

The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Nov. 10, 2013



WHEN NOT TO BE a Barnabas

The Church needs more people like Barnabas - more "sons of encouragement" (cf. Acts 4:36). We need more people who, like Barnabas, are self-sacrificing (cf. Acts 4:37), are willing to stand up for their brethren (cf. Acts 9:26-27), are encouraging (cf. Acts 11:22-24), and are able to always see the goodness in people (cf. Acts 15:37-39).

You can always spot a Barnabas because they're always trying to bring out the best in people, they work hard, they don't need to be praised for their efforts, and they always want peace.

We need more Barnabases in the Church.

But modern-day Barnabases need to learn from his mistake. **Barnabas was so eager to please everyone that he, at least once, compromised his convictions.**

To make a long story short, Barnabas wanted to satisfy the Judaizers so much that he was willing to withdraw table fellowship from Gentile-Christian converts (Gal. 2:11-14). It seems he separated himself from the very people he was ministering to so enthusiastically, just to try to make everyone happy.

The point is, sometimes it isn't possible to make everyone happy without seriously compromising the truth.

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you... (1 John 1:5).

VISITORS,
WELCOME!

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. WORSHIP

1:00 p.m. WORSHIP

Wednesday:

7:00 p.m. Bible Class

We have Bible classes for
all ages & Pew Packers
each Sunday at 12:30

P.O. Box 321

2008 Hwy. 306

(1.2 miles east of I-55)

Coldwater, MS 38618

(662) 622-7951

emailus@coldwatercofc.com

www.coldwatercofc.com

ELDERS

Billy Bland

Seth Daniel

Jim Jackson

W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jared Brown

Jerry Davis Jeffrey Ferrell

Ron Johnson Andy Ratliff

PREACHER

Clifton Angel

There comes a time when we cannot support or embrace someone because of their practice of error. We cannot give people the 'everything-is-going-to-be-okay' hug when they are teaching or doing things which contradict the perfect gospel of Christ. **The fact of the matter is this: everything isn't going to be okay so long as they aren't "walking in the light" (1 John 1:7).**

Sometimes Barnabases need to be more like Paul in recognizing sin as "sin" (Gal. 2:11, 14). **Sometimes people are simply wrong, and Christians cannot wink at error or sin.**

Let's practically illustrate this point:

- How many times do preachers avoid controversial issues because they don't want to upset anyone?
- How many times do elders avoid protecting the Bride of Christ because they're afraid someone might leave?
- How many times do members allow sister So-n-So to gossip because they don't want to anger her by asking her to stop?
- How many times do spouses sweep sin under the rug because they want to 'preserve the peace' in their home?
- How many times do parents make compromises so their children can 'fit in' with other children?
- How many times do teens compromise on what is righteous recreation because they don't want to lose the influence they have on their friends?

Like Barnabas, we need to "strive to excel in building up the church" (1 Cor. 14:12). **But Jesus doesn't want us to attempt to build up the church at the expense of**

holiness. When we do that, we're not actually building up the church - we're tearing it down.



*–written by Ben Giselbach
www.plainsimplefaith.com*

When to **GIVE THANKS**

I am a member of the social network Facebook. It was there that I read the rather telling infographic: "November ... the month where people who have complained on Facebook for the past 11 months become thankful for 30 days." The practice that many have of expressing specific thanksgiving each day of the month of November is a good one. It even may incite thanksgiving in others roundabout. However, let's be sure not to become the person that is described in the infographic. Complaints are mostly expressions of ingratitude. And November certainly is not the only time in the year that we should express thanksgiving. So, when should we give thanks?

Paul wrote to Christians in Ephesus telling them that they should be **"Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ"** (Ephesians 5:20). Every day of our lives affords us a multitude of opportunities for which we should give thanks to God. For, it is He that gives us the day. And it is He that gives us every thing that is truly good. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning" (James 1:17). I am confident Paul has in mind "every good gift and every perfect gift" when he says to give thanks for "all things."

Furthermore, Paul wrote to the church in Thessalonica, **"In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you"** (1 Thessalonians 5:18). One dear friend of mine has said, "I am thankful that Paul said 'In every thing give thanks,' and not, 'Give thanks for every thing.'" His point was that we can be thankful even in times of tragedy, but it is not necessary that we be thankful for the tragedy itself. Very recently, my dad died unexpectedly. This is a tragedy for which I am not thankful. However, in the same day of the loss of my dad, I found things for which to be very thankful. I was (and still am) extremely thankful for the confidence that I have in his conversion to Christ. I was (and still am) truly thankful to have been with him when he died and to not have had to make a 430-mile trip after a tragic call. I was (and still am) abundantly thankful to know that his physical death contained far less suffering than the cancer or other lasting ailment with which I thought he would eventually be diagnosed. I was (and still am) thankful that my dad was doing one of his favorite things when he died—spending time with his only son.

When are we to give thanks? **Always** and **in every thing**. Not only in November. Every human being would do well to be more thankful and give thanks more often. When do you give thanks?

—written by Clifton Angel

Sermon Review

Laborers Together

(1 Corinthians 3:1–23)

- I. Grow Together (1–4)
- II. Go Together (5–9)
- III. Show Together (10–15)
- IV. Undergo Together (16–20)

God's People: Gifted by God to Give to God

(Malachi 3:8–12)

- I. Their Burglary (8–9)
- II. Their Burden (9, 11)
- III. Their Blessing (10–12)

NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Wiley & Betty Tuggle, Wiley's back down again; **Sue Cobern**; **Helen Bowman**, she is confined more than before because of incidents dangerous to her well-being.

OpenDoor Ministry
Fishers of Men
Far East Missions

Family & Friends

Bobby Gayton, may have prostate cancer; **Marie Sims**, Ashby Johnson's mother, cancer treatment now, surgery January; **James Cooper**, Jan's brother, stomach cancer; **Vicky Davis**, cancer has spread to brain; **Vicki Angel**, Clifton's mom, recovering well, but has much on her at this time; **Ann Broach**, Clifton's great-aunt, had heart bypass surgery; **Curtis Cates'** family; **Ray Maples**; **John & Anita Simpson & family**; **Janet Colvett**, (Jeffrey's mother) we rejoice that her leukemia is in remission, was able to go home; **Martha Hatfield**, Lynn's grandmother, has stage 4 cancer; **Cindy Jones' family**; **LaJuan Collums'**, receiving treatments for cancer, battles other health problems also; **Virginia Johnson**, wife of gospel preacher Roger Johnson, has stage 4 lung cancer; **Juanita Wooten**; **Joy Angel**, battling various health problems; **Roy Cobern**; **Raleigh Wooten**; **JoAnn Prestage**, Sara Norris' sister, cancer; **Tasha Higginbotham**, in need of a kidney transplant, thankful that her cataract surgery went well; **Linda Perkins**, Tim West's mother-in-law, leukemia, also Linda's husband has had pneumonia; **Mac Owen**; **Bob Spurlin**; **Ally Jo Kelly**, toddler with leukemia; **Brad & Sheri Daniel**, in efforts of adoption of baby Faith; **Carly Wright**, 3 yr. old with liver cancer; **Joe & Josephine Johnston**, and their sons, Charles and Chris; **Frederick Bland**; **Carla Carlson**; **Janie Brister**.

Birthdays

11/5 Rachel Wilkes
11/14 Shirley Yarbro
11/14 Kara Johnson
11/18 Timothy Wilkes, Sr.
11/25 Wiley Tuggle
11/26 Virginia Sowell

Anniversary

11/8 Jeremy & Mindy Moore

Get Involved!

Providence Place Devo -- TODAY -- 2:30PM

Bible Bowl -- Nov 16 -- Gen 22 -- 24

At Thyatira, 10:30 AM

Quizzes online at www.thebibledomain.com

Ladies' Painting Night -- Nov 23 -- 5 PM

Pleasant Hill Art Center, see Mischel or Rachel

Signup sheet on table in foyer

In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, November 10

Morning

Prayer Before Class	Jeremy Moore
Announcements	Jerry Davis
Song Leader	Jared Brown
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Billy Bland
	Seth Daniel
Assist	Jim Jackson
	Timothy Wilkes, Sr.
Opening Prayer	Andy Ratliff
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Closing Prayer	Ron Johnson

Afternoon

Song Leader	Jared Brown
Opening Prayer	Jeffrey Ferrell
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Billy Bland
	Jim Jackson
	Jason Bayless
Closing Prayer	

Wednesday, November 13

Song Leader	Payton Jackson
Prayer	Jeffrey Ferrell
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Joe Owen