JANUARY 19, 2020



PREACHER-SHEPHERD
DR. JEFFERSON R. CARUTHERS JR.

CARVER ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST

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COMMENTARY CORNER: GLORY IN THE CHURCH SERIES: "Church and

Kingdom First?" "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof" (Matthew 6:33–34).

Jesus saw no contradiction between the promises he made related to life and the commitments he asked of men and women. Jesus assured that he came that men and women might have life, and that more abundantly (John 10:10). Jesus knew that men and women desire to enjoy life, that they do not mind living life; that they crave, relish, and hunger for life that is meaningful, pleasant, and certainly more abundant. We admit that life is not so bad as long as it brings us peace and happiness in the context of loving relationships.

We consider when reflecting on what it is to be a child of God that we have the greatest life possibilities offered to humanity. We acknowledge again, too, that Jesus saw no contradiction between the life he offered and the commitment expectations he taught.

A conversation about commitment arose after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Christ (Matthew 16:16); and after Jesus said that he would build his church (Matthew 16:18). He began to teach his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests, to be killed and to be raised again the third day (Matthew 16:21). This teaching disturbed Peter.

Peter had heard Jesus make promises to build his church. How could this same Jesus now talk of being killed? How was Jesus going to accomplish what Peter thought was important if he were killed?

Jesus informs Peter at that point that Peter was not prioritizing the things that were of God, but rather those that were of men (Matthew 16:23). While Peter thought that he was thinking consistent with the will of God, he was actually thinking in line with the immediate desires of men and women. We must know that there is a difference. And we must always be willing to ask our-

selves whether our faith is founded on the expectations of humans, or whether it is based on the teachings of the Father and Son.

Jesus continues in his instruction to Peter. Jesus would build his church, but those who would follow him must be willing to adopt some practices; they would live according to some commitments. The Lord states, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me" (Matthew 16:24). Let us make sure that we note for ourselves that those who become the church, and who enjoy the abundant life therein, are those who begin with denying themselves.

Jesus further instructs, "For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it" (Matthew 16:25). We are again at the life discussion. Jesus wants us to have life. Jesus wants us to have abundant life. But Jesus teaches us that any life that would be meaningful is life that is in Christ Jesus; that life makes certain demands of us. And what is the point of this observation in the context of our focus on the church?

There are great numbers of people who believe that church life and real life have nothing to do with each other. Even as we have studied over these few weeks on the church, it is almost certain that more than one has concluded that the church information might be good and should be appreciated. But these same have asked, "what does this have to do with life in the here and now, the life that is not projected, but that is real; the demands of life one lives with in a mixed up world, 24/7?"

Preachers who teach on the church are often asked these questions, as if life in the church does not include our everyday concerns. And we must agree that life in Christ and his church should meet the challenges of what we confront in our everyday lives.

The preacher is talking about one church and members are dealing with trying to keep their families together, to have peace in their homes, to deal with divisive people doing divisive and hurtful things. What does proper understanding of the church have to do with this?

The preacher is talking about the health and well-being of the church while members are dealing with serious medical conditions, medical bills, medical uncertainties. How can I focus on the health of the church when my child is ill, my parents are ill, and I am dealing with health issues I never dreamed of? Is my focus really the health of the church?

The preacher is teaching about the church and its finances. Is he serious? Members are trying to make ends meet. They are shuffling one responsibility, and then the other. There are children to feed, children to clothe, children to provide some measure of happiness. Members have housing concerns, utility concerns, transportation concerns. How can they take time to think about church finances and then utter phrases like, "To Him Be Glory in the Church, by Christ Jesus, Throughout all Ages, World Without End?"

Let us all be assured of this one thing: Jesus knows what our needs are better than we do, before we do, and provides for those needs better than we can. Let us know also that he has always understood that he was calling for commitment that brings abundant life; life that requires of us an element to life necessary for our ultimate happiness, that element being faith in him. It is faith that moves us to be willing to deny self, to take up a cross and to follow him. But there is more that all with everyday concerns must appreciate, must understand, and must trust. Our lives are better in the hands of Jesus than they are in our own.

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CHURCH LEADERS

PREACHER-SHEPHERD JEFFERSON R. CARUTHERS JR.

ASSISTANT TO THE MINISTER RICHARD JONES

MINISTER EMERITUS CLOYS R. CECIL SR.

SHEPHERDS

JEFFERSON R. CARUTHERS JR.
JOHN FOXWORTH
ROY OLIPHANT
WALTER WEATHERS, IR.

ELDER EMERITUS

FRANK W. DULIN LEROY NELSON

DEACONS MICHEAL CURRY MAMES E CADSON

JAMES E. GADSON GEORGE MCNAIR BERNARD TERRY JOE WILSON

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT MARCELLA KENDALL



All Visitors! You Are Our Honored Guests!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



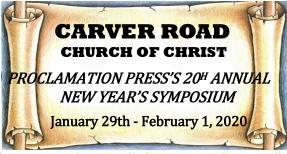
W. F. Washington Theological Institute Conference January 19th—23rd, 2020

"The Case For The Holy Spirit"
(Part 2)

THIS SPECIAL EVENT IS BEING HOSTED BY THE GOLDEN HEIGHTS CHURCH OF CHRIST, FT. LAUDERDALE, FL

For additional information please call (954) 735-2907 or (954) 235-0474. You may also visit the website at www.ministersinstituteconference.com

Let us remember those in our prayers traveling to and attending the Ministers' Institute Conference: brother and sister Jefferson R. Caruthers, brother and sister Adolphus Coplin, brother and sister Micheal Curry, brother and sister James Gadson, brother and sister Richard Jones, and brother and sister George McNair.



CAPERNAUM CHURCH OF CHRIST-FELLOWSHIP MEETING

February 2, 2020

Guest speaker brother Louis Wright of the Richland Church of Christ, Richland, NC. Services at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Lunch will be served from 12:30 p.m.—2 p.m. (Location: Clemmons, NC)



KURIAKOS HOUSE: Don't forget to visit the Kuriakos House table located in the foyer for events and happenings. You may contact sister Felecia Caruthers at (336)767-4201 if you have any questions or need additional information.

CORNELIUS CORNER: Despite the circumstances, some justice-involved Veterans may be eligible for VA benefits. Disability compensation, pension, education and training, health care, home loans, insurance, vocational rehabilitation and employment, and burial. Go to www.benefits.va.gov and review Incarcerated benefits for details. Please be aware many VA benefits can be affected by incarceration.



With Deepest Sympathy

We wish to express our deepest sympathy to brother and sister Michael Mash Sr. in the passing of his grandmother. May God

continue to comfort them during their time of bereavement.

Our heartfelt sympathy also go out to sister Winfred Moten of her uncle-in-law and family in the passing of brother Charles Moten. May God continue to keep his loving arms around them during this time.

ATTENDANCE DAY DRIVE

Our goal is to reach 275 or more on Sunday, February 16, 2020. Remember as always we look forward to seeing you.

Youth Sunday

January 26, 2020

READING SAFARI



Please mark your calendars for Reading Safari Recognition to take place this coming Sunday, January 26, 2020.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

3rd, Jason Adkins, Sherri Pilson; 4th, Kaycee Adkins, Theresa Rucker; 6th, Yolonda Crim, John Foxworth; 8th, Vanessa Cloud, Tamah Williams; 10th, Francina Thomas; 11th, Carmen Caruthers, Marion Gordon; 18th, Johnny Correll; 19th, Doug Crim, Frances Crosby; 20th, Antoinette Leak; 22nd, Draven Pilson; 24th, Hayley Caruthers, Shirley Correll; 28th, Alice Hawkins; 29th, Nikolas Nelson



(24 Years) Thomas & Talaya Loyd - 20th

PRAY THAT GOD LEADS US TO SOULS TO SAVE TODAY & THROUGH THIS WEEK



OUR SICK AND SHUT-IN

sis. Immogene Bray, sis. Gloria Brown, bro. Harold Brown, bro. Alvin Eaton, sis. Magdalene Fleming, sis. Jessie Hall, bro. Barry Harrris Jones, bro. Amos Lewis, sis. Lillie Nelson

per, sis. Dorris Jones, bro. Amos Lewis, sis. Lillie Nelson, bro. Leroy Nelson, sis. Martha Reynolds, sis. Mattie Richardson, sis. Bobby Robinson, sis. Rosa Thompson

RESPONSIVE READING 2 Peter 2:7-12

READER: And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked:

CHURCH: (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed *his* righteous soul from day to day with *their* unlawful deeds;)

READER: The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:

CHURCH: But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous *are they*, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities.

READER: Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord.

UNISON: But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption;

PRAYER

Father in heaven, deliver us out of temptation. Preserve us, sustain us, keep us and use us to Your glory. In the name of Jesus, we pray, Amen.

PRAYER REQUEST

Sis. Lillie Nelson, sis. Marla Newman, sis. Heather King, sis. Kynah Thomas, sis. Thomasina Williams, bro. Reginald Nichols, sis. Mary Thompson, sis. Edelina Oliphant, sis. Wendy Thomas, sis. Detrice Ingram, sis. Patricia I. Johnson, sis. Alfreda Howell, Shirley Lewis, bro. Adriel Hall, bro. Adolphus Coplin, bro. Joseph Wilson



SHEPHERD ON CALL FOR JANUARY

Brother Walter Weathers Jr. (336) 785-2520

ORDER OF WORSHIP

8:00 A.M

SONG LEADER SERMON Adolphus Coplin Jefferson R. Caruthers Jr.

10:00 A.M.

Cecil Oliver ANNOUNCEMENTS INVOCATION Artis Rucker SONG DIRECTOR Roy Oliphant SCRIPTURE William Scott RESPONSIVE READING Howard Brown PRAYER Joseph Wilson **SERMON** Jefferson R. Caruthers Jr. Reginald Nichols OFFERING LORD'S SUPPER Bernard Terry READER Timothy Pilson CLOSING PRAYER Elliot Thompson **GUESTS PRESENTATION**

6:30 P.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS Cecil Oliver INVOCATION Andrew Jackson SONG DIRECTOR Roy Izzard SCRIPTURE Todd Woods RESPONSIVE READING Curtis Conner PRAYER Adolphus Coplin SERMON . Jefferson R. Caruthers Jr. Bernard Wallace **OFFERING** LORD'S SUPPER Anthony Clinton CLOSING PRAYER A. J. Crim **GUESTS PRESENTATION**

COMMUNION REFLECTION

(JOHN 9:41)

And Jesus said unto them, If ye were blind ye should have no sin; but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth.



USHERS

Christian Alexander	Javar Jones
A. J. Crim	Tahjmel Brim
Todd Woods	Kobe Williams
Curtis Conner	Sean Penn

EVENING USHERS

Tahjmel Brim A. J. Crim
Braxton King Kobe Williams

COMMENTARY CORNER

The preacher preaches about the church with the confidence that what Jesus has promised, he will certainly fulfill. Jesus teaches the children of God to remember that God knows our needs for shelter, for clothing, and for food (Matthew 6:24-25). But God still calls us to his kingdom through his Son and the church.

Jesus says more. Though we have needs for peaceful resolutions to our home problems, though we have concerns about how to pay this institution, this man, and that woman; though our children have need of clothing and mental well-being, a sense of purpose in this world; and though we might even need some time for ourselves, to take care of ourselves, to nurture and to build up ourselves; we need to realize that seeking the kingdom first is what assures us that God will make everything alright. And that

will go beyond the demands of what we face 24/7, month and year in and month and year out. The one who would have abundant life must accept that God has already made provision for our direction, our purposes, and our needs through his Son, Jesus Christ.

We are encouraged to accept God's wisdom on the matter. Nothing is really going as it should without Christ and faithfulness in the church. All know that things can feel well, look well, and convince us that things are well without commitment to Jesus, but if there is God, this cannot be true.

We acknowledge this reality yet again. Christ provides for us abundant life. At the same time, Christ is comfortable with asking us to make the commitment of denying oneself, taking up ones cross and following him. And Jesus provides a context within which one can have abundant life and be encouraged in his

and her everyday commitment to him. That context is the church. The church is not outside of where real life happens. The church is where life is made clear, where life obtains direction and priority, where life has purpose, where life is abundant.

Jesus encourages those who follow him to understand that though one puts the kingdom and church first, there are no worries, there is nothing about which to be anxious, there is no doomsday on the horizon, there are no wasted moments; everything we need will be provided by the Father.

Let us all determine to put the church and the kingdom first since we are the children of God. Pray that as we accept that the abundant life Jesus provides, we will accept the cross we must also carry; understanding that the life and the cross are one in the same in Jesus, the church, and the kingdom.

SCHEDULE OF ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY

Early Morning Worship	8 A.M.
Bible School	
Morning Worship	10 A.M.
Evening Worship	

WEDNESDAY-MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY 11 A.M. & 7 P.M.

MENS' & LADIES' BIBLE CLASS

5 P.M. (2nd & 4th Sunday) (September-May)

MEETINGS & MINISTRIES

Teachers' Meeting	A.M.
Clothing Bank10 A.M12 (1st Saturday)	P.M.
Youth Fellowship Meeting10 (2nd Saturday)	A.M.
Husbands & Fathers' Support Group10 (3rd Saturday)	A.M.
Young Adult Ministry 6:30 (3rd Friday)	P.M

WORSHIP TO THE SICK & SHUT-IN

FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY
MICHEAL CURRY



BAPTISMAL TEAM

Bro. Anthony Clinton
Bro. Thomas Loyd, Sr.
Bro. George McNair
Bro. Walter Weathers. Jr.

Radio Broadcast Stations



Sundays @ 7:30 A.M. Thursdays @ 3 P.M. 1340 AM 1400 AM 103.5 FM

YOU CAN BE SAVED TODAY!

To be saved today, you must hear the gospel (Romans 10:17; Acts 15:7). You must believe the gospel that assures us salvation through Jesus who is the risen Lord (Romans 10:9, 10). You must be willing to turn your life over to God through repentance (Acts 17:30; Romans 2:4). Those willing to live for God through repentance are ready for confession (Romans 10:9,10).

The person who confesses is baptized into Christ (Romans 6:3, 4; Galatians 3:27). In baptism, the believer is washed, sanctified, and justified (1 Corinthians 6:11). Christ saves the baptized person in baptism (1 Peter 3:21).

If you believe that Jesus died for you and was resurrected, if you will repent and confess, then you can be baptized into Christ and be saved. Come to Jesus today!



CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

5th Teresa Love/Angela Weathers 12th Diane Foxworth/Michelle Conner 19th Tamah Williams/D'Asia Williams 26th Leah Adkins/Chanel Foxworth

NURSERY DUTY

5th Sherry Woods/Tabbatha Burgess 12th Tamah Williams/D'Asia Williams 19th Yolonda Crim/Brianna Crim 26th Edelina Oliphant/Sherri Pilson

GREETERS

5th Alinda Gadson/Sonya Izzard 12th Athenia Pouncey/Lillie Alford 19th Cynthia Judge/Eshe Johnson 26th Diane Foxworth/Dollean Johnson

COMMUNION PREPARERS

Shanita Green/Valarie Coplin

BAPTISMAL COMMITTEE

Rosalyn Evans/Shirlene Murray Sherri Pilson



ZONES

ZONE #1 Capt. Bro. J. Wilson (661-1312) ZONE #4 Co-Capt. Bro. B. Terry (720-9694) ZONE #5 Capt. Bro. J. Gadson (650-9693)

Co-Capt. Bro. A. Rucker (924-5696) ZONE #7 Capt. Bro. J. Foxworth (924-5029) Co-Capt. Bro R. Oliphant (765-3105)

ZONE #8 Capt. Bro. R. March (727-0052)