

ANNOUNCEMENTS**JUNE 10, 2012****SICK LIST:****HEALTHCARE CENTERS:**

Bertharine Burton, Ruby Harrison, June Hosmer, Sue Lockhart (Ridgeview Rm 175)

HOME: Freddie Alexander, Gloria Windham, Ed & Bettie Barrett, H.C. & Jimmie Nell Brown, Fred & Romaine Elliott, Bessie Files, Cynthia McMeans, Henry McDonald, Neil Myers, Bettye Henderson

PRAYER LIST: April Lazenby, Kimberly Wilcox, Sonya Parnell, Anna Turner, Francis Rushing, Sue Hinds, Harold Walton, Larry Drummond, Jim Murrell, Louise Alexander, Donnie Bryant, Joshua Jackson, Elmer Williams, Debra Webb, Sharon Lawson, Esther Sutton, Wilma Howell, Patsy Tucker, Rhonda Poe, Debbie Odom, Dicey Wright, Michael Pope, Wanda Williams, Robert Turner, Kristee McDonald, Wonda Ivie

AM - BEN WRIGHT - CHRIST'S PRAYER FOR UNITY

PM - BEN WRIGHT - DOERS OF THE WORD

SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO THE FAMILY OF JOE WINDHAM. SERVICES WERE WEDNESDAY

THANKS TO ALL THOSE WHO WORKED TO MAKE OUR VBS SUCCESSFUL

VBS AT ANTIOCH JUNE 10-14

GOSPEL MEETING AT CARBON HILL, JUNE 10-13

GOSPEL MEETING AT HATT JUNE 10-12

BIRTHDAY:

June 10: Linda McDonald

ANNIVERSARY:

June 11: Fred & Romaine Elliott

THE WEST WALKER WELCOMER

WEST WALKER CHURCH OF CHRIST
26036 HIGHWAY 78
CARBON HILL, AL 35549
(205) 924-9038
westwalkerchurchofchrist.org

TIMES OF SERVICES

SUNDAY MORNING

BIBLE CLASS 9:30

WORSHIP 10:20

SUNDAY EVENING 5:00

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00

ELDERS:

Gene McDonald 924-4827
Carlton Myers 221-0637
Neil Myers 924-9289
Bruce Windham 221-2348

DEACONS:

Danny Busby 387-0213

MINISTER:

Ben Wright 522-8004

CHRIST'S PRAYER FOR UNITY

(Jo 17)

- I. The _____ for unity.**
- A. One of the many things that stand out in our Lord's life is that He and His Father were of the same _____.
 - B. Jesus knew that He came to this earth to _____ and that it was the will of the Father.
 - 1. Revelation 13:8.
 - 2. 1 Peter 1:20.
 - C. Jesus is our supreme _____ in all things (1 Peter 2:21; John 13:15).
- II. The _____ for unity.**
- A. The platform for unity, the basis on which Christians are united with each other and the Divine, is God's _____.
 - 1. John 17:17.
 - 2. This _____ word was given to the apostles by Jesus and He stated it was from God (17:8).
 - B. Any religious joining that is not based on truth is _____.
 - C. John 17:21 - you can only have religious unity with those in _____.
- III. The _____ of unity.**
- A. The purpose is for the world to know who _____ is.
 - B. When the world sees Christians being one, they will be _____.
 - C. _____ are a manifestation of the wisdom of God (Ephesians 3:9-10).
 - D. It must be the goal of every Christian to dwell together in _____.
- IV. Problems in achieving unity.**
- A. We need to make sure that we understand that there is never to be unity at the _____ of truth.
 - B. We cannot have unity at the cost of truth for the _____ of unity.
- V. The _____ for unity.**
- A. There is a right and proper plea that goes out from the _____.
 - B. That plea is to meet over an open Bible & study God's word, then be _____ to it.
 - C. We can only be united with the religious world if they are united with _____.
 - D. Only place for this unity is on the _____ of God.
 - E. Only way to have peace is to follow the _____.

We live in a so-called "information age," an age of science and learning. Great discoveries that have come to light over the past century have served to greatly increase the quality of life in many lands. Such is indeed wonderful, and we all should hope that, if the world stands, many more wonderful natural truths will be discovered. The renowned scientist Albert Einstein attributed the source of his many contributions to knowledge to the fact that he asked questions. A local research hospital uses the motto: "Asking; Answering." Most everyone should recognize that no great thing ever came without one seeking it. This is true in spiritual matters as well as natural.

At one time the Gospel of Jesus Christ was a new teaching. After Jesus' ascension to heaven to sit at God's right hand as king of the promised spiritual kingdom, He fulfilled His promise of guiding the apostles into all truth when He sent the Holy Spirit to them on the first Day of Pentecost following His death. They began on that day, as recorded in Acts 2, to proclaim the remission of sins through obedient faith in Jesus. The first converts to Christ learned the way of salvation by asking a simple question (Acts 2:37).

Years later, as Acts 17 records, when Paul traveled on his second missionary journey, he came to two cities. At Thessalonica he encountered Jews who did not wish to hear Paul reasoning from the scriptures. They reacted by inciting an angry mob, which led Paul and Silas to have to flee the city secretly. Arriving at the city of Berea, Paul found Jews of reasonable mind. Verse 11 states that they "searched the scriptures daily to see whether these things were so." The Bereans were not afraid to have their beliefs challenged. They did not fear the results of honest inquiry, and as such, many were saved.

Paul foretold of a terrible falling away from God that would come in days later than those in which he wrote (Acts 20:29-31, 2 Thess 2:3, 1 Tim 4:1-5). The prophecies were fulfilled in the nearly total apostasy that dominated the world throughout the Middle-Ages. During the period of history called the Renaissance, a seeking of God's true way began that led to the Restoration Movement of the Nineteenth Century that resulted in a restoration of true Christianity. This all came to be, because a great many were willing to have their beliefs challenged. They were willing to ask questions. They believed that answers could be found.

We can easily see the need for honest inquiry. Yet, many Christians seem to fear honest inquiry, and often hold suspect those who seek answers to tough questions. Even more numerous are those who are afraid to ask for fear of asking something "stupid." Do not ever be afraid to ask questions. Ask, and be willing to have your understanding challenged as others ask. The truth will always shine forth the brighter as a result of honest inquiry. Jesus said, "Ask, and it shall be given to you; seek and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it shall be opened" (Matt 7:7-8 NASB).