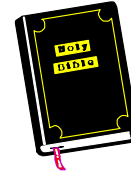


# WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST



“every disciple that is perfect, shall be as his master.” Luke 6:40

## How To Have Unity

What should be the basis of unity? Will just any unity suffice? Jesus prayed to God for unity of His followers by saying **“that they all night be one”** (John 17:21). How are we to be one? In His same prayer Jesus gives the basis for unity by saying **“Sanctify them by your truth, your word is truth”** (John 17:17). Unity can only be based on God’s word of truth as found only in the Bible. The problem in today’s denominational world is men have added to and taken away from God’s word with their many differing creeds. Human opinion is made equal and superior to the word of God. We are warned in Revelation 22:18-19 if we add to or take away from God’s word, we will lose our souls. The denominational world with all of its disunity is exactly what Satan wants. The word denomination comes from a root word which means division. Denominationalism is a betrayal of Christ.

Paul tells us how to have Biblical unity. **“Now I plead with you, brethern, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and same judgment”** (1 Corinthians 1:10). In order to have the same mind and same judgment we must have only the same beliefs and practices as found only in the New Testament. We must limit what we do to be saved and what we do in worship to only what God has authorized in scripture. This is the only way to have the unity for which Christ prayed and for which Paul pleaded. Throughout the Bible man’s worship and service to God has either accepted or rejected depending on man’s obedience to God’s commands (Genesis 4:4-5, Leviticus 10:1-2).

There can be no unity between those who follow human opinion and those who follow only the word of God as found in the Bible. We are commanded, **“Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?...Therefore come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord”** (2 Corinthians 6:14, 17). Here we are forbidden to have unity with those who follow the false doctrines of men.

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Strive to get **CLOSER TO HEAVEN IN 2007!**

## VOLUME 33, NUMBER 9 March 4, 2007

### RECORDS 2/25/2007

Sun 10 AM Bible Study: 58  
 Sun 11 AM Assembly: 93  
 Sun 6 PM Assembly: 62  
 Weds 7 PM Bible Study: 55  
 CONTRIBUTION: \$1902

### SERMONS 3/4/2007

AM: Roger Goodwin  
 PM: Jerry Manning  
**SMASHING DOWN WALLS**

**“Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.” - 2 Corinthians 1:3,4**

*A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services. Come see!*

[www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org](http://www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org)

### *SERVICES*

Sunday 10 AM Bible Study  
 Sunday 11 AM, 6 PM Assembly  
 Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study  
 Office Phone (803) 794-5320  
*Nursery provided*

*Bible Classes for all ages*

### *LADIES CLASS*

Tuesdays (except 1st) 10 AM

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### **“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16**

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** Beryl Parks, Margaret Herring, and our shut-ins Jessica Herring, Zudora Clegg, and Phyllis Johnson. Also, Nina Ruth Meadows (Marcella Klieves' mother), Jack Edwards (Melissa Parks' father), Jack and Elma Berrier, Nathaniel Manning (Jerry and Lynn's grandson).
- **Garland Matthews** has lost the use of one leg. Spinal nerve problems are suspected but doctors are booked up and unable to see him right away.
- **Paul Dillard** has severe bronchitis and might have to enter the hospital.
- **Also remember Judy Walker (back), Ron and Margie Banks** (assortment of ills), **Anna Porter** (who is doing some better), **Marilyn Brooks** (eye problems) and **Trish Kelly** (medicine problems).
- **Don Klieves** continues to recover from shoulder surgery and is starting therapy.
- **Betty Mathis'** sister **Kathryn Westbrook** has pneumonia after a mini-stroke.
- **Betty Smith**, a preacher's wife in Meador WV is to have heart surgery March 6.
- **Julius Guiton**, Margaret Herring's brother needs surgery but isn't up to it yet.
- **Mrs. Hutchinson**, is in the hospital and not doing too well.
- **Nathaniel Manning** had an MRI that shows increased volume in the brain.
- **Chris Parks** has strep throat but says that won't keep him from the Bible Bowl!
- Two of **Grant Parks'** classmates, twins, have been diagnosed with diabetes.
- **Eddie Sheppard** was out Sunday, but back Wed. breathing some better.
- **Robert Ray**, a MSOP classmate of Jerry's had a lung collapse and needs our prayers. He is preaching in Muncie, IN. He and Jerry were very close in school.
- It was good to see the **Banks'** last Sunday morning and **Patricia Kelly** out Wed.

"My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart,  
and my portion forever." - Psalm 73:26

### **“REJOICE WITH THEM THAT DO REJOICE!” - Romans 12:15**

- **Marshall and Sharon Mancuso** have moved into their new home.

"... as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD." - Joshua 24:15

### **“PROVOKE TO LOVE AND GOOD WORKS” - Hebrews 10:24**

- We have an **activity fund** to help members that have need participate in some of the group activities. Members are invited to contribute to this fund individually.
- **Roger Goodwin**, a friend and classmate of Jerry's from MSOP will be preaching this Sunday morning for us. He used to live here in West Columbia when he was younger and before he became a member of the church. Roger is able to support himself in his preaching and works with small congregations to help build them up. He currently is working with the church in Virginia.

"We are bound to thank God always for you brethren, as it is meet, because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one of you all toward one another aboundeth;" - 2 Thessalonians 1:3

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### **“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42**

- **Carolina Men's Fellowship**, Saturday **March 10** 9AM-3PM at Charlotte Ave Church of Christ in Rock Hill. **David Pharr, James Meadows** and others will speak at this 9th annual meeting. If you're interested in going see **Don Klieves**.
- Remember sister **Anne Louise Gordon** in Lexington County Detention Center in your prayers. Pray for the work at LCDC. Brother Manning has been able to teach regularly and many want to obey and be baptized into Christ but there are obstacles that hinder them that need to be overcome.

"LET US NOT LOVE IN WORD, NEITHER IN TONGUE,  
BUT IN DEED AND IN TRUTH" - 1 JOHN 3:18

### **“BE THOU AN EXAMPLE OF THE BELIEVERS” - 1 Tim 4:12**

- Last year, through many member's special contributions, we were able to pay off our auxiliary loan. We had set the goal of \$28,000 not really expecting to meet it. Oh we of little faith—we met and exceeded the goal by November of last year. In the Elder's meeting with the men of the church this Sunday afternoon, it was suggested we adopt a similar goal in reducing the mortgage on the church building, which is over \$300,000. The elders decided to set the goal at **\$30,000**. This will substantially reduce the mortgage and our interest payments. One family has already donated \$5000 to help in this.

“freely ye have received, freely give” - Matthews 10:8

### **How To Have Unity — continued from front page**

How can the denominational world defend their many differing doctrines when they cannot justify them scripturally? They can't. In trying to justify what one does he asks, "Is it a salvation issue?" In other words, "Does it really matter?" If one can shift the focus then there is no necessity in proving or defending one's unscriptural practice. Anything that differs from God's word is sin and sin is a salvation issue, **“For the wages of sin is death”** (Romans 6:23). In speaking of the doctrine of Christ, **“If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds”** (2 John 10-11). Let's not share in the evil deeds of the denominational world in joining with them or giving them any encouragement in their evil deeds. If we do we will be spending eternity with them.

By Ron Boatwright, member of the church of Christ, Conway, Arkansas

“Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus” - **Philippians 2:5**  
If we have His mind, we won't have ours, nor do what we think is right.—Ed K.