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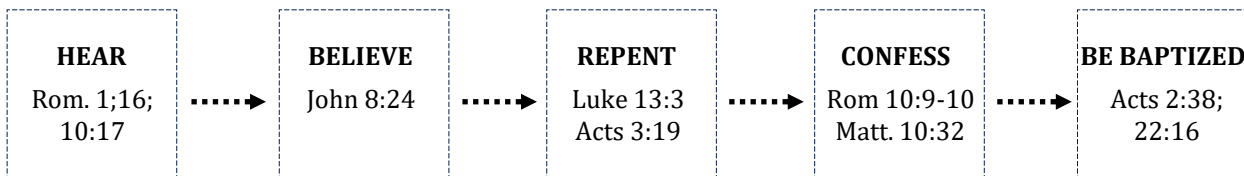
Sermon Notes



ORDER OF SERVICE:

Song ~ Announcements ~ Song ~ Opening Prayer ~ Song ~ Scripture Reading ~ Song ~ Sermon ~ Song ~ Lord's Supper ~ Offering ~ Song ~ Closing Prayer

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***

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Issue 1

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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' Class10 a.m.
Sun. Adult Bible Class.....10 a.m.
Worship Service11 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

Spiritual Shallowness



The Pharisees were oftentimes on the receiving end of many criticisms, and justifiably so! They represented a particular Jewish sect that was very strict in following the Law of Moses. In fact, the Aramaic name “Pharisee” means “separate” or “distinguish.” Their separatist attitude led them to believe that they were better than others. They practiced minimalistic religion, that is, they did just enough to get by.

Did they love others? Yes! Loving others is a cornerstone of the Christian’s relationship with God. In fact, you cannot say you love God while not loving your neighbor according to 1 John 4:20 which says, “If someone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?” The problem was that their love was shallow as in seen in Matt. 5:46 “For if you love those who love you, what reward have you?”

Did they say the right things often? Yes! We must strive to say the right things, because our words can be even more destructive than our actions. Col. 4:6, “Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.” However, their actions were often not in sync with their words. Consequently, Jesus warned his disciples and multitude, “Therefore whatever they tell you to observe, that observe and do, but do not do according to their works; for they say, and do not do” (Matt. 23:3). They chose to ignore feeding the poor, forgiving others, and loving their enemies even though they knew better. Their religion was shallow and skin-deep. “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men’s bones and all uncleanness” (Matt. 23:27).


There is a popular saying that says, “People don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care.” Knowing the right thing without doing it is tantamount to spiritual shallowness which we must vigorously avoid as this sinful mindset will jeopardize our eternal salvation. Jesus warned, “For I say unto you, that except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of Heaven” (Matthew 5:20).

Knowing the right thing without doing it is tantamount to spiritual shallowness, which we must vigorously avoid, as this sinful mindset will jeopardize our eternal salvation!

Robert Webster

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REMINDERS:

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

Returning guest please sign the **Returning Guest Log** in the foyer.

There are **prayer request cards** and a **suggestion box** in the foyer.

There will be a **Men’s Breakfast/Business meeting** this Sat. Dec. 10 at the church building. Breakfast will be at 8 a.m. and the Business meeting will be from 9 a.m.

Homeless Mission: Please write “Mission” on a **separate** envelope for donations. We are looking for volunteers to help distribute the items to the recipients in Chicago on the afternoon of December 11th.


The **Ladies’ Ministry** will resume in the Spring of 2023.

Annual Ladies Lectureship Retreat

Theme: **Christian Women Living Courageously in a Spiritual Pandemic**
April 20-23, 2023 in Atlanta, Georgia.
www.ladieslectureshipretreat.org

FOR PRAYERS

The mother of **Bro. David Croom, Corine Croom**, was laid to rest last Wednesday. Several members were in attendance to support our brother and his family during their time of bereavement.

Wishing many blessings to the newlyweds, Bro. Hardy & Sis. Donna Hardy. 

Bro. & Sis. Davis, Jade Neals, the granddaughter of Debra Ellis, Kristopher Strickland, Sis Wyatt, the Brantfords, J. W. Kinds, Sis. Cunningham, Bro. Hardy’s mother, whose condition has deteriorated.

Please continue to pray for and encourage our newest members Bro. Croom and Sis. Tillman and McLaurin.

We are sad to announce that **Sis. Jameka Taylor** will be relocating to Arizona. Today will be her last day with us. We pray for and wish her all the best.

SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES

- Children’s Bible Class** taught by Sis. Jameka. (lower level).
- Young Adult Class** taught by Bro. Taylor. (upper level)
- Adult Bible Class** - main auditorium

NO BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK:

SKILLS BANK~

Remember to submit your information to be added to the skills bank and be diligent to do your verification for relevant licensing.

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

Last Week’s Record

Sunday AM Worship & Zoom	74
Wednesday Bible Class (Zoom)	59
Last Sunday offering:	\$1914.40
Weekly Budget	\$2625.00