

# THE BEACON OF TRUTH

October 13, 2019

“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.” John 17:17

## 11 Tips for Better Worship

Jack Wilkie

We all get caught going through the motions sometimes. We all know that our God deserves more, though, and we know that the more we put in the more we’ll get out. Here are 11 things you can do to better engage your heart in worship, particularly on Sunday.

**1. Pray before you go.** There are so many things we can pray for to get our minds in the right place. Give thanks for the blessings of the week to get the mind focused on why we worship. Pray for those leading worship. Pray that the cares and distractions of the world would be taken away. Pray for an open heart and mind.

**2. Read before you go.** Pick a text that will get your mind in the right place. It could be a psalm of praise, a section about what Jesus has done for us, or anything that prepares the mind to worship God and show love to the church family.

**3. Bring your Bible.** This is going to sound strange, but I’m a firm believer that not all Bibles are created equal. By that I mean that every Christian should have a go-to Bible that can’t just be replaced by a pew Bible or an app. Yes, they have the same words and same powerful truth. But it makes a difference when you get a Bible you can develop a bond with and keep near you throughout the week. **Note:** This is particularly helpful for those who have a photographic or near-photographic memory. People who are visual learners tend to have this kind of memory. If you frequently use the same Bible, it can help your memory of God’s word as you visualize the words on the various pages on which they are found. Give it a try! — TCG

**4. Be there.** Sporadic attendance is one of the best ways to kill enthusiastic worship. As far as it is in your power (barring emergencies, sicknesses, and injuries), plan to be there each week. Only giving God the Sundays that aren’t occupied by “something better to do” is offering Him that which costs us nothing (2 Samuel 24:24), and there’s no value in that.

**5. Go with a plan to encourage.** Hebrews 10:25 tells us not to forsake the assembly, but 10:24 tells us why – we need to be there to stir each other up to greater love and good works. Don’t just go as a spectator or a consumer. Go with a plan to help spread the love of Christ to others.

**6. Go to Bible class.** It’s hard to grow in the faith with just a sermon every week. While attending Bible class still doesn’t give us all the spiritual nourishment we need, it certainly doesn’t hurt. And, it just adds to the time around our Christian family, which should (cntd. pg. 2)

## By the Numbers:

Week of 10/6/19

Contribution – \$2327

Attendance:

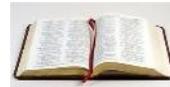
Sunday Bible Classes – 37

Sunday Worship\* – 56

Wednesday Night – 36

\*Total for the day

## Bible Trivia Question



Last Week’s Answer: He delivered them unto Satan (1 Tim. 1:20).

Q: What did Paul exhort Timothy to do first of all?

Answer to be given next week!

## SERMON SPOTLIGHT:

AM — Therefore Have I Hope! (Lam. 3:21)

1. Who wrote the book of Lamentations?
2. What kinds of trials did he face in his life?
3. How could he have hope in such difficult circumstances?

PM — The Parable of the Talents

1. What is a talent?
2. What key lessons can we learn from this parable?

### Schedule Of Services

Sunday  
Bible Study 9:45 A.M.  
Worship 10:30 A.M. & 2:00 P.M.  
Wednesday Bible study 7:00 P.M.

### Website

Beaconcofc.com

### Preacher

Chase Green  
318-608-7418

### Elders

Bill Schooley 318-396-7296  
Tim Green 318-547-4026

### Missions Supported

Ronnie Goolam - India  
Marlon Retana - Panama  
Brad Hairub - Focus Press

BEACON CHURCH OF CHRIST  
2326 JONESBORO ROAD  
MAIL: P.O. BOX 3057  
WEST MONROE, LA 71294

### WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED

1. Hear the Gospel (Jn. 20:30-31; Rom. 10:17).
2. Believe (Rom. 1:16; Acts 18:8; Heb. 11:6).
3. Repent (Lk. 13:3; 24:47; Acts 3:19; 17:30).
4. Confess Christ (Matt. 10:32, 33).
5. Be baptized (immersed) (Matt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16).
6. Continue faithful unto death (Rev. 2:10).

Mailing Address

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

## NEWS AND NOTES TO OUR GUESTS—A WARM WELCOME

Thank you for coming today and please come back soon and often. If you have questions about the church of Christ, what is taught here, or the way we do anything please feel free to ask. Please fill out the Guest Register on the table in the foyer so we may have a record of your visit.

### REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Margie Tippen, Regina Simmons, Marcia Green, Kevin Green, Jerry Tippen, Harold Myers, Joy Skipper, Ruth Coston, Lindy Brown, Kaitlyn Wilson, Kathy Lawrence, Melba Tippen Creech, Mike Jones, Kenneth Hendrix, Tim Green, Mildred Allhands, Anthony Ortega, Debbie Grice, Virginia Wainwright, Stetson Ortega, Bettie Young, Dewey Young, Wendy Traweek, Tim Green, Chase & Lindsey Green & family (Leaving after services today to head to Lubbock, TX for the Lubbock Lectures; afterward they will be on vacation in Arizona & California, returning Thursday Oct. 24th)

### OTHER THINGS & UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Youth & Young Adults: Be on the lookout for monthly events.
- Monthly Fellowship Meal: 4th Sunday each month unless otherwise noted.

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always be a priority.

**7. Remind yourself why you're there.** It's terribly easy to sit in our regular seat, fall into our regular routine, and lose sight of why we've come. Take a moment before worship begins to refocus on the God you've come to praise.

**8. Think about the words to the songs.** It's amazing how well something can become welded into our memory when put to a tune. Unfortunately, that just makes it that much easier to let our minds drift as we repeat words we've sang 100x. Most of us could just about sing "Amazing Grace" in our sleep. That's why it's important that we make a point to think about the words and let the deep truths set in to our hearts.

**9. Take notes.** You don't have to get the lesson down word-for-word. But it makes a difference if you can write down the Scripture references, catch the major points, and write down any lines that particularly stand out to you.

**10. Talk about the sermon afterward.** Any time you go with a friend to a movie or sporting event, it's only natural to talk about what you just experienced together. Whether in the foyer before you leave or over lunch, take some time to rehash what you learned in the sermon or class.

**11. Revisit your notes during the week.** Each of these last three points are intended for a specific purpose – helping you remember the sermon and internalize its truths. Even as the preacher it's sometimes hard to remember the finer points of the sermon a few days into the week. But the sermon wasn't meant to be something that goes in one ear and out the other, an item on the list we can check off for the week. The best way to make use of the sermon and be prepared to hear another next week is to interact with the lesson in a way that makes it stick.

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## *Does Belief (Faith) Automatically Equate to Faithfulness?*

*Chase Green*

No, it does not. John 12:42: "Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many BELIEVED on him; but because of the Pharisees they DID NOT CONFESS HIM, lest they should be put out of the synagogue..."

These chief rulers believed in Christ to the extent that they understood Him to be the Messiah, but they caved in to peer pressure and would not confess Him. Just because someone believes in Jesus does not mean that he is automatically faithful to Him.

Some people even confess Christ, but then do not obey the things that He commanded. "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46). Are such individuals saved? "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that DOETH the will of my Father which is in heaven" (Mat. 7:21). "But be ye DOERS of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves" (James 1:22). Read the entirety of the New Testament, and you will see that belief (faith) is extremely important, but not just mere understanding or acknowledgement of Christ as Lord. Rather, the kind of faith that saves is OBEDIENT faith.

James 2:15-26: "What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works. Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God. Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only. Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way? For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also."

With love, Chase

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### **THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE**

"And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."

John 1:14

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BE SURE TO TUNE INTO OUR RADIO STATION!  
FM 102.5 KCXB-LP - The Beacon of Truth  
Available 24/7 on FM radio and at [Beaconcofc.com](http://Beaconcofc.com)