

## In the World, But Not of It!

John 17 records one of the prayers of Jesus. In John 17:15, Jesus says, "I do not ask Thee to take them out of the world but to keep them from the evil one." He goes on to say in John 17:16, "They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world!" In the world, but not of it! What a challenging concept!

Have you ever thought about why the Lord does not take us out of this crooked and perverse world as soon as we are saved? The answer is simple: He has a purpose of us here!

**We Are Here For His Sake.** He wants us to carry out the work He himself came to do. He described that work in Luke 19:10 as seeking and saving the lost. He said in John 20:21, "As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you."

**We Are Here For Others' Sake.** Most people in this world are not interested in their own spiritual welfare. The god of this world has blinded their minds to keep them from seeing the danger they are in. So We are left in the world to carry the Gospel to as many people as possible.

**We Are Here For Our Own Sake.** The Christian life is a maturing process. We must "grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18). This world is our school room for our lifetime. The Gospel does not promise escape from problems, but power to overcome them (Philippians 4:13).

We are in the World...but not of it!

~ Bobby Dockery, Hooker, OK (Bulletin Digest) ~

### Advice for Worship from Hebrews 10:22

"let us draw near" —  
The obligation of worship.  
"with a true heart" —  
The sincerity of worship.  
"in full assurance of faith" —  
The respect of worship.  
"having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience" —  
The humility of worship.  
"and our bodies washed with pure water" —  
The purity of worship.

- Edd Sterchi, Campbellsville KY,  
(Bulletin Digest) -

"Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness." - Psalm 29:2 -

### Five Links of Fellowship

*Gathered TOGETHER*  
Matthew 18:20

*Knit TOGETHER*  
Colossians 2:2

*Perfectly Joined TOGETHER*  
1 Corinthians 1:10

*Striving TOGETHER*  
Philippians 1:27

*Caught Up TOGETHER*  
1 Thessalonians 4:17

(Bulletin Digest)

Christians are like houseplants: growing, dying, or artificial... which are you?

### News & Notes

**SYMPATHY:** To the family of Mary Nelson at her recent passing; to Gary, Melissa & Isaac Rosohac at the passing of Gary's mother, Catherine (Katy) Rosohac; and to Buck, Vera & Brandon Groves at the passing of Buck's dad, Leonard Groves, Sr. God bless and comfort these families.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** To Tyler Miskimen on receiving a welding diploma from New Castle School of Trades. Also to Austin Haught and Zachary Thompson on their recent high school graduations.

**CONFESSION:** Pat Allison.

**NEW CONVERT CLASS:** Each Sunday a.m. Bible Class in Room 406. This class is for those who were baptized in the last three years.

**CARE & SHARE BEARS:** Each Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. All ladies are welcome to participate in this activity to make stuffed bears for kids. Ability to sew not required.

**SUMMER LADIES BIBLE STUDY:** Resumes this Thursday, June 14th, 11:00 a.m. at the Brown's residence. All ladies welcome and invited to join in this study.

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE'S BANQUET:** Saturday, June 16th.

**CHESTER'S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** June 18-22, 7:00 p.m. Adult class teacher: Larry Lemasters.

**GRADUATION CELEBRATION:** For Zachary Thompson, Saturday, June 30th, 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. at the Multipurpose Building.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CAMP:** July 9-14 at Tomlinson Run State Park. Sign-up sheet on the desk in the foyer for anyone who will help.

**MEMBER VISITS:** Our Elders and Minister are making visits to get to know the members better. Schedule a visit here at the building or in your home by signing the sheet on the desk, or arrange an appointment by talking to Rico. Otherwise, expect an impromptu visit.

**PANTRY:** Peanut butter & jelly.

**REQUEST FOR PRAYERS & CARDS:** Cindy Moore (Pat Allison's cousin). Cindy has bone cancer. Her address: 2760 Craig Circle, Fullerton, CA 92835.

**SICK & SHUT-IN: AT HOME:** Elaine McClung, Charlie Delong, Bill & Carol Stillwell, Russell Martin, Blondenia Orr, Doris Dunham, Alex Harless. **FOX NURSING HOME:** Mary Jane Bowers (Room 19). **CROSSROADS:** Sarah Miller. **CALCUTTA HEALTH CARE:** Ella Beagle. **AUBURN NURSING HOME, SALEM, OH:** Jim Mick. **IN FLORIDA:** Ilene Rayl.

### WEAKEST LINK

There is an old saying that a chain is only as strong as its weakest link. How true it is. And how true also is the saying when it is applied to the Lord's church.

- The church is just as strong as its weakest members.
- It's as well attended as the most unfaithful.
- Its giving is as great and strong as its most covetous member.
- Its reputation in the community is just as strong as the reputation of its membership.
- It is as strong in doing good works as the least working member.
- It sows the seed of the Kingdom no more abundantly than the neglectful member.

- Broad Street church of Christ, Scottsboro, AL (Bulletin Digest) -