

Prayer List



Of Our Number

- ◆ Janice Carnley—health problems
- ◆ Jennifer Derrick—surgery 4/11
- ◆ Eloise Hoffman—lung cancer
- ◆ Florene Howze—health problems
- ◆ Rick Laux—EGD on 4/15
- ◆ Kynlie Lawson—tests soon
- ◆ Jim Ward—health problems
- ◆ Martha Wynn—oral surgery recovery

Others in Need

- ◆ Ken Blackford—health issues
- ◆ Susie Burke (Laura Laux' mother)—surgery recovery
- ◆ Belinda Crawford and family
- ◆ Eugene Crow—surgery soon
- ◆ Whitney Derrick—expecting
- ◆ Chloe Fleming—liver disease
- ◆ Mrs. Foster—broken leg, surgery
- ◆ Wanda Hunter—stage 4 cancer
- ◆ Vernie Mann (Chris Wynn's mother)—health problems
- ◆ Brenda Mateer—surgery recovery

Continued in next column...

◆ Pray also for those who have lost loved ones, first responders, police officers, government leaders, military, those traveling, alien sinners, those fallen away, the church at Baker and worldwide.

Events



April 7
Fellowship meal after morning worship

April 24
4th Wednesday Singing

May 5-10
Our Gospel Meeting with various speakers

Faithful Worship — **1) Praying** to God the Father in the name of Jesus Christ (Luke 11:1-2; John 16:23; Eph. 5:20; Phil. 4:6); **2) Singing** without mechanical instruments (Matt. 26:30; Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16-17; Heb. 2:12); **3) Preaching** God's Word (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:42; 20:7); **4) Giving** as prospered, cheerfully (1 Cor. 16:1-2; 2 Cor. 9:7); **5) The Lord's Supper** on the first day of every week (Matt. 26:26-28; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:20-34; 16:2; Heb. 10:23-31).

To Our Visitors



We are happy and honored that you are here! Please fill out a visitor's card and give us a chance to get to know you. If you have any questions about anything said or done in Bible class or worship, please ask. We seek to give a Bible answer for everything we do (Colossians 3:17; 1 Peter 3:15; 4:11).

Privileged to Serve



Announcements—Leo Derrick
Song Leading—David Howze (Sun.)
 Mark Howze (Wed.)
Serving the Lord's Supper
 Head: Mark Howze
 Helpers: Wilfred Derrick, Ethan Howze, Josh Lawson
Lord's Supper PM
 Head: Glenn Howze
 Helper: Caleb Howze
Scripture Reading—Logan Holt

THE BAKER BULLETIN

The weekly bulletin of

The church of Christ in Baker, FL

April 7, 2019

Meeting Times

Sundays:

- 10AM Bible Class
- 11AM Worship
- 5:30PM Pew Packers
- 6PM Worship

Wednesdays:

- 7PM Bible Class

Other Information

5761 Hwy. 4
 P.O. Box 285
 Baker, FL 32531 USA
 850-669-9117

Website:

churchofChristatBaker.com

Radio Program:

104.7FM Sundays 8:30AM

Jason Hilburn's Info:

850-826-8198
 jasonhilburn@yahoo.com
 TheBibleDomain.com

Joseph and Mary Supposed that Jesus Was in Their Company

Roger D. Campbell

Do you recall the occasion? Jesus was twelve years old at the time. Like they did each year, Joseph and Mary went to Jerusalem to observe the Passover. In this instance, after the Passover festivities were completed, they headed home. Somewhere along the way, they realized that Jesus was not with them and was not to be found with others who were making the journey together.

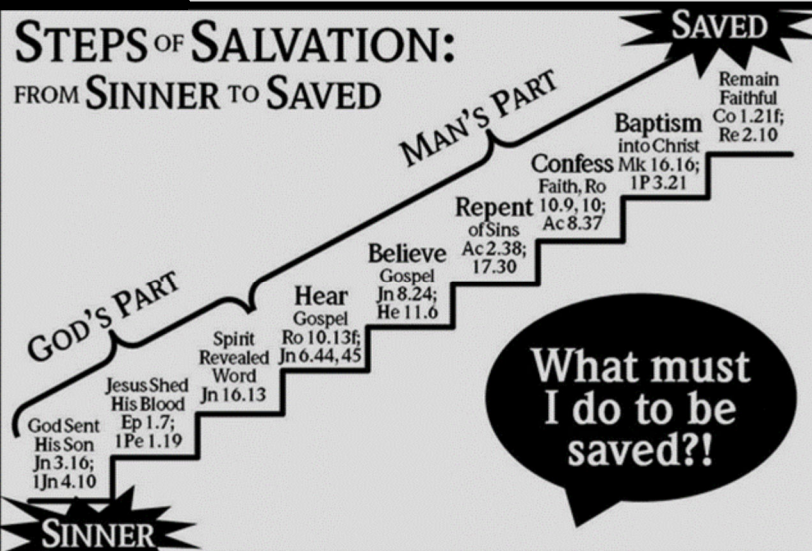
Where was Jesus? He remained behind in Jerusalem. When Joseph and Mary finally located Him after three days of searching, He was in the temple, listening and asking questions. How relieved His parents must have been to find Him!

How is it possible that Mary and Joseph were unaware of Jesus' whereabouts? Well, even today such things happen, and it is not always a case of "bad parenting." But look more closely at what the Bible says about this memorable instance in Jesus' life: "... the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it. But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance" (Luke 2:43,44).

The text says that Joseph and Mary "supposed" that

STEPS OF SALVATION: FROM SINNER TO SAVED

"...ye were the servants of sin..."
(Romans 6:17).



What must I do to be saved?!

"...but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness" (Rom. 6:17b-18).

Jesus was in their traveling company. The Greek word “nomizo” means “to deem, think, suppose” [Thayer, word no. 3543].

In this case, Jesus’ parents thought He was with them, but He was not. Today there are many people who do the same thing: they suppose the Lord is with them, when, in reality, He is not in their midst at all. “Well, if the Lord is not with me, why do I have so many material possessions?” I read in my Bible about *“the prosperity of the wicked”* (Psalm 73:3), which is a reminder that ungodly people can have material wealth. Such wealth does not prove that God is with them or that they are saved from their sins.

“Well, my kids have turned out pretty good, so I guess the Lord is with me.” Ahaz, king of Judah, was an evil man who did not walk with Jehovah. It turns out, however, that his son Hezekiah was a righteous man. Ahaz’ son turned out well, but that does not prove that Ahaz himself was in a good standing with the Lord, because his life was a disaster.

“Well, our church is growing so fast that we are going to have to find a bigger building in which we can assemble. That shows the Lord is with us.” Did you know that *“many shall follow”* the dangerous ways of false teachers? The Bible says it (2 Peter 2:1,2). Did you know that many are traveling the path to eternal destruction? Jesus said so (Matthew 7:13,14). In our time, some religious groups which deny the Deity of Jesus are growing in number. Is that evidence that the Lord is among them? No, it is not. Having a large group of folks come together in one instance or on an ongoing basis proves nothing about (1) the character of the people involved or (2) the truthfulness of the message presented.

“Well, I am sure God is with us because our congregation has been involved in that activity for as long as any of us can remember.” Seriously? It is a sad reality that some in the Lord’s church have reached the point that their defense of a practice is not an appeal to book, chapter, and verse (*“Thus saith the Lord”*), but to how long they have been involved in something or boasting about who has been doing it.

Brethren, the Lord is with those who walk with Him, period. Those who abide in the Christ’s doctrine are blessed to have the Godhead (2 John 9). Those who fail to walk in His truth might “suppose” that the Lord is with them, but that is not what the Scriptures teach. Let us learn the lesson that Joseph and Mary learned the hard way: let us not assume/suppose that the Lord is with us.

There’s No Right Way to Do the Wrong Thing

Darrell Powell

I noticed the sign in front of a building the other day, and I was intrigued by what was posted there. It read, “There’s no right way to do the wrong thing.” This is a much needed message for people today who think truth is whatever each individual makes it. The idea of absolute truth is a foreign thought to many, but to Christians it should be a great comfort in a sea of uncertainty. Jesus said, “Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth” (John 17:17). The Bible was inspired, or breathed out, by God (II Timothy 3:16-17), therefore we can fully trust in its truth and accuracy, and we can know that we must obey its commands.

I am seeing more and more “situational ethics” in the way that people rationalize sinful behavior. Basically, this philosophy is that situation, surroundings, and/or environment help to determine right and wrong. Here are some common examples of this type of reasoning: 1) “I don’t drink alcohol...unless I am in a social situation where it is widely accepted.” 2) “I won’t wear immodest clothing...unless I am near water.” 3) “I don’t skip worship services...unless my family/friends visit, I have ball practice, or I am on vacation.”

The folly in this reasoning is obvious to me. If something is wrong at one time or place, why isn’t it wrong all the time? Too often, even Christians’ standards rely heavily on what the world accepts as right or wrong. However, even the world recognizes the foolishness of “situational ethics.” A while ago I heard a secular radio talk show pointing out how “funny” it is that women will wear “underwear” on the beach that they would NEVER wear anywhere else. But as children of God, we must measure our every action against God’s word. If a situation or environment can make a sin no longer sinful, then it can do something that even God cannot do. If water can make immodest clothing modest, then why not put your faith in that water instead of God. If a vacation can make drinking alcohol or forsaking the assembly of the saints right, why not place your faith in vacations rather than Christ? Let’s stop trying to make wrong things right, and strive harder to do what we know is right!

Editor’s Note: It is frustrating and disappointing to see members of the Lord’s church posting sinful things online such as vulgar language or near nudity, while they try to justify it by saying that the intended lesson or the overall purpose behind the post was good. We don’t steal from the rich to feed the poor, we don’t hang out in strip clubs or bars to convert the lost, and we don’t silently attend sinful worship assemblies of false religions to “learn what they teach” (Eph. 5:11; 1 Pet. 4:3, 4; 2 Jn. 9-11). There are better ways to accomplish God’s will without laying stumbling blocks/committing sin (1 Cor. 8, 10). More examples of this type of behavior could be given, but the bottom line is this: Doing something sinful to accomplish something good is condemned by God: *“and why not (as we are slanderously reported, and as some affirm that we say), Let us do evil, that good may come? whose condemnation is just”* (Romans 3:8 ASV 1901). The end result does not justify the means used to attain it.