

The Floral Heights Informer

www.floralheightschurchofchrist.org

06 August 2006
Volume 6; Issue 33

**Floral Heights
Church of Christ
1814 Buchanan
Wichita Falls, Texas
76309
(940) 322 - 1650**

In This Issue:

Bible Authority by Brandon Witherspoon1-2
Local News 2
What Must I Do to be Saved by Brandon Hardy 3
Clips from Psalms on Back Cover

Our Elders:

**Mike Chancellor
(322 – 6374)**

**Tom Witherspoon
(766 – 5368)**

Our Deacons:

Joe Cronin

Jim Hall

David Witherspoon

Bible Authority

By Brandon Witherspoon

Why do we assemble every first day of the week? Why do we sing, pray, give, partake of the Lord's Supper, and hear teaching? Why do we have Bible classes? There is a very simple answer. Because we have the authority to.

What exactly is authority? Authority is the power to command. A person with authority has the right to command. Jesus has all authority (Matt. 28:18). Since Jesus has all authority, we must go to the Bible, His word, and learn what He commands.

In the Scriptures we find 4 basic ways which God uses to command us. The first of these is **direct command**. From the beginning of time, we find God utilizing direct command. In Gen. 2:16-17 we have record of this: "And the Lord God commanded the man saying, of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil **you shall not eat**, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." God gave the man a very simple, specific command. Adam could then choose to abide by God's command or to not.

Summer Gospel Meeting Starts Today!

Micky Galloway of Lancaster, California will be preaching for us today and on through Friday evening. Micky is married to his good wife Donna and together they have two daughters that are now married. Beth is married to Jason Burden and Christi to Chris Peters. Micky has been preaching for the 5th Street East Church of Christ in Lancaster for 15 years.

Local News:

Summer Gospel Meeting

Today we begin our Gospel meeting with **Micky Galloway**. It is our prayer that much good would come of this effort.

Kyle Austin received a favorable report from his recent doctor's visit. Continue to pray for him as he recovers from his surgery.

Check out our **live chat line on Monday evenings at 8:00 PM!**
<http://www.floralheightschurchofchrist.org/chat/>

Although the chat line is designed to preach to the lost members of the church are encouraged to log on and participate in Bible discussion too.

Relief Needed:

Luis Zamora, of Austin Texas, has recently lost all his support for preaching. The South Austin church has lost so many members that they can no longer afford to support their preacher. If you can help you may send the aid to the follow address:

Luis Zamora
212 Morrell
Kyle, TX 78640-8818
(512) 657-9371

Continue to pray for our shut-ins:

Stella Davidson
696-1030 (Home)

Verlon Powell
Rolling Meadows Health Care Room
31

Calvin York:
692-0489 (Home).

Bessie Murphy
4600 Taft Blvd, Apt. 538

Another method which God employs to command us is **apostolic example**. Through the study of our NT we can find examples of what the apostles did. We should diligently study these examples so as to follow them (I Cor. 11:1). An example of apostolic example is found in Acts 20:7. In this passage Paul partakes of the Lord's Supper on Sunday. Because of Paul's example we know to take the Lord's Supper on the first day of the week.

The third type of Bible authority is **inference**. What exactly do we mean by inference? Inference is deriving a conclusion from facts or premises. When God uses inference he does not specifically say the command, but it is implied through what is said. For example in Mk. 16:15 Jesus told the apostles to go teach. By inference we know that how you go teach is up to you. Plane, boat, car, it doesn't matter. Another example is found in Acts 20:7 which we examined earlier. Since we know from Paul's apostolic example to take the Lord's Supper on Sunday we see through inference that any other day is excluded.

The fourth and final way God gives commands is through **silence**. When God says nothing we have no right to say anything either. In Heb. 7:11-14 we find Paul discussing this very thing. In this passage we see that since God said that under the Old Law the tribe of Levi was to be the priestly tribe, God didn't have to name all the other tribes and say they were not to be the priestly tribe. Just because God doesn't say, "Thou shalt not" doesn't mean we can do what we want in that area of scripture.

In the Bible we have everything we need to live our lives in accordance with God's will. Through direct command, apostolic example, inference, silence of the scriptures God commands every aspect of our lives. If we put a little effort into study, then these commands are very simple to understand. It's then up to us to follow it or not.

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

Psalms 133:1

How to Obtain Salvation

By Brandon Hardy

By God's grace and mercy He has provided instructions whereby man may be saved from the consequences of sin (Col. 1:14). There are two paths you can take in life God's path and the devil's path. Right now I want to tell you about God's path, the path to heaven. What is heaven? And how do we get there? These are questions I want to answer through the word of God.

First, let us discuss what heaven is. Heaven is a place of eternal rest (Rev. 14:11). "And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; each one of the gates was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass. And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God the Almighty, and the Lamb, are the temple thereof" (Rev. 21:21-22). As we see in these verses it's a beautiful place. But how do we get there? First we are to hear the word of God (Rom. 10:17). Secondly, we are to believe that Christ died on the cross for our sins (Mark 16:16). Then, we are to repent of our sins asking God to forgive us (Acts 2:38; 17:30). Confess Christ before all men as the son of the living God (Rom. 10:9). Then be baptized, submerged under water, as recorded at Acts 22:16; I Pet. 3:20). But if you've done these things you still might loose your salvation. You must remain faithful. Peter said, "For if God spared not angels when they sinned, but cast them down to hell, and committed them to pits of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;" (II Pet. 2:4).

I. Sin Separates Man from God

A. Isa. 59:1-2

B. I Jn. 1:7-8

II. Reconciliation

A. Colossians 1:14 / in this verse we can see we can have redemption; a way to be saved from the punishment of our sins.

B. I Jn. 1:7-8 / We see in these verses we all have sinned. But we can also get cleansed of our sins.

III. What Must I do to be Reconciled to God?

A. Hear (Rom. 10:17)

B. Believe (Mk. 16:16)

C. Repent (Acts 2:38; 17:30)

D. Confess Christ (Rom. 10:9)

E. Be Baptized (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; I Pet. 3:20)

F. Remain faithful to the Lord (Gal. 5:16-26; Rev. 2:10)

Invitation:

Are you a Christian?