



*If You Can't Feel It,*  
**Is It Really a Sacrifice?**

*by Dave Rogers*

A sacrifice is 1) “the offering of something to a deity,” 2) ‘forfeiture of something highly valued for the sake of one considered to have a greater value or claim,’ 3) something so forfeited, and 4) relinquishment of something at less than its presumed value.” In short, the concept of sacrifice involves value, cost, or expense.

When God required sacrifices of the ancient Israelites, they were not permitted to bring “free stuff” or “undesirables” as offerings to Him (Leviticus 1:2-3, 10f; Malachi 1:13-14). Jesus was thus entirely just in His criticism of the wealthy among the Jews in Mark 12:41-44, when He noted that their contributions to the temple treasury were merely “leftovers.”

**The very idea of a “sacrifice” that costs us nothing is a contradiction in terms!**

If there is no setting aside of personal benefit, no preference given to gratifying God over gratifying self, then there is no sacrifice! In the New Testament, one word is commonly translated by the word **sacrifice**: the Greek word *thuo* conveys the idea of something killed as an offering to the Lord (like the Passover Lamb). Go back to Leviticus, and note again how particular God was about what He would and would not accept as a sacrifice! Bringing an offering to the altar in that ancient day was an expression of faith in God, because it was an act of self-deprivation. The ancient Jew had to trust God to provide enough so that he could survive the loss of the sacrificial animal (or grain, etc.) The whole concept of a “firstfruits” offering was a gesture of confidence that God would continue to provide after the offering! There was a built-in recognition that God’s “claim” on their belongings was stronger than their own.

In King David we see a man who clearly understood this aspect of sacrifice (unlike his predecessor, Saul, who proposed to get out of an embarrassing situation by using “free stuff” – Amalekite cattle – for a “sacrifice” to God (compare 2 Samuel 24:22-24 with 1 Samuel 15:12-19). When WE – Christians – make offerings to our God, too often they resemble Saul’s instead of David’s! It is easy to “give” Him something we don’t particularly value, something we don’t particularly **need**: To give, in other words, of our “fat.” Note that in Malachi 1:6-14, one of God’s main complaints against Judah was that they offered Him leftovers, things that had no special value for them. In other words, they were making sure they wouldn’t “feel” their sacrifices! Ananias and Sapphira were Christians who committed the same basic sin: They “claimed credit” for a greater offering than they actually made! By giving as they did, they revealed the shallowness of their faith and the depth of their egos: What they offered was calculated to bring glory to themselves, instead of God; it was what they felt they could “spare,” not a real “sacrifice.”

As we remember the challenges our elders have laid before us, let’s be serious about how high we can rise in meeting them. In our efforts to teach the lost; in visiting our sick, shut-ins, visitors, etc.; even in our teaching program, let’s truly determine to “sacrifice ourselves” (Romans 12:1-2) and not be shaped by the selfish image of this world. In our giving, let’s measure the church’s needs (mission work, evangelism, benevolence, the light bill and building mortgage, teaching materials, etc.) against our own wants, so that we each truly “dig deeper” and give of our means as God gives to us! When we offer something to God, whether of ourselves or of our possessions, let’s be reminded that **it’s not a sacrifice if we can’t feel it!**

# On Expressing Thanks At The Lord's Table

by Maxie B. Boren

(The insights shared in this article should not be construed as criticism of anyone. It is hoped that they will be received as kind suggestions to all brothers in Christ everywhere who are called on to serve at the Lord's table.)

I sincerely believe that throughout the brotherhood, there is a great need for more thoughtful and meaningful expressions of thanks, as worship assemblies are led in prayer before partaking of the emblems representing the body and blood of Jesus. It is spiritually deflating if such prayers are not Scriptural and meaningful, and if they do not convey understanding of the significance of the great sacrifice Jesus made for us. To illustrate, a brother once prayed, "Thank you, God, for this bread, and bless it to the nourishment of our bodies." Obviously, he was either nervous and did not even realize what he was saying, or else he knew nothing of what the Lord's supper is all about. Either way, it detracted a great deal from the spiritual mood of the moment. Prayers are frequently offered that never acknowledge that for which we should be thankful as we partake of the Lord's supper. Some brothers, in their prayers at the Lord's table, thank God for most everything imaginable while never even making reference to the sacrifice of Christ. This is deeply regretful, and lays bare a very real problem in many places.

## How can we improve in this important part of our worship?

**First**, brethren should read the accounts directly pertaining to the memorial feast of Christ that is to be observed on the first day of the week (Acts 20:7), and spend some quiet time in prayerful reflection upon them: (Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-29). **Second**, other related passages should be considered with equal care, such as: (Romans 5:6-11; 1 Corinthians 1:18-24 & 15:1-4; 2 Corinthians 4:18-21; Galatians 1:3-4, 2:20 & 6:14; Ephesians 1:3-14 & 2:4-9; Philippians 3:7-12; Colossians 1:12-23; 1 Thessalonians 1:10; 2 Timothy 1:8b-10; Titus 2:11-14 & 3:4-7; Hebrews 2:9-18, 7:26-27, 9:11-28 & 10:10-12; 1 Peter 1:18-19 & 2:21-25; 1 John 4:9-10; Revelation 7:9 & 14).

**Third**, it would be good to read and think about the message of such songs as, "When I Survey The Wondrous Cross," "Oh The Depths And The Riches," and "Nailed To The Cross." Having read and pondered the above mentioned Scriptures and songs, a brother with the responsibility of leading a prayer at the Lord's table should then give careful thought as to what would be an appropriately worded prayer. The prayer should be prayed sincerely and earnestly, from the deep recesses of one's heart, expressing profound gratitude for God's love and mercy as manifested in Jesus Christ and His willingness to give Himself on the cross in our stead.

Three last observations: **(1)** Often, prayers are worded, thanking God for the "bread" and the "fruit of the vine" without even mentioning the body and blood of Jesus. Brethren, it is not the literal bread, nor the literal grape juice, per se, for which we are primarily thankful, but the body and blood of Jesus! Only in a secondary sense are we thankful for the emblems themselves, but it is what they represent for which we should be thankful! Why not word our prayers with the emphasis where it belongs? **(2)** Every public prayer should be worded loudly enough and distinctly enough so people can hear and understand. Brethren should never "mutter through" a public prayer. **(3)** Last, **please brethren**, remember; it is God the Father **to** whom we are praying, and it was **Jesus**, His beloved Son who died on the cross. It is fallacious to thank the Father for His body given and His blood shed. God is a spirit (John 4:23-24) and a spirit does not have flesh and bones (Luke 24:39). It was Jesus, the only begotten Son of God, who became incarnate (read John 1:1-4, 14, & 3:16-17), and endured the suffering of the cross for us (Philippians 2:5-11). It was, therefore, the body and blood of Jesus that was sacrificed at Calvary. Although the Godhead is "one," yet the Bible makes a very clear distinction between the Father in heaven, and the Son that came to earth as Savior, and we need to be very careful to note that truth. To do otherwise is to err, and to mis-teach others, even as we pray.

# Family Matters

Bob Howell – Will start treatments March 23rd.  
 Ruby Fowler – Is having health issues.  
 Bill Croix – Is in Piedmont Fayette Hospital, room 231.

## Prayer Request

**Renee Maddox** requested prayers last Sunday morning for herself and her family. Please keep Renee in your daily prayers.

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

**Shut-ins:** Valorye Whittaker, Annette Benefield, Lillian Gray, David Nash, Audrey Shaw, Jane Lankford, Joe Clark & Frances Elder

**Others With Health Problems:** Terry Crump, Carol Bomas (Charity Nash's aunt), Cathy Cavenden (Tiffany Durden's mother-in-

-law), Bill Croix (Mattie's husband), Suzanne Oderry (friend of Gayle Pelfrey), Dylan Carter (11 month-old daughter of the Hagins' friends), Loretta Russell (Ray's mother), Walter Campbell (Sylvester's brother), Joyce Greene (Denise's mother), Pamela Morris (Mitchell's friend), 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), Xernonia Fortson (Una's daughter), Eddie & Lil Cauthen (Joan Poskevich's brother/sister-in-law), Joe Hand (Jim Scoma's brother-in-law) and Marvin Cook (Jean Johnson's brother)

**Prayer Requested** – Jason Campbell (Sylvester & Missy's son).

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

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

AM3 Candace Butts (Connie Elder's daughter), US Navy

**Deployed for FEMA** – Missy Campbell is in Columbia, South Carolina.

## 2016 Spring Adult Classes

Sunday

Wednesday

Adult Classes	Auditorium	Genesis Dave Rogers	Matthew-Mark Dave Rogers
Ladies Class	Room 121	Proverbs Frances Kelly	Matthew – Mark Kenneth Fincher
	Room 122	Genesis Thomas Quinn	
	Room 201	1 <sup>st</sup> Principles Paul Lyons	

## Calendar

**Mar 18** – SilverWings Reorganization Meeting & Potluck. Please join us and bring your ideas.

**Mar 20** – Laura Morgan & Luke Quinn's Wedding Shower

**Apr 1** – Fellowship Game Night at 6pm

**Apr 3** – Lads to Leaders/Leaderettes Potluck Luncheon. Please join us.

**April 12** – Tuesday Ladies' Night Out hosted by Luann Rogers.

**May 2** – Raintree Village Children's Food Truck. Please have your donations at the church building by Sunday May 1st.

**May 10** – Tuesday Ladies' Night Out hosted by Sally Wallace

**May 14-15** – Rose Show

**May 22** – Lauren Sorrell's Bridal Shower at 2:30pm

**May 30** – Office Closed for Memorial Day

**June 5** – Jordan Pyron's Bridal Shower at 2:30pm

**June 14** – Tuesday Ladies' Night Out hosted by Linda Howell and Annette

## Area Events:

**Mar 19, Apr 9 & 23** – McDonough Church of Christ, 9am-12:30pm, "How to Become an Effective Speaker in 10 Hours" – J.J. Turner, instructor

**April 2** – McDonough COC Ladies' Day, "The Blessings of Being a Godly Woman" – Speaker, Becky Blackmon

**April 8** – Central Church of Christ Area Wide Singing, 7-11pm



Luke Quinn & Laura Morgan  
 Come and Go Wedding Shower  
 March 20th from 2:30-4pm  
 In the Fellowship Hall

**Congratulations** to Jordan Madison, who has accepted an academic and soccer scholarship from Oglethorpe

## Youth Events

**March 25-27** – LTL Convention

**April 3** – LTL Potluck Luncheon

**April 17** – Conyers COC at 6pm

**May 1** – Senior Recognition Dinner after the PM Service. We would like your Senior pictures and Bio by April 17th.

**June 12-17** – Camp Inagehi Week

**July 10-13** – VBS "The Voyage"

## WORSHIP ASSIGNMENTS

### Call To Worship

	<u>3/20</u>	<u>3/27</u>
Scripture Reading	Zeke Poskevich	Jordan Madison
Prayer	Curtis Hurt	Larry Rose
Song Leader		
Preside Lord's Supper	Eric Hagin	Brad Hopkins
Server	Ben Rogers	Ben Rogers
Server	Randal Bell	Randal Bell
Server	Ray Russell	Ray Russell
Server	Gayle Pelfrey	Gayle Pelfrey
Server	Jake Garner	Jake Garner
Server	Morris Jones	Morris Jones
Server	Cliff Nash	Cliff Nash
Sermon	Dave Rogers	Dave Rogers
Response Elder	Jim Garner	Jim Garner
Announcements	Greg Nash	Greg Nash
Song		
Closing Prayer	Rory Bell, Jr.	Jim Pelfrey

### Evening Service

Prayer	Hugh Kelly	David Hopkins
Sermon	LTL Boys	Song Service
Server	Ron Biles	Anthony Ravenell
Server	Bob Howell	Rick Sharpe
Closing Prayer	Jimmy Garner	Gayle Pelfrey

## G. S. O. P. Spring Classes At Fayetteville April 4 – June 30 1-2 Hr Credit (or Audit)

### 13-week successive courses:

- Monday April 4th 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm 1st & 2nd Timothy  
**(Instructor Steve Vice)**
- Monday April 4th 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm Genesis  
**(Instructor Rush Wyatt)**
- Thursday April 7th 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm Intro to Old Testament  
**(Instructor Randy Kea)**
- Thursday April 7th 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm Intro Research and Composition  
**(Instructor David Rogers)**

## Fayetteville Church of Christ 2016 Goal - Evangelism

### Address:

870 Redwine Road  
Fayetteville, Georgia  
30215

Monday –Friday , 9-4  
Office Telephone  
(770) 461-3617,  
(770) 461-8231 Fax

Email: mail@fcoc.com

Web Page: <http://www.fcoc.com>



[www.Facebook.com/Fayettevillecoc](http://www.Facebook.com/Fayettevillecoc)

### Ministers:

Dave Rogers  
(361) 649-6638  
Dave.rogers@fcoc.com

Greg Nash,  
(404) 455-1546 (cell)  
gnash999@gmail.com

### Office Secretary:

Susie Graham  
celiagram@bellsouth.net

### Elders:

Tom Durden  
(770) 652-7389  
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

Charity Nash  
April - Brenda Mitchell

### Nursery

20 Meggi Quinn  
27 Susie Graham

### Care of Building

16-31 Stan Mitchell/Curtis Hurt

### Ushers

20 Harry Williams/Morris Jones  
27 Shirley Allender/Lewis Armstrong

### Media Center Helpers

20 Zeke Poskevich & 27 Gayle Pelfrey  
April 3 & 10 Morris Jones  
April 17-24 Ben Rogers

### Open Arms

20 Jo Ruffer, Jean Johnson,  
Anne Siebert, Thomas & Meggi Quinn  
27 Susie Graham, Zeke Poskevich,  
Barbara Edmonds, Linda Armstrong,  
Jack & Carla Sorrell  
4/3 Sally Wallace, Laura Gibson,  
Connie Kelly, Martha Vickery ,  
Theresa Green,  
Hugh Kelly & Ron Biles

### Wednesday Evening Devotional

23 David Riley  
30 David Hopkins

## Our Missionaries



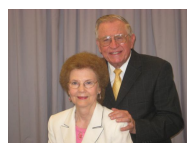
Graham, Elizabeth, Joshua, Megan,  
Bethany & Elijah McDonald  
Scotland, 11 Woodhead Ct,  
Westfield, Cumberland,  
North Lanarkshire, G68 9DB  
Email: graham@gmcd.net  
Skype: gmcd105 or www.gmcd.net



Scott, Rebecca & Violet Shanahan  
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

# March 2016

Response Elder: Jim Garner

## Evangelism

"So we built the wall, and the entire wall was joined together up to half its height, for the people had a mind to work." Nehemiah 4:6

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																	
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<p><b>27</b> LTL Convention Song Service Wayne Nash</p>	<p><b>28</b> GSOP 6-9pm</p>	<p><b>29</b> Jessie Allender Tuesday Morning Bible Study at 10am</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Apr 2016</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Apr 2016							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
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