In Our Prayers

Of Our Number

Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek
Jennifer Derrick—health problems
Rick Hemphill—dental procedures
Jeff Mashburn—health problems
Kari Miles—surgery Oct. 28
Jim Nivison—much improved

Others in Need

Kristen Adam—stage 4 cancer
Terri Adams—cancer
Glen Brooks—clot in carotid artery
Fran Carlos—back surgery
Sheila Cole—health problems
Ruth Cook—cancer surg. recovery
Louise Douglas—health problems
Kim Dunn—cancer
Joyce Faulk—health problems
Jennifer Foxworth-health problems
Annette Garrett - Non-H. lymphoma
Lucinda Lingor—heart problems
Jerry Madden—cancer
Paul Mays—Lyme disease
Ann Parker—health problems
Kenny Parsons—shoulder surgery
Dan Sikes—back pain, surgery
Michael Totoro—cancer

Pray for Christians overseas, such as those facing persecution in Pakistan and 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

November 1
Meal after AM Worship

November 8
Men's Meeting

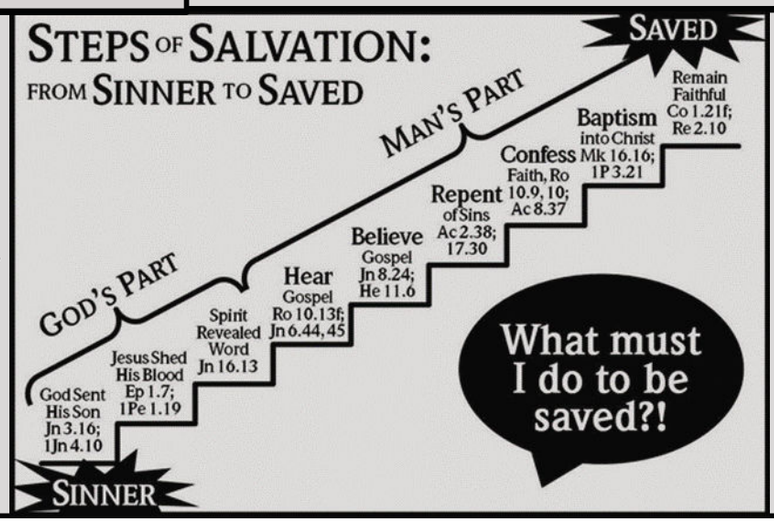
November 28
4th Wednesday Singing

Privileged to Serve

Announcements: Leo Derrick
Song Leading: Sunday—David Howze; Wednesday—Jacob Mashburn
Serving the Lord's Supper
Head: Ethan Howze; Helpers: Mark Howze, Trey Miles, Johnny Moss
Lord's Supper PM
Head: Mark Howze
Helper: Ezra Howze
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).

"...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

October 25, 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
On *Simple Radio* App — search for Good Country

Jason Hilburn's Info:
850-826-8198
hilburnjasonp@gmail.com
JasonsBibleBlog.com
TheBibleDomain.com

The Apostles Were Not Roman Catholics

By Ivan R. Stewart

From the following facts it can be clearly seen that the apostles were not members of the Roman Catholic Church, and that the Catholic Church does not teach the same doctrine taught by Christ and the apostles:

1. The apostles taught an entirely different doctrine from that which is taught by the Roman Catholic Church.

2. All the apostles died long before the Catholic Church came into existence. The last apostle died about 95 A.D. This was hundreds of years before the Roman Catholic Church was established.

3. The apostle Peter was a married man and was never a pope nor is he referred to in the Bible as the head of the church. No apostle ever taught the doctrine of celibacy. (I Tim. 3:2; 4:1-3; 1 Cor. 9:5)

4. No apostle of Christ, nor any other writer of the New Testament, ever mentioned the Catholic mass, auricular confession, praying to or in the name of the virgin Mary, nor any other doctrine peculiar to the Roman Catholic Hierarchy. The apostle Paul said, "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." (1 Tim. 2:5)

5. Matthew recorded the command of Christ to "Call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father which is in heaven." (Matt. 23:9)

6. The teaching of the apostles came from heaven and is not subject to any change, whereas, the teaching of the Catholic Church is from men and is continually changing. The apostle Paul said, "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed." (Gal. 1:8) He further emphasized this statement in the very next verse wherein he declared, "As we said before, so say I now again, if any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed."

7. The apostles taught and emphasized the fact that the only source of Divine Authority today is the Bible. The apostle John emphasized the sufficiency of the written word to produce saving faith when he said, "And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name" (John 20:30-31).

8. Traditions of men that contradict God's Word are specifically condemned by the Lord in Matthew 15:6 and Mark 7:1-13. Moreover, the Bible contains everything that is necessary to know in order to be saved from past sins; to live the Christian life and be saved eternally. (2 Tim. 3:16,17; 1 Cor. 4:6; Rev. 22:18,19)

9. The only authentic record of what Christ and the apostles taught is found in the Bible, and nowhere in this Book is any mention made of the Catholic Church, The Roman Catholic Church, The Roman Catholic Hierarchy, or any of the officials of this organization, such as the Pope, Cardinals, and Archbishops.

10. Christ had no successors, neither did the apostles. The only way to hear the voice of God is through the Bible (Matt. 28:18-20; 2 John 9:11). (*The Gospel Guardian*, May 28, 1953).

Don't Be a High Maintenance Christian

“Maintenance” is not exactly the most exciting word. It’s hard to get excited about maintenance. It’s not something that gets the blood flowing, is it? Consider the matter of maintaining your car. Cars are an essential part of the society in which we live. And cars can be fun. But the not-so-fun thing about cars is that they have to be maintained. Maintenance is not exciting, but it’s better than walking.

The Christian life must be maintained also. We have to take care of ourselves spiritually. As Christians we are expected to grow into maturity (1 Pet. 2:1-3; 2 Pet. 3:18). Christians must continually give themselves to things that will enhance their spiritual growth (e.g. regular Bible study and prayer, fellowship and encouragement, worship, evangelism, service).

An important part of our Christian lives is the work of helping other Christians to maintain their faith and stability. We’re called upon to look after the needs of others in the faith (Phil. 2:4; Eph. 4:7-16; Gal. 6:1). This can be both a taxing and rewarding work, but a necessary one. And just as we need to look out for the spiritual welfare of others, even so we need others to look out for us.

Considering your own Christian life and spiritual maturity, do you consider yourself a high maintenance or low maintenance Christian? We all need maintenance, but some need more than others. We should expect new converts to need more encouragement and direction than older Christians. But the object is to grow steadily and sufficiently so that our faithfulness to the Lord is not as dependent on others as it was when we started down the path of faith. I have known Christians who have been in the church for many years who need a high degree of input and encouragement from other believers or they will drop out. I have known mature Christians and church leaders who seemingly invest a large amount of their energy just maintaining the faith of other Christians who never seem to grow up. This is not what the Lord intended. He doesn’t want us to always be tapping the time and energy of other believers, and robbing the church of resources it could use to bring others into the kingdom.

One of the things each Christian should realize (as quickly as possible when they come into the family of God) is that spiritual growth is mandated by the God of Heaven. He expects you to grow into maturity. Growth is not just a good idea, it’s a command. Furthermore, growth is not just a command, it’s essential to the development and work of the kingdom. It is just as essential to salvation to grow into Christlikeness as it is to hear the Word, believe in Christ, repent of sins, confess faith in Christ, and be immersed for the remission of sins. To grow or not to grow is not an option for the child of God.

As a Christian, I will always need maintenance. I will never reach a point where I do not need to study the Bible, and pray, and worship, and need the encouragement and fellowship of other Christians. There will be times in my life, as there will be for every Christian, when I will need the aid, comfort, and counsel of wiser Christians. But I never want to be high-maintenance. I don’t want my faith to be dependent on others “dragging me to church,” when that’s a decision that I should have already made as a Christian. I don’t want my faith to be such that I have to be coaxed to speak to others about faith in Christ. It is a blessing to receive strength and encouragement from others, but the greater blessing comes in being able to give back; to reach a point spiritually that you become a pillar of strength and assurance for others.

So let’s strive to be low-maintenance Christians. We will always be dependent on the Lord, but we should strive to be less dependent on the time, energy, and resources of other believers. Let’s get better at giving than receiving. And may the kingdom of God be enriched by the fruit we bear to Christ’s glory! -Selected