

## Prayer List



### Of Our Number

- ◆ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek
- ◆ Jennifer Derrick—radiation done!
- ◆ Wilfred Derrick—health problems
- ◆ Jeff Mashburn—health problems
- ◆ Atlas Nofziger—tubes in ears 9/25
- ◆ Caleb Simpler—traveling

### Others in Need

- ◆ Shannon Burn—surgery recovery
- ◆ Danny Davis—back pain
- ◆ Louise Douglas—health problems
- ◆ Joyce Faulk—health problems
- ◆ Dawn Holloway—at home, IV meds
- ◆ Tony Jones—recent stroke and fall
- ◆ Mary Milsted—lung cancer
- ◆ Thomas Patterson—health issues
- ◆ Shane Price—cancer
- ◆ Larry Shappley—hospice care
- ◆ Melanie Skinner—cancer
- ◆ Randall Ward—surgery recovery
- ◆ Flood victims in India, Pakistan

Continued in next column...

## 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).

## Events



### October 5

*Men's Leadership Breakfast*

### October 6

*Meal after AM Worship*

## Privileged to Serve



**Announcements:** Leo Derrick

**Song Leading:** Sunday—David Howze; Wednesday—Mark Howze

### Serving the Lord's Supper

Head: Glenn Howze; Helpers: Ethan Howze, Ezra Howze, Mark Howze

### Lord's Supper PM

Head: Leo Derrick  
Helper: Caleb Howze

**Bible Reading:** Brett (AM), Caleb S. (PM)

**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** weekly 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).

# THE BAKER BULLETIN

The weekly bulletin of

The church of Christ in Baker, FL

September 29, 2024

## Meeting Times

### Sundays:

10AM Bible Class

11AM Worship

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

WAAZ1047.com livestream

### Jason Hilburn's Info:

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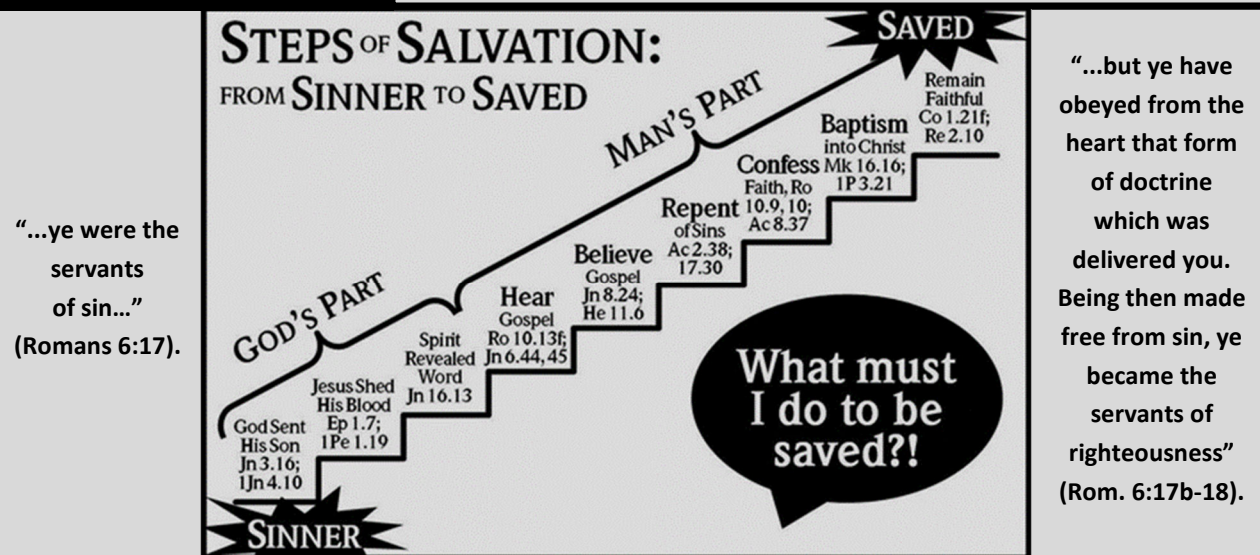
## "Just Words"

Riley Nelson

How important are our words? They can change a bad day into a good one, make one who is sad smile, but they can break up families, keep lost ones from the truth and destroy friendships, so really they can change the course of our lives. It is important that we are careful with our words. Here is where difficulties arise. James had some good advice on the subject of speaking when by inspiration he wrote, *"Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath"* (James 1:19).

Realizing the power our words have we must learn to control the things we say. James also tells us this is a difficult thing to do (James 3:1-12). There is an old song we sing from time to time entitled "Angry Words." The lyrics tell of how we should never let angry words escape from our lips, but that the best impulse of our heart might check those words lest they spoil the lips. Another verse states how brightest links of life may be broken by a single angry word. How true are these words? How many times have husbands or wives said things in a moment of anger and wished so much to be able to recall those words but it is too late. Parents have been guilty of the same thing, concerning their children. *"Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth"* (James 3:5). The tongue can be

## STEPS OF SALVATION: FROM SINNER TO SAVED



used just like a match in a dry field; one small statement can destroy friendships, families and even congregations.

There are many ways one can misuse words. Cursing, tale bearing, gossip, boasting, lying, are just a few ways that words can be misused. Cursing in our day seems to have become a way of life for so many. It is as if they could not talk unless they used a curse word in their speech. Sadly such words are also heard from members of the Church on occasion. Look at James again, *“Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be. Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter? Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh”* (James 3:9-12). As Christians we need to not only remember but take to heart our responsibility when it comes to the example set before others. *“Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven”* (Matt. 5:14-16). The Christian’s light is not shining forth to represent God when cursing is part of our vocabulary. It should be noted that use of such language is a public sin most of the time, and those that would repent should make that known publicly.

Gossip and tale bearing are also ways in which words are misused on occasion. The Psalmist wrote concerning this, *“LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour”* (Psalm 15:1-3). In the Church these things should never take place, but human beings make up the body and mistakes do occur. Again the advice given in James 1:19 comes to mind, *“swift to hear and slow to speak.”* Even if a thing is true, it should not become a subject of gossip. It might be the case that erring children of God could be brought home more quickly if less talk and more action of restoration occurred. When brothers and sisters in Christ believe another has sinned against them, they should go to that brother or sister and tell them, not everyone else in the congregation. Look at the words

of our Lord, *“Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother”* (Matt. 18:15). This obligation is one that is overlooked to many times, leading to abuses of the use of the tongue.

While it is true words can be misused, they do not have to be. Words are that by which souls can be brought to the Lord. In II Kings 5 there is a wonderful example of how just a few words were able to help show God to a nation of people. It is the account of Naaman a captain in the army of Syria, who was a sufferer of leprosy. His wife’s little maid spoke just a few words concerning the prophet of God. After doing as the prophet had told him Naaman made the statement, *“...Behold, now I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel...”* (II Kings 5:15). How many do we speak to about God each day? It may be that ones we would bring to Christ need to hear more words about the subject from us.

Our words may be the only ones listened to by an erring child of God. Satan will put all kinds of excuses before us, to keep us from using our tongues to try and regain the lost. James and Jude tell us why we must not listen to Satan about this matter. *“Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins”* (James 5:19,20). *“And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh”* (Jude 23).

The words we use in our everyday lives may cause someone to begin searching for the peace and contentment we have in Christ. Those same words will help us shine as the lights we are supposed to be (Matt. 5:14-16). Our use of words is so important. Are we seeking to use our tongues for the betterment of the kingdom? We may be the only Bible read by those in the word around us. When they listen to our speech, what do they hear? Remember people are listening as we speak. Peter was questioned about his manner of speaking, *“And after a while came unto him they that stood by, and said to Peter, Surely thou also art one of them; for thy speech betrayeth thee”* (Matt. 27:73). When people listen to us, do they know us to be the Lord’s servant by how we speak? Or do they wonder how we call ourselves a Christian? They may be “Just Words” but so much depends upon them. May we ever strive to use our words in the service to God.