

God's Picture of the Church

The Bible vividly portrays the nature of the church in the various descriptive terms which are applied:

1. **As a pearl**, the church is costly. It is to be bought even at the expense of selling all that one has.
2. **As a kingdom**, it is obedient. We are to obey every wish of our King, the Lord.
3. **As a house**, it is orderly. Every stone is fitly joined together and every thing is decent and in order.
4. **As a rock**, it is dependent. It must be fed the pure milk and meat of the Word. It must look to the great Shepherd.
5. **As a bride**, it is virtually joined to Him. It wears his name and is subject to Him in all things.
6. **As a family**, it bears His image. It resembles the Father and Elder Brother.
7. **As a body**, it is united. All members are needed and work together in harmony.
8. **As a candlestick**, it is exalted. It is the light of the world, reflecting Christ so that all can see Him.

- Author Unknown -

You Are The Church

The bricks and mortar, the pews and all that goes to make the building ARE NOT the church. The church is YOU!

Its strengths and weaknesses are revealed in you. What you are, the church is also.

The power of its devotion to God, truth and humanity is the measure of your devotion.

The inspiration of its services is the test of your heart. Its stated hours of worship are your obligation. If you fail here, to that extent your failure is expressed in the church.

Yours is its faith. Its worship is expressed through you. No one can take your place.

The Encourager

Southside Church of Christ, Killeen, TX

In God's Presence

When we assemble in worship, sing, pray, and listen to the message, we often do these things half-heartedly and with little sense of the fear of God. Ecclesiastes 5 speaks to those issues and warns us not to make promises to God carelessly and superficially!

We are inclined to hear only part of what God is saying to us through His Word. But genuine hearing includes careful listening accompanied by obedience. Unkept vows are also a serious matter (vs. 2, 4-6). Just as many dreams have no basis in reality, the careless speech of the fool in God's presence is empty (vs. 3, 7).

Always keep in mind how great and holy God is, and how small and sinful we are. Thank Him for His mercy and grace. This solemn contemplation of the Lord's character will help us obey the admonition to "fear God" (v. 7).

- Herbert Vander Lugt [adapted], *Our Daily Bread* -

Worship

Worship is the occupation of the soul with God. By a deliberate act of will we focus our thoughts and feelings on God.

We look with **awe** at His majesty.

We are filled with **wonder** as we view His omnipotence.

We stand **amazed** as we consider His perfect holiness.

With **reverence** we think about His love.

With **gratitude** we remember His mercy.

This is what **worship** is: **awe**, **wonder**, **amazement**, **reverence**, and **gratitude**.

- Flavil R. Yeakley, Jr., Wadsworth, OH -
(*Bulletin Digest*)

What we do and what we say advertises what we are.

News Notes

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!: Our Noni Scadden will celebrate her 94th birthday, **TOMORROW**. Special best wishes to Noni on this great milestone in her life.

CARE & SHARE BEARS: Each Tuesday at 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. All ladies are invited to participate.

CONVERT'S CLASS: Each Thursday at 11:00 a.m. All are welcome.

LIVING WITH LOSS SEMINAR: May 2-4, Columbiana Church of Christ with Dean Miller. See the insert in today's bulletin for details.

MEN'S BREAKFAST: Next Saturday, May 3rd. 8:00 a.m. at Coplin's in Newell.

90th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION: for Dana Rine, next Saturday May 3rd, 2:00-4:00 p.m., Camden Ave. Church of Christ, Parkersburg, WV. Dana's home address: P.O. Box 94, Mineral Wells, WV 26150. Dana's actual birth date is May 5th.

VBS MEETING: Next Sunday, May 4th immediately following the morning worship. This is in preparation for our VBS, June 9-13.

NO COVERED DISH DINNER OR EARLY AFTERNOON SERVICE IN MAY.

TO SUPPORT ST. CLAIR AVE. GOSPEL MEETING: Our congregation will go as a group on Monday, May 5th, 7:00 p.m. to hear Bro. Phil Sanders.

PANTRY: Kidney beans.

REMEMBER THESE: Alex Barnhart (Carolyn Pallard's grandson). In Afghanistan area: Michael Heath, son-in-law of Mike & Marcie Martin.

NEW ADDRESS: Jean Haught (Skip's mother), Serra Manor, 100 Serra Drive, Room 17, Weirton, WV 26062.

SICK: At Home: David & Becky McKittrick, Matt Malcomson, Brian Haught (Skip's brother), John Sprout, Randy Beagle, Peggy Linger, Scharlotte Jones, Harry Huff, Nancy Cox, Barbara DeLong, Marlene Evans, Cheryl Renfro Walker. **Fox-Chester:** Janice Hutchins, Mary Johnson. **Elsewhere:** Carolyn Carbone, 98 Orange Blossom Lane, Ranson, WV 25438. Herman McHan, 7401 Elmwood Dr., Lisbon, OH 44432.

GOSPEL MEETINGS

St. Clair Ave., E. Liverpool	-----May 4- 7 -----	Phil Sanders
Weirton Heights	-----May 4- 8 -----	John Board
Carrollton	-----May 9-11 -----	Dan Jenkins
McKinleyville	-----May 11-15 -----	Different Speakers

FRIDAY NIGHT SING

Columbiana (details on Bulletin Board) May 16, 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY LADIES DAYS

Chester	-----May 10
Blueville, Grafton (details on Bulletin Board)	-----May 17