

Prayer List



Of Our Number

- ♦ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek
- ♦ Wilfred Derrick—health problems
- ♦ Mariah Hilburn—expecting
- ♦ Jeff Mashburn—health problems

Others in Need

- ♦ Travis Barrow—rare condition
- ♦ Patsy Benson—stage 4 cancer
- ♦ Phil Benson—kidney dialysis
- ♦ Charles Compton—cancer
- ♦ Danny Davis—home, recovering
- ♦ Louise Douglas—health problems
- ♦ Joyce Faulk—health problems
- ♦ Jennifer Foxworth—health problems
- ♦ Jamie Goodman—colon cancer
- ♦ Curtis Grady—severe burns
- ♦ Russell Gunter—surgery recovery
- ♦ Howard & Elizabeth Grace—health
- ♦ Tony Jones—health problems
- ♦ Melanie Skinner—cancer treatments
- ♦ Kenneth Wicker—cancer, hospice
- ♦ Ron Yusnukis—surgery recovery

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

If the Lord wills...

- July 6**
Meal after AM Worship
- July 12**
Men's Breakfast
- July 13**
Men's Meeting

Privileged to Serve



Announcements: Leo Derrick
Song Leading: Sunday—David Howze; Wednesday—Caleb Howze
Serving the Lord's Supper
 Head: Mark Howze; Helpers: Caleb Howze, Ezra Howze, Glenn Howze
Lord's Supper PM
 Head: Mark Howze
 Helper: Ethan Howze
Bible Reading: Jacob Mashburn

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

July 6, 2025

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

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Consumer-Based Christianity

Jason Patrick Hilburn

Too many people today are looking for a church that meets their personal preferences rather than meeting the Lord's requirements. Instead of asking what Christ wants, people are asking:

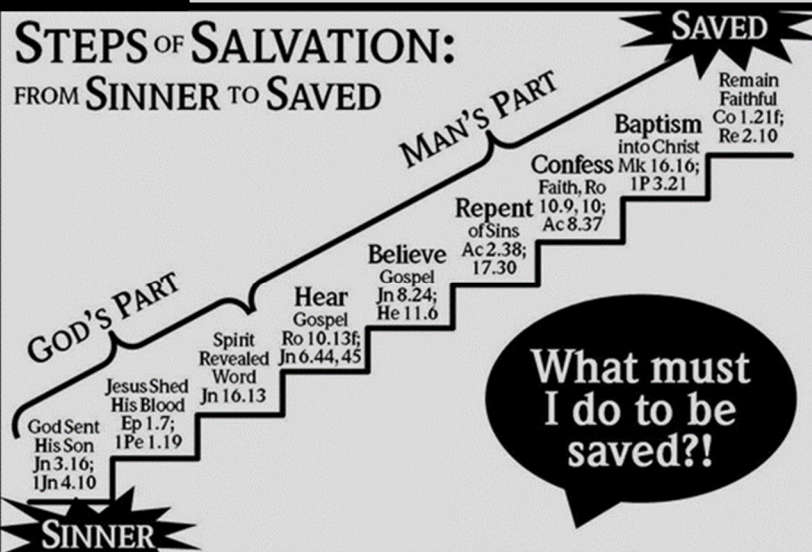
- Do they have lots of activities for my children?
- Will I like this preacher better than others I've heard?
- Is the building big, beautiful, and modern?
- Is the worship entertaining and exciting?
- Will it make me feel good without requiring me to change?

Friends, these are the wrong questions. We should be seeking Christ's criteria instead of our own. This does not mean Christians can never enjoy innocent fun or spend time together in fellowship. True Christians are devoted to encouraging one another (Heb. 10:24-25), but the primary focus must be faithfulness to Christ and making sure everything done is pleasing to Him. With that in mind, here are the kinds of questions we should be asking when looking for a church:

- Does this church follow the pattern of the church Christ established in the first century A.D.? (Matt. 16:18; Acts 2:42; 20:28; Rom. 16:16-17; Eph. 4:4; 5:23; 2 Thess. 2:15)

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).

- Do they teach holiness and spiritual transformation, or do they emphasize comfort over conviction, making people feel comfortable in their sins? (Matt. 4:17; Acts 17:30; Rom. 12:1–2; Gal. 5:19-23; Titus 1:16; 2:11–12)
- Do they teach sound doctrine by rightly dividing the Word, or do they twist the Scriptures and pervert the Gospel? (Gal. 1:6–9; 2 Tim. 2:15–18; 2 Pet. 3:16)
- Do they understand we are not under the Old Law and must follow the New Testament Law of Christ? (Matt. 28:18–20; Gal. 6:2; Col. 2:14–17; Rom. 8:1–2; Heb. 7:12; 10:9; Jam. 1:22-25)
- Do they use Scriptural names that glorify God through Christ, or do they use manmade labels that promote division? (1 Cor. 1:10–13; Col. 3:17; 1 Pet. 4:11, 16)
- Do they follow the New Testament pattern of worship—singing, praying, preaching, giving, and partaking of the Lord’s Supper on the first day of every week? (Acts 2:42; 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:20; 16:2; Col. 3:16–17)
- Are they organized with qualified elders and deacons when possible? (Acts 14:23; Php. 1:1; 1 Tim. 3)
- Do they teach the full plan of salvation—hearing the Word (Rom. 10:17), believing (John 8:24), repenting (Acts 17:30), confessing faith in Christ to men (Matt. 10:32), being immersed in water for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Pet. 3:20–21), and remaining faithful (Rev. 2:10)?
- Do they have Biblical authority for all they do “in word or deed”? (Col. 3:17)

Those looking for a church that will keep them and their children entertained, meet all their personal preferences, and never challenge their lifestyle will find plenty of churches striving to meet those expectations. Those who are truly seeking the Lord’s church—the one He built, the one He bought, and the one He will save—must use His criteria, not their own, to be faithful members of His church and go to Heaven (Matt. 6:33; John 4:23–24; Eph. 4:4; 5:23; 2 John 9–11). Those who are truly searching should investigate the churches of Christ—congregations who love their neighbors but prioritize pleasing God over pleasing men (Matt. 6:33; 22:36–40; John 12:43; Rom. 16:16–17; Gal. 1:10).

True Christianity is not consumer-based. It is Creator-based. It is not about pleasing ourselves but pleasing our Creator.

Noah’s Ark and Christ’s Church

ARK – Built by God’s faithful servant (*Genesis 6:8, 9, 22*)

CHURCH – Built by God’s faithful Son (*Matthew 16:18*)

ARK – Built of one material (*Genesis 6:14*)

CHURCH – Built of one material (*1 Peter 2:5*)

ARK – One source of light (*Genesis 6:16*)

CHURCH – One source of light (*Psalms 119:105*)

ARK – One door (*Genesis 6:16*)

CHURCH – One Door (*John 10:9*)

ARK – One family (*Genesis 7:1*)

CHURCH – One family (*Ephesians 3:15*)

ARK – Family saved through water (*1 Peter 3:20*)

CHURCH – Family saved through water (*1 Peter 3:21*)

ARK – The only safe place: no extra lifeboats (*Genesis 6:14*)

CHURCH – The only safe place: no groups outside (*Ephesians 5:23*)

ARK – Very few saved (*1 Peter 3:20*)

CHURCH – Very few saved (*Matthew 7:13, 14*)

ARK – Work to do inside ark (*Genesis 6:21*)

CHURCH – Work to do in the church (*1 Corinthians 15:58*)

ARK – The greatest of storms could not destroy it (*Genesis 7:11, 18*)

CHURCH – The gates of Hades could not stop it (*Matthew 16:18*)

ARK – Great hope realized: life in a new world (*Genesis 8:13–19*)

CHURCH – Great hope will be realized: eternal life in Heaven (*Matthew 25:46*)

ARK – Door was shut, no more entry (*Genesis 7:16*)

CHURCH – Door will be shut, no more entry (*Matthew 25:10–12*)