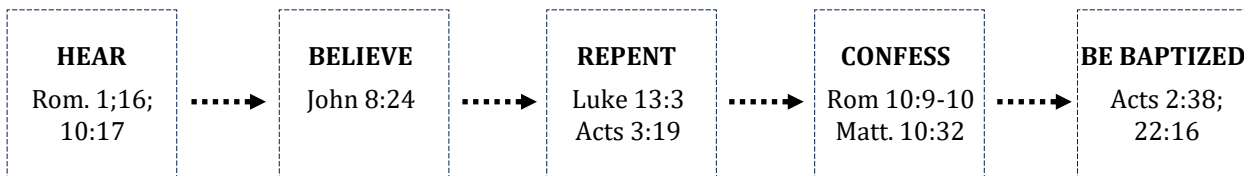


Topic:  
Text:

**Sermon Notes**



**WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?**



**THE MESSENGER**

*"This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all." **1John 1:5***

**Volume 9                      Sept. 25, 2022                      Issue 4**

**Minister:** Robert Webster  
(708) 752-5589  
(robster67@gmail.com)

[www.westhammondcoc.com](http://www.westhammondcoc.com)  
[westhammondcoc@gmail.com](mailto:westhammondcoc@gmail.com)  
1138 173rd St., Hammond IN 46324

**Secretary:** Sis. Ruthie Gamble  
(708) 743-5439  
(whcocsecretary@gmail.com)

**WELCOME VISITING FRIENDS**

If you are one of our visitors today, please know that we are indeed honored to have you. If you are a member of the Lord's body, thanks for choosing to worship with us today. If you are not a member of the Lord's church, we would be happy to meet with you and discuss how one becomes a member of the church which we read about in the New Testament. We aim to speak as they spoke and do as they did. We also offer a free Bible Correspondence Course which can be mailed to you. Or, someone would be glad to meet with you for a one-on-one Bible study. You can indicate your desire on a visitor's card and place it in the collection tray located at the front on the communion table.

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

**Sunday**

Young Christians' Class .....10 a.m.  
Sun. Adult Bible Class.....10 a.m.  
Worship Service .....11 a.m.

**Wednesday**

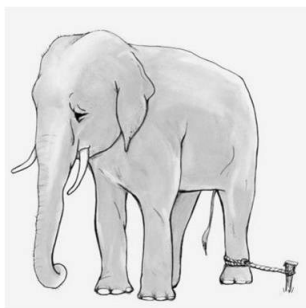
Bible Study (on Zoom)...7:00 p.m.

*I rejoiced with those who said to me,  
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."  
**Psalm 122:1***

# CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

## LIVE LIKE FREED PEOPLE!

The largest and most powerful land animal on earth today is the elephant. Yet it takes only a strong rope to restrain one. Here is how it works. At a young age, he is tied to a large tree. For weeks, he will strain and pull, but is unable to free himself and then finally gives up. Then when the elephant reaches his full size and strength, he won't struggle to get free come but once he feels resistance, he stops. He still believes he's held captive and can't break free.



***"We are free indeed  
-John 8:36***

Satan can play a similar trick on us to hold us captive. The Scripture assures us that by surrendering our lives to Jesus we have been freed from the dominion of sin (Acts 13:39), therefore we should live like freed from people. However, the devil who is "the father of lies" (John 8:44) would have us believe that we are still who we were rather than who we are and whose we are! Deception is an old trick of the devil and we must not be ignorant of his devices (2 Cor. 2:11).


We have the gift of the Holy Spirit who speaks to us through the Word of God assuring us that we CAN live as freed people because of God's divine presence in our lives on daily basis. We are not alone! The Hebrew writer says that we must lay aside the old vices of sin because we are "surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses" who are cheering us on to the end (Heb. 12:1)

Do not live like the elephant, still believing that we are tied to our old life of sin because if Christ has set us free, we are free indeed (John 8:36)!

*Bro. Webster*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## REMINDERS:

- ~Please silence your *cell phones*. 
- ~**No eating** in the auditorium.
- ~Please be diligent in observing *CDC COVID-19 guidelines*.

The congregation will be hosting its first **Friends, Families and Neighbors Day** Sunday, Oct. 30. This is an evangelistic effort to reach as many people as possible with the gospel of Christ. Start inviting your family and friends. More information to come.

The **Ladies Ministry** meets every other Thursday at 6:30pm. It promises to be a great spiritual and social boost for the ladies. Next meeting is scheduled for Sept. 29th.

The **Annual Ladies Lectureship Retreat** is next April 20-23, 2023 in Atlanta, Georgia under the theme: **Christian Women Living Courageously in a Spiritual Pandemic**. Reserve your spot early! See Sis. Webster for more information.

We are currently accepting items for the **homeless mission**. Please see the Bulletin board in foyer for details.

## FOR PRAYERS:

The Gamble, Ellis and Cunningham families, the Conners, Sis. Brenda Sims, Sis. Jesseann Taylor, Sis. Davis, Sis. Deborah Woodard, Sis Wyatt and her family, the Brantfords, the Carter & Shields families, Sis. Strickland and her son, Christopher, the Lightfoots and their daughter, Shana Lightfoot, Bro. Hardy's mother, Robertine Hardy, and Ozell Smith's wife, Linda.

## CLASSES:

Sunday morning **Children's Bible Class** is taught by Sis. Jameka. (lower level - 2G).

Sunday morning **Young Adult Class** is taught by Bro. Taylor. (upper level - 1B)

**Adult Bible Class** - main auditorium

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### THIS WEEK:

**BIRTHDAYS~ NONE**

**ANNIVERSARIES~ NONE**

### SKILLS BANK~

Remember to submit your information, and do your own verification for licensing.

- Sis. Webster & Sis. Tillman**.....Real Estate Agents
- Sis. Debra Woodard** .....Financial Advisor
- Gambles** ..... Property Preservation & Custom Home Décor

### Order of Service

- Song
- Announcement
- Song
- Opening Prayer
- Song
- Scripture Reading
- Song
- Sermon
- Song
- Lord's Supper
- Offering
- Song
- Closing Prayer**

### Last Week's Record

|                                     |                  |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Sunday AM Worship &amp; Zoom</b> | <b>73</b>        |
| <b>Wednesday Bible Class (Zoom)</b> | <b>53</b>        |
| <b>Last Sunday offering:</b>        | <b>\$2458.97</b> |
| <b>Weekly Budget</b>                | <b>\$2625.00</b> |