



Who Are You?

On one occasion when Paul was preaching the gospel in the city of Ephesus, a certain group of vagabonds sought to emulate Paul by taking it upon themselves to cast out a demon. When these men sought to do such, the evil spirit turned on them and said, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?" (Acts 19:15).

"Who are you?" This is such a simple question, yet profound at the same time. In its most simple form, we usually answer that we are such and so who works here and lives there. For most, that is the extent to which they desire to know who we are; but are we personally satisfied with knowing ourselves in such a superficial manner? I hope not. There is so much more that we ought to know about ourselves than what our name is and where we work.

"Who are you?" When we seek to answer this question in a deeper way, we may start examining some of the relationships that we have and looking at ourselves in light of those relationships. "I am a husband, wife, father, mother, son, daughter, grandfather, grandmother, uncle, aunt, cousin, in-law" and on the list could go. We may even start to enumerate the relationships we have outside of our family. "I am a boss, employee, teacher, carpenter, engineer, preacher, chef, administrator, assistant," and etc. Yet even at this level,

we are still just scratching the surface as to who we are.

"Who are you?" Let's plunge even deeper to find the answer to this question. We may, in answer to this question, start to discuss some of our character traits, whether good or bad. "I am honest, dependable, hard-working, kind, generous, truthful, loving, clean, sober, helpful" and etc. Others may look at us though and have a different way of describing us. They may say, "He is deceitful, untrustworthy, lazy, mean, hateful, stingy, dirty, selfish" and etc. The kind of list we make depends upon the kind of life that we live and the kind of life that we live depends upon the beliefs that we have. But still, while we are getting deeper into this question, there is yet more.

"Who are you?" When we strip away all that we think of ourselves and that everyone else thinks of us, there is only one answer with which we are left. "I am the creation of God." The Bible teaches that man is made in the image of God (Genesis 1:27). This means that he is a unique and special creation out of all of God's creation. From the time of our birth to our death, we live to make a life that is worthy of our creation and Creator. We can so live our life so as to glorify and honor our Creator. Or, we can choose to so live so as to rebel against Him and bring shame and dishonor upon ourselves.

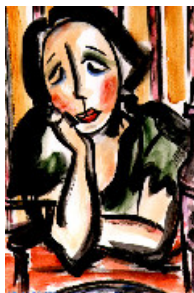
Perhaps a greater question than the question "Who are you?" is the question "Who do you want to be?"

To answer that question I say, "I want to be a Christian." To be a Christian means that we return to our creation, to live in the image of God. We can know how to live in the image of God because God has shown us His image in His Son, Jesus. 2 Corinthians 4:4 and Hebrews 1:3 tells us that Christ is the image of God. And Colossians 3:10 tells us that when we become a Christian we put on the image of Christ. Hence, to be a Christian is to live in the image of Christ and thus to live in the image of God. If you want to live according as God has created you, then you will be a Christian.

"Who are you?" I am a Christian. No additional descriptions required. If I am truly a Christian, then others are going to know what I am in relationship with God; they are going to know what I am morally; they are going to know what I am in my relationship with my family; they are going to know what I am in the work place; they are going to know what I am regardless of what I do or where I live. That name says it all; I'm a Christian and I hope that you will choose to be one too.

Kevin Cauley

“Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled....”



Have you ever been troubled in your heart? Have you ever experienced a physical illness or the illness of a loved one? The problems of life and daily living can many times overwhelm us to the point of being disappointed, discouraged and even despondent. There is no human being living on the earth who can escape pain, sorrow, and disappointment.

“How does the Lord, who deeply cares for each one of us, instruct us how to deal with the troubles of this life? ”

When our Lord was in His human state upon this old earth, He was readily sensitive to the pain people experienced both mentally and physically. When Jairus' daughter died, Jesus cared (Matthew 9:18-19; Mark 5:22-24; Luke 8:41-42). When our Lord came to the tomb of Lazarus and stood in the midst of Mary's consoling friends, the shortest text in the Bible says, "Jesus wept" (John 11:35). In His triumphant entry into Jerusalem, our Lord paused long enough to restore sight to a blind man who was beseeching Him (Mark

10:46-52; Luke 18:35-43). In anticipation of His own imminent trial, suffering, and death upon the cross, our Lord still found time to reach out to His apostles in loving reassurance. He was so aware of the impending sorrow they would experience after His departure from this earthly existence (John 13:33,36), that He wanted to prepare them for the occasion. He lovingly said to them, "Let not your heart be troubled...."(John 14:1).

How does the Lord, who deeply cares for each one of us (1 Peter 5:7), instruct us how to deal with the troubles of this life? Does He recommend denial, a type of dishonest pretension that "all is well?" Does He urge us to escape the trials and problems of this life in drugs, alcohol, pleasure, or even suicide? Does He tell us to be pessimistic, even cynical about life becoming bitter, critical, caustic, and blaming? The answer, of course, is no! We have a loving Savior who can take the

troubles that His children experience (John 16:33) and providentially work everything out for their good and benefit (Romans 8:28). If God could do this for Joseph and his family (Genesis 50:19-21), don't you believe that He can effectively handle the trouble of His beloved people today? Brethren, let us as the Lord's people receive and believe Peter's instructions to "cast all of your care upon Him, for he careth for you" (1 Peter 5:7).

Mike Riley
El Paso, Texas



Bible Studies for the week of May 22nd, 2005

- AM Sermon..... Why Have Unity?
- Scripture Reading..... John 17:20-23
- PM Sermon..... Questions and Answers
- Scripture Reading..... NA
- Sunday Class The Book of Hebrews
- The Book of Job

Kevin's Korner

I would like to extend a warm and pleasant welcome to all of our friends and family who made it out for our special day of honoring them. This is the fourth year that we have had this event and each year is a tremendous blessing to us. I want to personally thank you for coming and making this an extra special day.

We have several activities scheduled for today and I hope you will take a moment to read about them. Our Bible class at 9:30 is a weekly event in which we study the scriptures together. We are currently studying the book of Hebrews and are almost finished with it. Our next Sunday morning Bible study will be the book of Matthew and we should begin that sometime this summer.

Our worship hour begins at 10:20 AM. During this time we offer songs, prayers, and a monetary contribution to the Lord. We study God's word

together. We partake of the Lord's Supper every first day of the week as we believe the Christians did in the early church (see Acts 20:7). If you are visiting with us, we don't ask that you contribute any money during that time of offering. We believe the members of the church have the responsibility to fund our activities, not those who are not members. We hope that you are blessed during our worship hour today.

After worship, we invite everyone to go downstairs where we will enjoy a lunch of BBQ brisket and all of the trimmings together. If you do not wish to stay for this activity, it is your choice, but we want to invite you nonetheless.

At 2:00 PM this afternoon, we will have a gospel singing that will last until around 3:00 PM. This is a great opportunity to get to know our members better by knowing what gospel

songs they like to sing. After this activity, our friends and family day will be nearly at an end. You are invited to come back at 6:00 for our Sunday evening worship service. Tonight, I will have some Bible questions that have been asked to me over the Internet that I will be answering before the congregation. Many enjoy this special time of study.

After our worship service tonight, our youth will gather at one of our deacon's house for a special time of youth fellowship. All are welcome to attend this event as well.

Even though this will end our friends and family day, we have a mid-week service on Wednesday at 7:00 PM. We are currently studying the book of Job and it has been quite a rewarding study of God's word. Thanks for coming and I hope you will make your plans to be with us again in the near future.



"Welcome to our 4th Annual Friends and Family Day at the Berryville church of Christ!"

Records for the week of May 15th, 2005

Sunday Bible Class	60
Sunday AM Worship.....	72
Sunday PM Worship.....	68
Wednesday Night Study.....	54
Contribution.....	\$1887.29
Budget.....	\$1662.00



Praises, Prayers, and Proclamations

Announcements

- We are thankful to God for this new Lord's Day. It is the day we honor His Son and the Love that He has shown us through Him. Let us worship in spirit and in truth!
- Please remember the following in your prayers: Rex Gentry, Hughtetta Hand.
- Please remember our shut-ins: Opal Hull and Edith Mischler.
- Don't forget all of our activities scheduled for today!
- Tonight after services we have a youth devotional at the Windle's house. Bring chips, drinks, snacks, chocolate, etc.
- Next Sunday, May 29th, at 2:00 PM we are scheduled to sing at the nursing home. I hope you will make your plans to be with us.
- Monday, Memorial Day, May 30th, there will be a going away party for the Steven's family at the Windle's house. The scheduled time for commencement is noon. Bring chips, drinks, snacks, and chocolate.
- June 4th is a special day for Glenn Williams. He is going to have a son. Let's pray for Glenn!
- Oh yes, Matt Bassing and Megan Williams are going to be married, June 4th at the community center. All are invited. The wedding begins at 2:30. After the wedding, Glenn will have his son. I think the chocolate will be provided. There should be cake too.
- Our weekly Bible study at the nursing home will continue this Thursday with Mark 5.
- Our pantry item is: Cream of Chicken.

Welcome!

Family Times for Worship and Study

Sunday Morning Bible Class:	9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship:	10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Worship:	6:00 PM
Ladies Bible Class:	10:30 AM
Wed. Evening Bible Class:	7:00 PM

Serving Each Other

	May 22nd, 2005	May 29th, 2005
Sunday Morning		
Songs:	Ken Smith	Bruce Foster
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Brent Stevens	Bob Phillips
Scripture Reading:	Bob Moore	Ray Duncan
Lord's Table	Leon Duncan	Brent Stevens
	George Eddings	Dan Hand
(assist)	Michael Morrell	Jack Gentry
	Jerry Roller	Brandon Foster
Closing Prayer	Glenn Williams	Bruce Foster
Sunday Evening		
Songs:	Rusty Windle	Glenn Williams
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Michael Morrell	Bruce Foster
Scripture Reading:	Ken Smith	Brandon Foster
Lord's Table	Ray Duncan	Dale Pinkley
	Bob Phillips	Michael Morrell
Closing Prayer	Bob Moore	George Eddings
Wednesday		
Songs:	Bruce Foster	Rusty Windle
Opening Prayer:	Rusty Windle	John Gass
Invitation:	Leon Duncan	Kevin Cauley
Closing Prayer:	Matt Morrell	Dale Pinkley

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