

# Announcements and Church News

## Our Sick

Les Vasterling— recovering from hip replacement surgery; John Benson—upcoming surgery on 9/27; Dennis Cuckler— out sick; Tim Miller—doing better; Shirley Lydic—doing some better; Jan Lavern—recovering at home; Ronnie Sommerville, Jr.— cancer trmt; Delia Schlachter back issues; Teresa Broyles cancer treatment; Joyce Stanley, Kim Taylor, Guery & Nancy VanWinkle, health issues.

### PRAYER REQUESTS FOR FAMILY/FRIENDS;

Dottie Curls— son Douglas/serious medical issues; Kemora Davis's—grandmother for covid/heart issues; Regina Hunter's—bro-in-law/recent surgery; Kay Jessup's brother/home from hospital; Jan Lavern's—son Jason/surgery; The Haddock— son Steve/health issues; The Adam's—granddaughter Trinity; Jackie Clark's mother Dorothy and grandmother Gayle/health issues; Patrick Pinto's—dad James/ heart issues also sister Angelina and nephew Joshua need prayers; Lexi Cahill's—grandfather/lung cancer; prayers for mom Kelly; Carol Untied's—stepmom Emily/shoulder issue; Paula Davis— friend Tracey; Carol Mitchell— tumor on liver; The Stewart's—bro-in-law Russell Holt; The Kozola's son Tim; David Sain's—wife Phyllis; Van Stewart's—aunt, Linda Parsons and uncle Robert Miller; Dianne Stewart's—brother, Bobby Goodfield; The Stingles'—niece's baby; Paula Davis'—niece/lupus; Darrell Broking—for health issues.

### PRAYERS FOR CANCER:

Tim Martin of Pinellas Park church of Christ; Dy-  
ianna Thompson's brother-in-law, Rodney; John  
Benson's friend, Wendell; Ranny Reeves neighbor, Linda Wall; Linda Haddock's niece, June McCray; Carol Untied's stepmother Emily; Van  
Stewart's sister Tracey and cousin Paula; Mattie  
Simmons brother Joe Hooks and friend William; Sandy Caldwell's bro-in-law Larry; Kay Jessup's friends, Pete Pepjess and Marie Woleck.

**INMATES:** Antwaun Thompson, Willie Newton & Tom George.

**OUR SERVICE MEN:** Austin Reyes (Marine) Matthew Holleran (Army)

**SHUT INS:** Delia Schlachter, Joyce Stanley and Guery & Nancy VanWinkle

## Activities

**LADIES BIBLE CLASS**— This Friday, September 15th at 1:00pm in the small building. All ladies are welcome. See Vicki Herman with any questions.

**NEXT MEN'S MONTHLY BIBLE CLASS**— Thursday, October 5th in the small building from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. See Van Stewart for any questions.

**UPCOMING LADIES DAYS**— Orange Street church of Christ in Auburndale on Saturday, September 23rd and South Florida Avenue church of Christ in Lakeland on Saturday, October 7th. Flyers for both can be found in the foyer.

**GOSPEL MEETING**—Mark your calendars for our Fall Gospel Meeting with Wade Webster from Sunday October 1st through Thursday October 5th. We will have a fellowship dinner on Sunday after the morning service. Be sure to invite your family, friends and neighbors. Flyers are in the foyer.

**FALL FAMILY CAMP**— At Weeki Wachee Christian Camp from November 10th to the 12th. Flyers can be found in the foyer.

### THOSE SERVING TODAY

*Greeters*— Max/Vicki Herman  
*Announcements*—Charles Broyles  
*Song Leaders*—James George/Jesse Lancaster  
*Scripture Readers*—Bob Haddock/Dennis Cuckler  
*Opening Prayer*—Mark Bernhardt/James George  
*Lord's Table*—Max Herman  
*Closing Prayer*—Joe Bonelli/John Benson

## Birthdays This Week

Edna Broughton— September 11th  
Bobby Goodfield—September 14th  
Cindy Batte— September 15th

## Anniversaries This Week

Bill and Joy Ingram—September 11th  
Don and Helen Stingle—September 12th

# CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

September 10, 2023  
centralcofchrist@gmail.com  
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Office: (727) 446-4808  
1454 Belleair Rd. Clearwater, FL 33756-2357

Gospel Broadcasting Network  
http://gbntv.org YouTube  
https://spiritualsword.org/

SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY TV Channel 44 (WTOG) at 7:30am Sunday YouTube watch & hear Phil Sanders

THE INTERNATIONAL GOSPEL HOUR YouTube (24/7) to hear Jeff Archey

House to House Heart to Heart fsop.net

Childhaven, Inc. Childhaven Children's Home in Cullman, AL www.childhaven.com

FAIR HAVEN CHILDREN'S HOME fairhavenchildrenshome.com www.christiancourier.com

Arnold Town Road Church of Christ—Darrell Broking  
Chalmette Church of Christ—Mark Lance  
South Anchorage Church of Christ—Michael Dale  
Czech Republic Missions — Tony/Heidi Orellana

### Elders:

Joe Bonelli Charles Broyles  
James George

### Deacons:

Max Herman  
Van Stewart

**Preacher:** Charles Broyles

Office: 727-446-4808 Cell #: 423-240-9075

**Sunday Bible Study—9:30AM**  
Charles Broyles  
**The Book of Revelation**  
Chapter 1

**Sunday AM Worship—10:30AM**  
Charles Broyles  
**Word Became Flesh**  
John 1:1-3, 14

**Sunday PM Worship—5:00 PM**  
Charles Broyles  
**Sitting At The Feet of Jesus**  
Luke 10:38-39

**Men's Bible Study—Thursday**  
**October 5th at 7:00PM**

**Ladies Bible Study—Friday**  
**September 15th at 1:00PM**

**Wed. Bible Study—7:00PM**  
Charles Broyles  
**Salvation**

All services are available!

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## **From the Preacher's Pen**

### **EXEGESIS OF EPHESIANS 5:19 & COLOSSIANS 3:16**

W. D. Jeffcoat 1929-2014

In Ephesians 5:19 Paul states, "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord." All Bible quotations are taken from the KJV unless otherwise noted. In Colossians 3:16 he declared, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."

In the first text, "speaking, comes from *laleo*, which means to "talk, tell, or utter." Speech involves pronunciation, or the giving of the correct vowel and consonant sounds. Speech involves enunciation, or the projecting of these correct sounds. Speech involves articulation, or the correct joining of the syllables into words and phrases. In both texts, "singing," comes from *ado*, which is always indicative of praise to God. The term "music," which appears in neither text, is defined as a rhythmical succession of pleasing tones. With these thoughts in mind, notice the following observations.

Singing is a specific kind of music—vocal music. It is not merely vocal music that pleases God, however. People may sing notations or tones, which constitute vocal music. The kind of singing which God prescribes in Christian worship involves speaking, or the pronunciation, enunciation, and articulation of words. The singing is directed toward two objects, God and people. In the second text, Paul defines that which is directed toward people as "teaching," from *didasko*, which means to "give instruction," and "admonishing," from *noutheteo*, which means to "warn." In both texts it may be observed that singing, as worship, is directed to God, while in the second text it may be additionally noted that "grace," from *charis*, expressive of graciousness or thanksgiving, is directed toward God.

Humming, the clapping of hands, or even whistling has no place in such activity. Although both humming and whistling constitute vocal music, and clapping of hands is engaged in by God's creation (cf. Ps. 98:8; Isa. 55:12), and not that which is made by man (i. e. a mechanical instrument), none of them are divinely authorized! People hum and whistle tones, and not words, which involve speech. Humming and whistling do not instruct and warn people in regard to Biblical principles, but singing which involves speaking does! The clapping of hands, which is none other than a rhythmical device, is but a percussion instrument, similar to a snare drum. Thus, neither humming, whistling, nor the clapping of hands involves pronunciation, enunciation, or articulation, by which means people are taught and admonished. Among other things, Paul stated in First Corinthians 14:15, "...I will sing with the understanding also." In the text, "understanding" is from *nous* which denotes, "the seat of reflective consciousness, comprising the faculties of perception and understanding, and those of feeling, judging and determining." People do not reflect, perceive, understand, feel, judge, or determine anything regarding instruction and warning in the New Testament by humming, whistling, or the clapping of hands. The writer affirms, in fact, that there is absolutely no difference in using such to accompany our singing in worship and using any mechanical instrument of music! In each instance they are condemned for the same reason—the New Testament does not authorize their use!

Regarding the texts under consideration, however, there is another thing that greatly disturbs this writer. Many Christians do not sing in worship to God! The term "yourselves" in the first text and the phrase "one another" in the second text come from *heautou*, which is a reciprocal pronoun, denoting the fact that mutual action or a cross relationship is involved in the singing. It involves reciprocity or a mutual and cooperative exchange. It means that when the writer sings, he instructs

and warns himself and worships and expresses graciousness to God, and at the same time, he does likewise to the other worshipers. The other worshipers, in turn, reciprocate, or do likewise to the writer. Some hold that erroneous view that "making melody (*psallo*) in the heart" means that it is unnecessary for the singing to be audible. If this were the case, mutual action or cooperative exchange would not be involved in the teaching and admonishing of one another, and in worshipping and expressing thanksgiving to God. *Psallo*, which is used in the first passage, simply conveys the figurative idea of pulling, plucking, or twanging the strings of the heart. The term "heart" in the text is from *kardia*, which denotes the seat of the will, intellect, etc. Coupled with the statement of Paul in regard to "understanding" in First Corinthians 14:15, it can readily be seen that not only are Christians commanded to sing in worship, but they are to so do in audible fashion. Since Christians cannot engage in the other items of worship by proxy, we should not think that worship in song is any different. Of course, obviously, there are exceptions. Those who cannot speak, or those who are otherwise physically disabled, are obviously exempt. The statement however, "I cannot sing," is an indictment against Almighty God, with the above exceptions. If this were true, God would require persons to do that which they cannot do! No doubt many people who make such statements think of their inability as compared to others. They should remember, however, that the singing is not merely directed to their fellows, but also "to the Lord" (Eph. 5:19), or "unto God" (Col. 3:16).

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### **IS IT FOOLISH TO USE THE BIBLE TO PROVE THE EXISTENCE OF GOD?**

Garland M. Robinson

No, it is not! On the contrary, it is foolish to say you can't use the Bible to prove the existence of God.

Evidence for the existence of God and His creation is found both inside the Bible and outside the Bible. Atheists may disbelieve the Bible and not accept what it teaches about God but that does not mean we must throw the Bible out simply because they do not believe it. We must show them the overwhelming evidences set forth in the Bible. By so doing, the integrity and reliability of the Bible are established. Therefore, when the credibility of the Bible is confirmed, then what it says on all matters is also credible and trustworthy -- including the existence of God.

The many prophecies of the Bible and their fulfillment can be used to show beyond a doubt that the Bible is trustworthy. Hundreds of years before an event took place we can read of a prophecy concerning it in the Bible and then see from history that it was fulfilled in every detail. For example: It is a matter of historical record that the Jews were carried into captivity by the Babylonians and then allowed to return to Palestine 70 years later by order of Cyrus, king of Persia (Isaiah 25; Jeremiah 29). Isaiah 45 names Cyrus as the one who would accomplish it. This was 200 years before it took place! Fulfilled Bible prophecy is certainly credible evidence that even an atheist cannot successfully deny.

There are many scientific points mentioned in the scriptures that serve as evidence to the credibility of the Bible. For centuries men believed the world was flat. Nearly 400 years ago, an expedition led by Magellan sailed around the world and finally PROVED the world was round. The scientific community today scoffs at the idea that they themselves used to believe the world was flat. Had they read Isaiah 40:22, written 2200 years before, they would have learned the Bible said the world was round. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (II Timothy 3:16-17).