

## Prayer List



### Of Our Number

- ◆ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek
- ◆ Jennifer Derrick—health problems
- ◆ Jeff Mashburn—health problems

### Others in Need

- ◆ Bobby Adams—health problems
- ◆ Terri Adams—cancer
- ◆ Phil Benson—kidney dialysis
- ◆ Fran Carlos—back surgery
- ◆ Bonnie Crites—knee pain, surgery
- ◆ Louise Douglas—health problems
- ◆ Tim Dunn—cancer
- ◆ Joyce Faulk—health problems
- ◆ Jennifer Foxworth—health problems
- ◆ Melba Fuqua—health problems
- ◆ Annette Garrett - Non-H. lymphoma
- ◆ Kiptyn Gillis—non-cancerous tumor
- ◆ Janice Godwin—surgery recovery
- ◆ Howard & Elizabeth Grace—health
- ◆ Andrew Hickman—health problems
- ◆ Vandan Kumar—tinnitus
- ◆ John Moss—surgery recovery

Continued in next column...

- ◆ Pray for Christians overseas, such as those facing persecution in Pakistan and certain parts of India.
- ◆ Pray for peace, pray for the bereaved, the persecuted, sick/suffering, civil leaders, military, 1st responders, the lost, enemies.
- ◆ Pray for our evangelistic efforts and for more opportunities.

## 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...

No meals after worship the first Sundays in Dec. / Jan.

**Jan. 11**  
Men's Meeting

**Jan. 28**  
4th Wednesday Singing

## Privileged to Serve



**Announcements:** Mark Howze

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

### Serving the Lord's Supper

Head: Leo Derrick; Helpers: Caleb Howze, Ezra Howze, Glenn Howze

### Lord's Supper PM

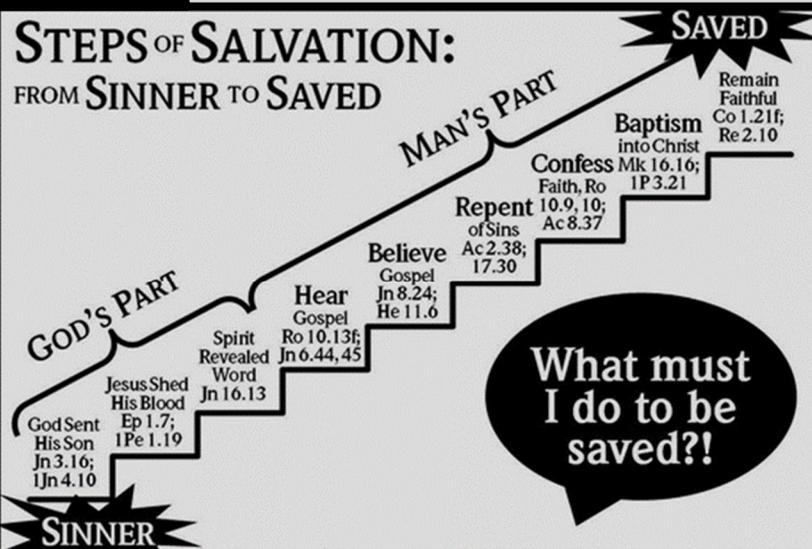
Head: Leo Derrick  
Helper: Johnny Moss

**Bible Reading:** Rick Hemphill

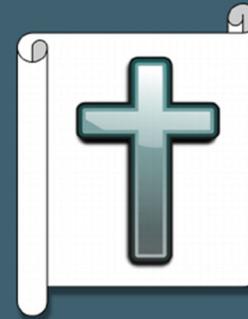
**Faithful Worship** — **1) Praying** to God the Father in the name of Jesus Christ (Luke 11:1-2; John 16:23; Eph. 5:20; Php. 4:6); **2) Singing** without mechanical instruments (Matt. 26:30; Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16-17; Heb. 2:12); **3) Preaching** God's Word (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:42; 20:7); **4) Giving** 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).

## STEPS OF SALVATION: FROM SINNER TO SAVED

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



"...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).



# THE BAKER BULLETIN

The weekly bulletin of

The church of Christ in Baker, FL

January 11, 2026

## Meeting Times

### Sundays:

- 10AM Bible Class
- 11AM Worship
- 6PM Worship

### Wednesdays:

- 7PM Bible Class

## Other Information

Building: 5761 Hwy. 4  
Mail: 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:

850-826-8198  
hilburnjasonp@gmail.com  
TheBibleDomain.com  
JasonsBibleBlog.com

## Where Will This Congregation Be Ten Years From Now?

Roger D. Campbell

When I ask this question, obviously I am not talking about where the church is going to assemble. It may or may not be in the same physical location or building. What we have in mind in this study is spiritual status. If this world is still standing, what will a sound, faithful church be like a decade from now?

Every congregation goes through changes. Take a photo of all the people in attendance this coming Sunday and I can guarantee you that ten years from now when someone pulls out that old photograph, there will most assuredly be some who are no longer around, some who are newcomers; and, oh how the children have grown. We are not suggesting that all changes are bad, nor are we proposing that every change is a good one. But, you can mark it down: in any given ten-year period of time, any local church will go through some noticeable changes. There is no way to avoid it.

If the church you attend is still around a decade from now (and we all certainly pray it will be), will it be strong spiritually, or weak and wavering? Will it be a vibrant, active group of Christians, or will it be a somber bunch of folks that mope into services and quietly leave with no spirit and no vigor to do anything for the Master until the next public assembly rolls around? Will the church be growing, or will it be withering on the vine? None of us is a prophet of God. None has a crystal ball that can reveal the future to us. However, there are some matters that will surely play a big part in determining what the local church of which you are a member will be like ten years down the road. Let us take a brief look.

*Leadership* — At some point in any worthwhile discussion of

a congregation's future, its leadership has to be addressed. Which direction is the current leadership taking the local church? What plan does the present leadership have for developing/preparing leaders for the future? Like money, leaders do not grow on trees! Who is preparing himself right now to be a shepherd where you're a member? Will there be any brothers prepared to step up as deacons between now and then? Or, are they going to be too busy with other matters? What are our leaders doing to encourage and train Bible class teachers? Study the Book of Nehemiah and see how important leadership is among God's people. Strong leadership is a must!

*Bible Knowledge* — I do not need to conduct a survey or get on the internet to learn what most mature members of the church have already observed. In general, the church is slipping when it comes to Bible knowledge. In days gone by, God's people slipped right into captivity because they did not know the Book (Hosea 4:6)! The church needs to maintain Bible classes that are real Bible classes and not a time to "share our personal experiences" or play games. Let us rekindle the fire for growing in the knowledge and grace of the Christ (2 Peter 3:18). Do that, and the future of the church can be great! Become ignorant of God's word, though, and stagnation and spiritual corruption are sure to follow.

*Commitment to Sound Doctrine* — The pastors must see to it that the flock is fed properly (1 Peter 5:1-3). The preacher(s) must preach the word of God (2 Tim. 4:2). But, and this is just as important, the membership must be committed to sound doctrine too! There can be no compromise of truth in order to keep folks happy. Truth saves (John 8:32), while false teaching takes people away from what is right (Titus 1:14). And, wimpy lessons produce wimpy saints whose wimpy faith cannot deal with the fiery darts of Satan (Eph. 6:16).

*Commitment to Young People* — Let us be clear, a young person is of no more value than one who is "on up in years." Youth do not deserve preferential treatment. That being said, if the church expects those kids that are now 9-19 years of age to still be a big part of the congregation ten years from now, then we had better be committed to working with them. Bible class teachers and youth ministers (we call them "parents"), we better give our young people our ears, our hearts, and our love. We must put in the time to do our best to ground them in the Book. It takes time, yes, lots and lots of time. If we do not make a special effort with our kids, then you can write it down: they will not be at church a decade from now.

*Evangelistic Zeal* — Those churches whose single attempt to teach the Gospel in a year's time is to hang out a sign the week of a Gospel meeting — if that is their only effort to reach out to the lost, those churches will die — guaranteed. The church needs to train seed-sowers (Luke 8:5,11)! We need to prepare our troops to open their mouths to teach the way of the Lord (Acts 8:35) and to be ready to give an answer (1 Peter 3:15). Converts come about only when teaching takes place. Faith comes by what? By hearing (Rom. 10:17). We must get ready to teach so people can hear!

Where will the church you attend be ten years from now? Only the Lord knows for sure. The matters we have noted are big-time factors. Consider them carefully.

## Till He Comes

In taking the Lord's Supper each week (Acts 20:7) we "proclaim the Lord's death till He comes" (1 Cor.11:26). We proclaim the Lord's death and our fellowship with Christ until He comes. It is one of the ways we confess Him.

Christians coming together on the first day of the week is a "proclamation" that we stand together in telling the truth about why He died, and as proof that it was because of our sins and His ability to pardon our sins, He was raised from the dead, showing that He has power over death itself. We will keep proclaiming the truth about Jesus' death "till he comes." He will come again, just as surely as He came the first time.

The Lord's Supper has been observed each Sunday from Pentecost to now as weekly reminders and memorial to the FACT that He came the first time and changed the course of human history. When He comes again there will be no more need to take the Lord's Supper, as we will be taken to heaven to live in His presence forever.

A side note is that brethren who teach that His only coming happened in AD 70 are very deceived. If He came in person, He would have taken His people back to heaven (1 Thess. 4:13-17), and there would be no need to take the Lord's Supper each week. There would be no need to "proclaim the Lord's death" because sin would have ceased to exist, and mortals would have been changed to immortals where sin does not invade us and put us in need of forgiveness in the blood of Christ (1 Cor. 15:22ff).

No, we still need the benefits of Jesus' death on the cross, and we will need it "till He comes." At that point the devil and his angels and those who served sin will be cast into the everlasting fire (Matt. 25:41-46). The saints will be taken to glory, a place that is undefiled (1 Peter 1:3,4). Until that takes place, we will continue to "proclaim His death till He Comes." Are you proclaiming the Lord's death in the Lord's Supper each week?

—Terry Wane Benton

*"For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come" (1 Cor. 11:23-26).*