

WELCOME! TO THE  
BERRYVILLE CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

# Berryville Bible Beacon

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 48

DECEMBER 3RD 2006

## IMPORTANT INFO

- 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!
- Elders:  
Clay Bozarth  
Leon Duncan  
Bill Fort  
Bruce Foster  
Glenn Quigley
- Deacons:  
Ken Smith  
Rusty Windle
- Preacher:  
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- We are located  
across highway 62  
from Pizza Hut.

## The Center

When we think of the word "center" we think "middle" or "mean." In politics, "the center" is the middle point between radicals on the left and right; we call them "moderates." When we think of an object such as an apple, the center is the core or middle, the part of the apple that contains the seeds. In religion, however, the center involves religious dogma or teaching. It is that teaching that most influences the whole of the religion. What ought we to put at the center of our theology? The answer to such a question would surely influence how we, as believers, behave.

Some have suggested that we put grace at the center of our theology. Grace is God's unmerited favor toward man. God has demonstrated this favor in sending His Son, Jesus, to the earth for the purpose of dying on the cross for the sins of man. Through Jesus sacrifice, God made it possible for man's sins to be forgiven. There's no doubt that grace is a very important part of theology, but is it the center? Ephesians 2:5 says that we are saved by grace through faith which puts faith in an equal position with grace. So, grace, by itself,

can't be the center of our theology.

Some have suggested that we put the Bible at the center of our theology. The Bible is definitely important. Without it we would have no knowledge about God, salvation, Jesus, faith, and just about any other subject in the Christian religion; after all, faith comes by hearing the word of God (Romans 10:17). However, the Bible is a tool for learning. It, in and of itself, isn't the object or center of our theology. The Bible (God's word) points back toward the giver of that word, God Himself.

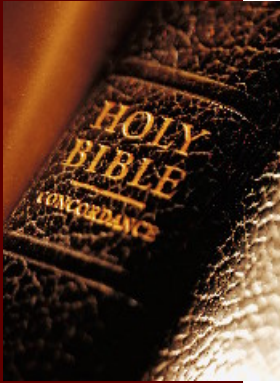
Some have suggested that we put Jesus at the center of our theology. Certainly this comes closer in our efforts to define what is at the center of our theology. Jesus is our Savior; He is our King; He is our Lord. He is the one to whom we give allegiance as Christians and there's no doubt that He ought to be constantly in our thinking. However, even Jesus acknowledged that He was here to do the Father's will. Jesus said, "I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father

which hath sent me." (John 5:30). Jesus certainly comes closer than any particular doctrine or teaching and He points the way to what is at the center or heart of our theology (John 1:17).

So what ought to be the center of our theology? I would suggest that the word "theology" answers that question itself. God, with all of His attributes, is the center of our theology. Grace comes from God; faith comes from God as exemplified in the life of Jesus; the Bible comes from God as it is inspired by the Holy Spirit; love comes from God for God is love. Simply taking one aspect of God and putting it at the center of our theology really misses the point. God is at the center and His characteristics the subject of theology. The more we learn about God, the more we will be able to imitate His attributes and be like Him. Ephesians 5:1 says, "Be ye therefore imitators of God, as beloved children."

Kevin Cauley

## Bible Studies for the Week of December 3rd, 2006



AM Sermon.....	The Importance of Hope
Scripture Reading .....	Hebrews 6:17-20
PM Sermon .....	Studies in Genesis—Hagar and Ishmael
Scripture Reading .....	Genesis 16:1-3
Sunday Class .....	Ethics and Morals
Wednesday Class .....	TBD
Ladies Bible Class .....	The Book of 1 Thessalonians
Nursing Home Bible Study .....	The Book of John

*“For the word of God is living, and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing even to the dividing of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and quick to discern the thoughts and intents of the heart” (Hebrews 4:12).*



## Changed From the Inside Out

The story is told of an old man who lived on a farm in the mountains of eastern Kentucky with his young grandson. Each morning, Grandpa was up early sitting at the kitchen table reading from his old, worn out Bible. His grandson who wanted to be just like him tried to imitate him in any way he could.

One day, the grandson asked, "Papa, I try to read the Bible just like you but I don't understand it, and what I do understand I forget as soon as I close the book. What good does reading the Bible do?"

The Grandfather quietly turned from putting coal in the stove and said, "Take this coal basket down to the river and bring back a basket of water."

The boy did as he was told, even though all the water

leaked out before he could get back to the house. The grandfather laughed and said, "You will have to move a little faster next time," and sent him back to the river with the basket to try again.

This time the boy ran faster, but again the basket was empty before he returned home. Out of breath, he told his grandfather that it was impossible to carry water in a basket, and he went to get a bucket instead. The old man said, "I don't want a bucket of water; I want a basket of water. You can do this. You're just not trying hard enough," and he went out the door to watch the boy try again.

At this point, the boy knew it was impossible, but he wanted to show his grandfather that even if he ran as

fast as he could, the water would leak out before he got far at all. The boy scooped the water and ran hard, but when he reached his grandfather the basket was again empty.

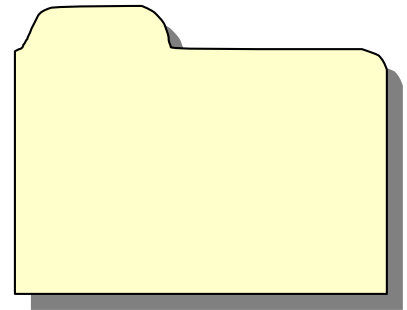
Out of breath, he said, "See Papa, it's useless!" "So you think it is useless?" the old man said. "Look at the basket." The boy looked at the basket and for the first time he realized that the basket looked different. Instead of a dirty old coal basket, it was clean. "Son, that's what happens when you read the Bible. You might not understand or remember everything, but when you read it, it will change you from the inside out."

"Wherewith shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word" (Psalm 119:9).

Selected

## For The Files: November 26th, 2006

Sunday Bible Class.....	54
Sunday AM Worship .....	62
Sunday PM Worship .....	44
Wednesday Night Study .....	40
Contribution.....	\$1935.30
Budget.....	\$1743.39



### Kevin's Korner

The winter weather finally arrived in full force this past Thursday afternoon and evening as a cold front along with a low pressure system moved through our area bringing with it both sleet and snow, but mostly sleet. The roads were very hazardous Thursday night and Friday morning, but they thawed out enough Friday afternoon for us to get our car out of the driveway. I tried, Friday morning, to turn around our SUV so that the sun could hit the front windshield and promptly ended up getting stuck on the street in front of our house. Fortunately, the good neighbor across the street has a four wheel drive and with my chain he was able to extricate me from my slippery predicament. The SUV stayed parked the rest of the day!

Time is surely growing short on the few weeks left on my police training and I am eagerly anticipating the time when I can start

doing some of that work. I suppose I already am doing that to a degree. I've been accompanying some of our local law enforcement personnel on patrol the past several weeks. Each time I learn a little something more about the job and all that is involved in it. I'm thankful for the men and women who do this job in our community and I hope that you are as well. They provide a much needed service which, for many, goes without thanks.

Pending the elder's approval, Mary Lynn and I will be taking our annual Christmas vacation at the end of this month after the kids get out of school. We're quite excited about being able to spend some time with the folks on both sides of the family. The boys are also excited about seeing their grandparents as well. It is always such an enjoyable time and we do appreciate having that benefit.

And I am sure that there will be many others here who will take advantage of the holiday season to see family as well. Let us always remember, however, our spiritual family as we take such time away from home. Of course, I know the eldership here would appreciate those who are traveling to make sure that they leave the contribution check with someone so that our budget won't be disrupted severely. Also, as we are out and about, we need not neglect assembling with the saints. We know how much we appreciate those who come to visit us here in Berryville. The same is true for other parts of the country as well. Let's not neglect to visit other congregations and encourage our brethren in other locations while we are away from home. Hebrews 3:13 tells us to exhort one another daily and so we can do whether away or at home!

***"I'm thankful for the men and women who do this job in our community and I hope that you are as well."***



## Announcements

- We extend our sympathies to the family of Iola Trost who passed from this life to the next this past Monday morning. Memorial services were this past Friday.
- Please remember in prayer: Lois Bales, Dustin Guess, Kim Herring, Opal Hull, Charlene Pinkley.
- Our youth devotional is scheduled for next Sunday evening after the evening service. Stay tuned for the location and additional plans.
- Our monthly elders and deacons meeting will occur tonight after the evening services. If you have a business item for any of these men, please see them.
- This coming Friday we will have our annual holiday party at Quigley's castle. The Smiths will once again be our gracious hosts and we are delighted that they choose to do this each year. Please bring a dish and also a \$5 or less gift for the giving game. If you have children, please bring a wrapped gift for each of them.
- Men's breakfast is scheduled for this coming Saturday morning at 7:00 AM. We hope you will come to this great monthly event!
- Please check the bulletin board for new monthly responsibilities.
- Our pantry item is: Coffee.

## God's Salvation Plan

1. **Hear** the Gospel—Romans 10:17
2. **Believe** on the Lord & His Word—Mark 16:16; John 8:24
3. **Repent** of your sins—Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30
4. **Confess** Christ—Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9
5. **Be Baptized** for the remission of sins—Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27
6. Live a **faithful**, dedicated life—Revelation 2:10; 2 Peter 1:5-10

# Welcome!

Visit our web site: <http://www.the-churchofchrist.com>

## Times for Worship and Study

Sunday Morning Bible Class: .....	9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship:.....	10:20 AM
Sunday Evening Worship: .....	6:00 PM
Wed. Ladies Bible Class: .....	10:30 AM
Wed. Evening Bible Class: .....	7:00 PM

## Serving Each Other

	<i>December 3rd, 2006</i>	<i>December 10th, 2006</i>
<b>Sunday Morning</b>		
<b>Songs:</b>	Ken Smith	Glenn Williams
<b>Preaching:</b>	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Leon Duncan	Rusty Windle
<b>Scripture Reading:</b>	Matthew Morrell	Perry Foster
<b>Lord's Table</b>	Bruce Foster	Dale Pinkley
	George Eddings	Michael Morrell
(assist)	Ray Duncan	Floyd Bills
	Jerry Roller	Matthew Morrell
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Bill Fort	Dan Hand
<b>Sunday Evening</b>		
<b>Songs:</b>	Clay Bozarth	Rusty Windle
<b>Preaching:</b>	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Dale Pinkley	Dan Hand
<b>Scripture Reading:</b>	Brandon Foster	Ray Duncan
<b>Lord's Table</b>	Rusty Windle	Dale Pinkley
	Floyd Bills	George Eddings
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Ken Smith	Ray Duncan
<b>Wednesday</b>		
<b>Songs:</b>	Glenn Williams	Clay Bozarth
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Clay Bozarth	Glenn Quigley
<b>Invitation:</b>	Rusty Windle	Leon Duncan
<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	Matthew Morrell	Kevin Cauley

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