

## ATTITUDES

*Terry Joe Kee*

We often find ourselves sitting around wondering “Why?” Why are we not converting more people? Why is the church not growing? Why are our numbers not increasing from week to week? Why? Why? Why? With all our whys we look to find some way to become more productive. After all we have the truth as it has been revealed by God. Men can read and study this Word and find the way of salvation. His word is not written in veiled or difficult language that cannot be understood. When we read, we can know the truth and be saved by it (John 8:32; Eph. 5:17).

But if we know all of this and we have the resources and ability to know what needs to be done, then why? If we know our family and friends are lost and we also know we have the means of helping them be saved, why are we not seeing them saved? If we genuinely believe that there are eternal consequences for not obeying the gospel, then why are we not doing more?

Perhaps the primary reason for our “whys” is one of attitude. Without an attitude motivated by a genuine love for the lost we will not do more. If we truly love those who are in sin, we will be showing them the concern necessary to teach them. God loved us and sent His Son to die for us (John 3:16). Even though we were sinners Christ died for us (Rom. 5:8,9). God loved us and demonstrated it by sending His Son. What have we sacrificed in order to teach someone the good news? We can talk about our love for the lost, but our words are worthless if we do nothing (cf. I John 3:18,19).

We need to realize that the world *needs* what we have. We are not trying to force some unneeded and unnecessary message upon the world. Anyone having something of such value and need would be advertising and demonstrating it. If someone today had a cure for Covid-19, what would you think of them if they were not out telling everyone about it and where to find it? What we have is much more valuable than the cure for a virus.

What is one soul worth to us? How much value do we place on a soul? Do we believe it is worth more than all the world? Jesus said it is (Matt. 16:24). Every time someone obeys the gospel, a soul is snatched from the fires of an eternal Hell (Jude 23). When we deliver one from death and help them begin to walk in the paths of righteousness, God rejoices and Satan rebels.

Again, this brings us back to our attitude. Only when we are committed to saving lost souls will we continue to work and do what we can to reach the lost. Our attitude toward the lost and our responsibility to them will determine how much effort we give and how much determination we must have to reach lost souls. If our attitude is right nothing will stop us or deter us from doing all we can. Maybe we need the attitude of our fathers, who would not let anything keep them from seeking the lost. Maybe our biggest problem is our attitude.

## THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH

*Dub McClish*

If the church as God planned it and Christ built it is to exist in any age, there are certain principles to which men must be committed. As surely as any of these principles are abandoned, so surely will the New Testament church cease to exist. Consider these necessary principles:

1. **A Commitment to the Absolute Authority of Christ.** His authority is emphasized each time the New Testament calls Him Lord. His miracles were for the purpose of establishing His Divine authority and identity (John 20:30-31). This commitment includes the recognition that the church belongs to Him, and He alone has the right to determine every feature of it. Until all men who claim to follow Christ allow Him alone to be the head of the church, religious confusion will reign.

2. **A Commitment to the New Testament as the Final Authority in Religion.** Christ expresses His authority through the New Testament alone. No alleged latter-day revelations (e.g., The Book of Mormon) nor prophets (e.g., Joseph Smith) can be accepted by people who are serious about the New Testament church. It is inspired history and is necessary for our understanding of God and His plan of redemption through His Son. However, the Law of Moses was no more given to govern men since the cross than was the law of Christ (the gospel) given to govern men before the cross (Col. 2:14).

3. **A Commitment to the New Testament Plan of Salvation.** The only plan of salvation in the world is the one made possible by the cross and revealed in the New Testament. It is a plan of grace and faith, but not grace and faith only. It requires man’s response of repentance, confession, immersion in water, and living a faithful Christian life. Baptism either is or is not necessary for salvation—it cannot be both. The New Testament says it is necessary (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; Rom. 6:3-4; 1 Pet. 3:21).

4. **A Commitment to the Identity of the New Testament Church.** He built according to His own wise plan. He prescribed its terms of entrance, its designations, its worship, its works, and how it is to be organized and financed. If the identity of the church is unimportant, why is anything about it important?

5. **A Commitment to Proclaiming the Gospel as the Foremost Task of the Church.** Jesus had one great work and purpose—to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10). Such is likewise the compelling cause of His church (1 Tim. 3:15).

## NEWS AND NOTES

“I was sick, and ye visited me...” (Matthew 25:36)

### Remember in Prayer:

*Darlene Felts continues in NEA Baptist for rehabilitation. She is in room 5213*  
*Nita Felts is awaiting results from recent blood work before further treatments*  
*Nicole Nelson will be seeing liver transplant specialists in Memphis September 29*  
*Reginald Read had successful surgery to insert a pacemaker and is home recovering.*  
*Coy London's brother and sister-in-law, Jimmy and Donna London, continue to be hospitalized in serious condition after an automobile accident.*  
*Jim Spencer is continuing to improve and gain strength after recent back surgery.*

**Please check the bulletin boards for updates on Prayer Request Lists. Please update us if needed.**

**At the present we do not know of anyone who is directly and/or indirectly affected by Covid-19. If you know of someone please keep us updated.**

### In Other News:

*Bible classes will begin again with some changes on Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. Class time will begin at 9:00 on Sunday morning as in the past. There will be some temporary room assignments that will be announced soon.*

*Congratulations to David and Kara Kee Stone who were married yesterday. Keep them in your prayers.*

### Those Privileged To Serve September 27, 2020

#### SUNDAY MORNING

Song Leader: Micah Tindall  
 Opening Prayer: Stacy Eddleman  
 Closing Prayer: Kevin Roush  
 Bible Reading: David Loggins  
 Preacher: Terry Joe Kee

#### LORD'S TABLE

Presiding: Mike Felts  
 Mitch Mosley Ben Johns  
 Scott Pratt Jimmy Powell  
 Logan Snyder Ryan Manley

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dan Nichols

#### SUNDAY EVENING

Song Leader: Micah Tindall  
 Opening Prayer: Barry Roush  
 Closing Prayer: J. L. May  
 Preacher: Terry Joe Kee

#### WEDNESDAY NIGHT

September 30, 2020  
 Song Leader: Ben John  
 Opening Prayer: Jody Pickens  
 Closing Prayer: Logan Snyder

#### DEVOTIONAL SPEAKER

September 30, 2020  
 Scottie Blanchard

### NUMBERS FOR THE WEEK Week Of September 20, 2020

Sunday Bible Study	NC
Sunday AM Worship	120
Sunday PM Worship	96
Wednesday Bible Study	89
Contribution	\$6790

**“The hearing ear, and the seeing eye, the LORD hath made even both of them.”**

**Proverbs 20:12**

# The Friend of Truth

Greensboro Road church of Christ

Jonesboro, Arkansas 72405

(870) 932-3920

“Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?” (Galatians 4:16)

Vol. XXVIII, No. 39

September 27, 2020

## KeeNotes

Every week we have so much for which we should be thankful. Each moment of life is a blessing from God and our time should be treated as the precious moment it is. With these moments we have many reasons for rejoicing. This past couple of weeks we have had reasons to rejoice over and over again.

We recently had our sister, Pat Parker come asking for our prayers and giving us the opportunity of going before the throne of God in her behalf. After she had repented we rejoiced as we welcomed her back into fellowship with God.

We then have rejoiced to welcome Gary and Monica Hinds into our fellowship. Gary and Monica were reared and have lived in Jonesboro for most of their lives. They are nurses and travel serving hospitals in different places needing additional help. Presently they are in Albany, Georgia working with Covid-19 patients there. Gary and Monica have met with our shepherds and asked to be identified with the saints here. We will give you their mailing address and phone numbers as soon as we can. Welcome them into our fellowship and keep them in your prayers as they are working away from home.

This past week I met and spent time with our brother David Dye. David confessed his past unfaithfulness. He repented for having absented himself for the worship and asked for our prayers. I went together with him to the throne of God and rejoiced to see him restored to his first love. Pray that David will find places to use his abilities, talents, and knowledge to help us grow and prosper together in Christ.

On Wednesday night our sister, Kara Kee, confessed her failure to be as faithful as she should have been and asked for the prayers of the church. One of our shepherds, Dan Nichols, led us to the throne of God in her behalf and we rejoiced to have her restored to Christ and His church.

Also on Wednesday night, David Stone was baptized into Christ. David had changed his life completely about four or five years ago when he repented of his past sins. His repentance resulted in him living a totally different life, but he had not been born into Christ. He spent years coming “unto” Christ and finally on Wednesday night he came “into” Christ. David is a new creation now finding himself in Christ. He still needs our nurturing as he works to grow in Christ. Pray for David and Kara as they begin their life in Christ and in marriage.

#### SHEPHERDS

Dan Nichols  
 Randy Oden  
 Jody Pickens

#### DEACONS

Scottie Blanchard  
 Jerry Dodson  
 Mike Felts

Jason Garland  
 Marshall Lands  
 Mark Wooten

#### EVANGELIST

Terry Joe Kee

#### MISSIONARIES

Michael Hughes  
 Samrit Kammanee  
 Arnold Kelley  
 Guyana, South America  
 Warren, PA

#### SERVICES

##### SUNDAY

Classes 9:00 a.m.  
 Worship 10:00 a.m.  
 5:00 p.m.

##### WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

#### What Must I Do To Be Saved?

**Hear** the Word of God  
 Romans 10:17

**Believe** the Word of God  
 John 8:24

**Repent** of your sins  
 Luke 13:3

**Confess** your faith in Jesus  
 as the Son of God  
 Romans 10:9,10

**Be Baptized** for the  
 remission of your sins  
 Acts 2:38

**Live faithfully**  
 Revelation 2:10

“Where there is no vision,  
 the people perish...”  
 Proverbs 29:18

God Give Us 2020 Vision  
 in 2020