have become children of God, let us be certain that when the curtain of death brings to an end the final act in our drama of this life, we can say with Paul, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give to me at that day; and not to me only, but also to all them that have loved His appearing" (2 Timothy 4:7-8).

**ABOUT US**

**Elders**

Jack Calvert Rodney Ellis

Jon Barry Bill Brittenham  
Mike Davis Clay Morris

**Evangelist**

Bryan Garlock

**SERVICE TIMES**

**Sunday**

Bible Study .....9:30 A.M.  
Worship .....10:15 A.M.

**Monday (Zoom)**

Bible Study .....7:00 P.M

**Wednesday**

Bible Study .....7:00 P.M.

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**GOD'S PLAN FOR SALVATION**

**Hear** the word of truth ..... Romans 10:13-17

**Believe** the truth..... Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24

**Repent** from all sins .... Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38

**Confess** the name of Christ ... Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10

**Be Baptized** in His name ..... Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21; Colossians 2:12

**Walk** in newness of life and **be faithful** unto death ..... Romans 6:1-4; Revelation 2:10



**Volume XXVI**

**October 31, 2021**

**Issue 43**

**Commitment**

Wayne Goff

*What the local church needs more of today is **commitment** from all of its members.*

Commitment is the thing on which relationships in life are built. Without commitment in marriage,

husbands and wives cannot have a secure relationship. Without commitment at work, the employer would never be sure of his work force; the employee would never be sure of his job. Without commitment, schools would have no boards, no principals, no teachers, and no students. Without commitment, the church would flounder — never sure of its ability, never sure of its power for good, never certain if it can finish the task to which it has set itself.

**A Committed Church**

How can we have a committed church? By teaching every member to be committed to the Lord and to the local church. "And this they did, not as we had hoped, but first gave themselves to the Lord, and then to us by the will of

God" (2 Corinthians 8:5). With these words, the Lord was teaching the saints at Corinth about commitment. The Macedonians were committed Christians; the Corinthians could be committed too.

But committed to do what? "But as you abound in everything — in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all diligence, and in your love for us — see that you abound in this grace also." (2 Corinthians 8:7). **In short, the church needs its members to be committed to any and every Scriptural endeavor.** If the church conducts a gospel meeting, then every member should commit himself or herself to attend, to invite others, and to pray for its success. If the church is teaching its members how to do personal work, then every member should commit to learning how to do it. Commitment comes in every aspect of the church — Scriptural worship (John 4:24), Scriptural work (Ephesians 4:16), and Scriptural organization (Philippians 1:1).

## FAMILY TALK

Continue to remember and check on our shut-ins/sometimes shut-ins: **Bonnie Allgor, Pat Buls, Maxine Burnham, Sonny & Cathy Monaghan, Pete & Beth Rowland, and Francine Davis.**

Please continue to pray for the **Monaghan** family.

The church in **Mt. Pleasant** has a meeting scheduled Nov. 7-10 with **Tony Mauck**

What if everyone is not committed? *“For I do not mean that others should be eased and you burdened; but by an equality, that now at this time your abundance may supply their lack, that their abundance also may supply your lack — that there may be equality. As it is written, ‘He who gathered much had nothing left over, and he who gathered little had no lack’”* (**2 Corinthians 8:13-15**). The God-ordained plan is that **every member** should be committed to do his or her work. Consequently, no one is over burdened, and none are without work. Those who are stronger should teach the weaker what is their responsibility and how they can discharge it.

**Are you a committed Christian?** Do you accept personal responsibility for yourself? Do you look for opportunities to serve the Lord and your brethren?

### To Act or React?

Dave Chamberlin

We seem to be living in a time when others around us are going crazy. I’m not talking about a mental illness that is certifiable, but rather it “seems” like a

fair number of people in our society are acting outside the norm or what we would consider the norm.

Do you, on almost a daily basis, observe other drivers on the road you travel taking unnecessary risks? Is it a discouraging activity to read the daily newspaper, with all of its reporting of illegal behavior on the part of some of the people who live around us realizing that we can do little to prevent it from happening? Do you feel like you are just a victim of our present society being swept along with a “me too” philosophy of life?

How we act or react to events of our time is important not only to our health but also to the health of others. An article that appeared in a 1960 article of Readers Digest, entitled “Do You Act or React?” really highlights the importance of the question.

“I walked with my friend, a Quaker, to the newsstand the other night and he bought a paper, thanking the newsie politely. The newsie didn’t even acknowledge it. ‘A sullen fellow, isn’t he?’, I commented. ‘Oh, he’s that way every night’, shrugged my friend. ‘Then why do you continue to be so polite to him?’, I asked. ‘Why not’, said my friend, ‘Why should I let him decide how I am going to act?’”

To act or react is the question. What does God think of our behavior in a world that has such an attraction for “being one of the crowd?” Peter gives us the proper response in 1 Peter 3:8, 9.

“To sum up, let all be harmonious, sympathetic, brotherly, kindhearted, and humble in spirit; not returning evil for evil, or insult for insult, but giving a blessing instead; for you were called for the very purpose that you might inherit a blessing.”

The context, of these two verses, belongs to the subject of Christian husbands and wives in their treatment of each other as indicated in 1 Peter 3: 1- 7. However, Peter, as an inspired writer, includes within the overall context verses 10- 12 which are direct quotes from Psalm 34: 12- 16 thus providing an imperative as to how to act rather than react. The question to consider is, are we going to act or react to conditions around us?

### Be Sure You Finish

Bill Crews

It is not enough to **become** a Christian; one must then **be** a Christian — to the very end. It is not enough to **enter into** Christ; one must **abide** in Christ, yes, and even **die** in Christ (**Revelation 14:13**).

Who knows how many (I have encountered or learned of several in every city where I have lived) have become Christians, have been saved from their past sins, have entered the Lord’s church, and then fallen away? Most of them fall away soon after being saved (see **Matthew 13:20-21**), but some of them endure almost all of the way and then fall away.

God knew this would occur; therefore, He warns against it (**Hebrews 3:1, 12; 4:1; Matthew**

**25:13; I Corinthians 10:12**), describes those who have become guilty of it (**2 Peter 2:20-22; Hebrews 6:4-6; Revelation 3:15-17**), tells how to prevent it (**2 Peter 1:5-7; 3:17; James 5:12; Revelation 3:5, 11**), and supplies the remedy for it (**Acts 8:13-24; Revelation 2:4-5; 3:18-19**). Each one of these proves that a child of God can fall away. Of course, it need not happen at all —

a Christian **can** fall, but no Christian **has** to fall.

No greater tragedy, and none fraught with more serious consequences, can be named than for a Christian to *forsake* the right way (**2 Peter 2:15**), *become entangled again* in the defilements of the world (**2 Peter 2:20-22**), *make shipwreck* concerning the faith (**1 Timothy 1:19**), *become an enemy* of the cross of Christ (**Philippians 3:18-19**), *crucify afresh* the Son of God and put Him to an open shame (**Hebrews 6:6**), and *tum aside* after Satan (**1 Timothy 5:15**).

We are told to endure unto the end, and on this basis, we are promised eternal salvation (**Matthew 10:22**). We are called upon to not be weary in well-doing and are promised that we shall reap if we faint not (**Galatians 6:9**). We are to be faithful, even if such should cost us our very lives, but we are promised “*the crown of life*” (**Revelation 2:10**). One lesson we are taught in the parable of the sower is this: It is not enough to hear the word of God and receive it (even with joy); we must also hold it fast and bring forth fruit with patience (steadfastness) (**Luke 8:11-15**).

In becoming Christians, we have enlisted in the army of Christ — we need to fight the good fight of the faith, to war the good warfare unto the end (**1 Timothy 6:12; 1:18**). We have begun a voyage or started on a journey — we need to pursue it to its final destination (**1 Peter 1:17; 2:11; Hebrews 11:10, 13-16; 13:14**). We have entered a race — we need to run it with patience (endurance), to press on toward the goal (**Hebrews 12:1; Philippians 3:13-14; 1 Corinthians 9:24-25**).