

Thoughts On Being Children of God

by Dave Rogers

In Genesis 12:3, the last part of God's promise to Abraham states, "...and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed" (ESV). This blessing reached its zenith in Jesus' offering at Golgotha. What He accomplished by giving Himself as a ransom for the souls of lost humanity gives purpose to God's diligent preservation of Abraham's descendants through the ancient centuries.

In 1 Corinthians 3:21-23, the apostle Paul emphasized to the saints at Corinth that they were the beneficiaries of a universe of spiritual blessings because of their relationship to God through the Christ; therefore, just as he said in verse 21 that "all things are **yours**," in verse 23 he emphasizes that this is true because "you are **Christ's**." To the Galatian Christians he pointed out that all who are truly Christians are "one" (having equal value to God, without distinction concerning Jewish or Gentile origins, gender, socio-economic status, etc.), having become through baptism into Christ the "seed" of ancient Abraham, and thus, heirs of the promise originally made to him! Therefore Paul could show us in Romans 9:6-8 that the promise of blessing was not reserved only for the physical descendants of Abraham (nor even all who were descended through Sarah); rather, it applies to those who **become** (through obedience to the word of Christ) the spiritual descendants of that faithful patriarch (Romans 2:28-29). If we are obedient to the heavenly message, we become "sons of the freewoman" (Galatians 4:28-31), or as Galatians 3:26 describes us, "...children of God through faith in Christ Jesus."

Several important facts devolve from our relationship with God through Jesus the Christ, that we should consider:

First, **Christians** are the recipients of the greatest measure of love the world will ever know. God's love for all humanity is shown by the fact that **He** sacrificed His Son – not Himself, nor His integrity – in order to satisfy the demands of His justice and make reconciliation between the Creator and His creation possible. Jesus expressed it thus to Nicodemus, in John 3:16;

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

Likewise in Romans 5:8 and 8:32, the apostle Paul states,

"...God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (ESV)

"He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not also with him freely give us all things?" (ASV)

Jesus told the disciples in John 15:13, "Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends" (ESV). It is one thing to offer ourselves in the place of another. This is considered the ultimate expression of human love and sacrifice: But do **we** love anyone enough to sacrifice one of our **own** children for that person? Our heavenly Father does!

This offering did not violate the will of Jesus, however, for Paul shows in Galatians 2:20 that the Son of God both loves us **and** gave Himself for us. Paul's words in Ephesians 5:2 express the idea of a **propitiation**; Jesus knowingly offered Himself in our place in order to satisfy the righteous wrath of God that was occasioned by our sins. Again, in John 10:17-18, Jesus said of His death,

*"For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. **18** No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father." (ESV)*

The words of 1 John 4:9 summarize our point very well:

"In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him."

(More to come)

What Did You Bring To Church?

by Kevin D. Beard

When people come to the worship services, they often bring a number of different things with them. Parents of small children make sure that they have a diaper bag with plenty of clean diapers and supplies. Most people make sure that they have brought their bibles and their lesson books for class. But of all the things that you bring with you to the worship on Sundays, did you make sure to bring the most important things?

1. Did you bring a reverent attitude?

Worship is the expression of reverence, devotion, and praise to God. He is the most holy one (Isaiah 6:3). Therefore, because of the nature of worship and the nature of the one to be worshipped, the attitude demonstrated therein will be different from the attitude expressed at a football game: Yet many times one could not notice much difference in the two. Some cause a commotion by continually getting up and leaving the auditorium, by talking, by passing notes, and by other common actions that take place during the worship. God cannot be pleased with those who have so little respect and reverence for His divinity and power that they behave in such a way as this.

2. Did you bring an active mind?

Worship is also something that must be done from the heart and that involves an active mind. God has always detested worship done simply from ritual (Isaiah 1:10-17; Micah 6:6-8). Worship is an active process, not a passive one. Singing is to "Teach and admonish ... with grace in your hearts" (Colossians 3:16). Giving is to be cheerful, according to how one has purpose in heart (2 Corinthians 9:7). The Lord's supper is to be observed in memory of Jesus' death, anticipating His return (1 Corinthians 11:23-26). Prayer is also an active process that each must do (James 5:16b).

And of course the teaching and learning of God's word take an active mind (Acts 2:42; 17:11).

3. **Did you bring a pure life?** One of the biggest reasons that God rejected Judah's worship was that their acts of worship were not done out of pure lives (Micah 6:6-8). Such hypocrisy has always been and will always be wrong. Jesus even went so far as to say that if one comes to worship and realizes that his brother has something against him, he first should go and reconcile things with his brother, then go and worship (Matthew 5:23-24).

Of all the things that we may bring with us to worship, let us always make sure that we bring those things that are most important. Otherwise our worship is vain.

I Wish I Was You

by Gary Hampton

Batsell Barrett Baxter once wrote: "I remember several years ago, on a Sunday morning after I had preached a sermon, I came down from the pulpit, as my custom was, and sat down on the front row while the Lord's supper was being served. There was a little boy, pre-school age, on that front row, who inched over toward me until he sat very close beside me. Then, he leaned close to my ear and said, 'I wish I was you.' Nobody ever said that before and nobody since. Just a little boy whose name I did not even know. I knew his family. I had seen him a few times, but I did not even know his name. But he had heard me preach about Christ, and he had seen me stand in front of the congregation. It was impact as a preacher, not as an individual, that had impressed him so deeply. His statement left an imprint on me." Oh, if we could only feel the power of the influence that we wield upon the lives of others."

Family Matters

Hick Higginbotham – Did NOT have a mini-stroke, and is now home.

Barbara Cozart – Is having health issues.

Valorye Whittaker—Is in Piedmont Hospital, room 451 for brain surgery..

Joyce Green – Denise’s mother is not doing well.

Ruth Campbell – Sylvester’s mother is hospitalized in B’ham, Alabama, and his brother Walter Campbell (former ATL firechief) is hospitalized at Emory/Midtown following a mild stroke.

Members With Health Problems: Becky Higginbotham, Marlene Etheridge, RuPearl Sharpe, Butch & Joann Trawick, Mattie Williams, Richard Amon, Sally Wallace, Brenda Mitchell, Joe Clark, Equillar Butler, Bernice Gillespie, Forrest & Burma Chapman, Maylon Swann, Hick & Estell Higginbotham, Una Fortson, David & Shirley Lee

Shut-ins: Annette Benefield, Lillian Gray, David Nash, Audrey Shaw, Lucille Amon, Jane Lankford & Frances Elder

Others With Health Problems: Mary Lawrence (former member), Katie Obert (Sheri’s daughter-in-law), Pamela Morris (Mitchell’s friend), Gilbert Jones (Equillar’s brother), Nelda Hayes (Jack

Sorrell’s aunt), Tom Holcomb and Jean Benefield (Annette Benefield’s son-in-law and daughter-in-law), Nancy Ford (Joann Crook’s sister), Virginia Poskevich (David’s mother), Loretta Russell (Ray’s mother), Xernonia Fortson (Una’s daughter), Eddie & Lil Cauthen (Joan Poskevich’s brother/sister-in-law), Bill Croix (Mattie’s husband), Joe Hand (Jim Scoma’s brother-in-law) and Marvin Cook (Jean Johnson’s brother)

Military Members Deployed: SFC Chineka McKenzie (Kuwait), 335th Signal Command (T) (P), APO AE.

Capt. Rosa Bell, ECC—A, New Kabul Compound (NKC), APO AE 09354

Deployed for FEMA – Sylvester Campbell is in Texas. Missy Campbell has been redeployed to Columbia, South Carolina.

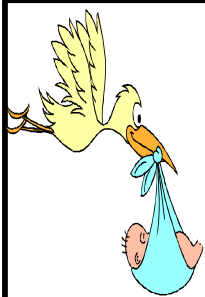
Prayer Requested - Jason Campbell (Sylvester & Missy’s son), and Sylvester Campbell, who will be traveling home for a ten-day furlough from FEMA.

Prayer Request

RuPearl Sharpe came forward Sunday morning thanking God for her clear test result last week.

Also **Connie Elder** came forward requesting prayers for Allison, a family friend going through cancer treatments.

Please continue to keep RuPearl and Allison in your daily prayers.



Nash Reed Killingsworth arrived on Thursday afternoon weighing 7lbs. 13 oz., and measuring 20” long. His proud parents are Keith & Staci, and his grandparents are Wayne & Betty Jo Nash.

Calendar

Jan 24 – Ladies’ Meeting at 4pm, room 121

Feb 5 – Fellowship Game Night at 6pm

Feb 7 - Hope Center Singing at 2pm

Feb 7 - Congregation Meeting at 4pm

Feb 8 – Ladies’ Night out at Susan Fincher’s home, at 6:30 pm

Feb 18-21 – Great Smokey Mountain Marriage Retreat Weekend

Feb 19 – SilverWings Dinner at 6pm

Feb 28-Mar 3 – Progressive Meeting Starts



Mar 5 – Fayetteville’s Ladies’ Day – Tish Clarke, Speaker – “What is it? **FAITH**”

Mar 13-17 – Spring Gospel Meeting – Rob Whitacre, Speaker

Mar 18 - SilverWing Dinner at 6pm



***Chad Hodgkin &
Jasi Quinn Wedding
February 13th at 1:00pm
At Fayetteville Church of Christ
Reception to follow.
Please bring one dish for our potluck.***

L2L Bible Bowl

Jan 24 Chapter 25

Jan 31 Chapter 26

Healthy Snacks

Terri Durden

Susie Graham

Puppet Skills Classes 11:30-12:30

Jan 17 & Feb 21

2nd-5th grade Puppet Coordinator Needed



**“Frog Kids” God’s
Ranch Day-Winter Edition
January 30th at 10am**

Needed: Blankets, coats, gloves, cats & scarves

To distribute to the homeless in Atlanta

See Sally Wallace if you want more information.

Youth Events

Jan 30 – God’s Ranch Day, 10am:

Feb 21 – Area Wide Devotional at Atlanta Airport COC, 5pm

Feb 26-28 – CYC Weekend (**register now**)

March 20—Cedar Grove COC, 5pm

March 25-27 – LTL Convention

April 17—Conyers COC, 6pm

WORSHIP ASSIGNMENTS

Call To Worship

	<u>1/24</u>	<u>1/31</u>
Scripture Reading	Cliff Nash	Zeke Poskevich
Prayer	Ray Russell	Dennis Etheridge
Song Leader		
Preside Lord's Supper	Paul Lyons	Hugh Kelly
Server	Eric Hagin	Eric Hagin
Server	Brad Hopkins	Brad Hopkins
Server	Shirley Allender	Shirley Allender
Server	Gayle Pelfrey	Gayle Pelfrey
Server	Morris Jones	Morris Jones
Server	K. Killingsworth	K. Killingsworth
Server	Jake Garner	Jake Garner
Server	David Hopkins	David Hopkins
Sermon	Dave Rogers	Dave Rogers
Response Elder	Greg Nash	Greg Nash
Announcements	Greg Nash	Greg Nash
Song		
Closing Prayer	Zeke Poskevich	Rory Bell, Jr.
<u>Evening Service</u>		
Prayer	Greg Nash	Jim Pelfrey
Sermon	Song Service	Service Sunday
Server	Anthony Ravenell	Bill Ruffer
Server	Rick Sharpe	Curtis Hurt
Closing Prayer	K. Killingsworth	Tommy Chapman

2016 Progressive Meeting February 28-March 3, 2016

Speaker: Allen Webster

Pulpit Minister, Jacksonville
Church of Christ
House to House Heart to Heart

24th Annual Bible Lectureship & 40th Anniversary as a Congregation January 30-31, 2016 - Tara Church of Christ, Theme: "The Faith Once Delivered"

Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday,
Jan. 30th

Three speakers until 12:00 Noon -
Lunch will be served

Two speakers after lunch.

Please make your plans to attend.

Ladies – Mark your calendar for the Sunday Morning Ladies' Class that will start April 3rd. Frances Kelly will teach Lessons from Proverbs 31.

Fayetteville Church of Christ 2016 Goal - Evangelism

Address:

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Fayetteville, Georgia
30215

Monday –Friday , 9-4
Office Telephone
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Jim Garner
(770) 461-3197
Greg Nash
(404) 455-1546
Jim Pelfrey
(770) 629-2061

Deacons:

Dennis Graham
David Hopkins
Hugh Kelly
Jerry Kendrix
Andy Johnson
Paul Lyons
Stan Mitchell
David Poskevich
Anthony Ravenell
Jack Sorrell

Assembly Schedule:

Sunday
9:00 am Bible Classes
10:00 am Worship Service
6:00 pm Worship Service

10:00 am Tuesday Morning
Bible Class
(September 11—May 14)

7:00 pm Wednesday Night
Bible Study

7:00 pm Thursday Night
Ladies Class
(September-May)

Communion Preparation

Susie Graham

Nursery

24 Terri Durden

31 Charity Nash

Care of Building

16-31 Hugh Kelly/Ray Russell

Ushers

24 Sammy Hugh/Rory Bell

31 Andy Johnson/Keith Killingsworth

Media Center Helpers

24 Morris

31 Zeke Poskevich

Open Arms

24 Doris Buckner, Jean Johnson, Jo Ruffer,

Rose Durden, Linda Armstrong,

Tommy & Gail Chapman

31 Susie Graham, Jasi Quinn, Barbara

Edmonds, Theresa Green,

Tom & Terri Durden

2/7 Sally Wallace, Jessa Quinn,

Connie Kelly, Martha Vickery, Anne Siebert,

Hugh Kelly & Ron Biles

Wednesday Evening Devotional

27 Brad Hopkins

Our Missionaries



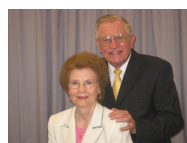
Graham, Elizabeth, Joshua, Megan,
Bethany & Elijah McDonald
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Westfield, Cumberland,
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Email: graham@gmcd.net
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Pohnpel
scottshanahan@hotmail.com



Kenloy & Ivell Walker
Mandeville, Jamaica
Old Harbour Church of Christ,
876-569-2039



Forrest & Burma Chapman,
State of Georgia
email: ftc1952@alltel.com



January 2016

"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen" 2 Peter 3:18

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <table border="1" style="font-size: small;"> <caption>Dec 2015</caption> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="font-size: small;"> <caption>Feb 2016</caption> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>					S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29						<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; color: red;">1</p> <p>Office Closed -New Years Day</p> <p style="color: cyan;">Lucille Amon Estell Higginbotham</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; color: red;">2</p>
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