

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Kyle Pool

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Scot Parchman

Assisting: Brynn Hatcher
Ron Austin

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing Prayer: Ricardo Alvillar

Those serving Wednesday

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Scot Parchman

Teacher: Chad Futrell

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Closing Prayer: Phil Byrd

Pantry Item

N/A

Sermon Notes
Forgiveness

I. It _____

II. It _____

III. It _____

December 5, 2021

Welcome!

Cape Fear
Church of Christ

3808 Village Dr
Fayetteville, NC
28304
Phone:
(910) 425-1108
Website:
capefearcoc.org
Find us on
Facebook!

Service Times
Sunday:
B. C. 9:00am
Worship 10:00am

Wednesday Night:
B. C. 7:00pm

Ladies' Class:
Tuesdays 10:00am

Elders
Scot Parchman
Wade Hedgepeth
Byran Hatcher

Deacon
John Williams

Volume 35 Issue 10

The
Cape Fear Crier

“Cry aloud and shout...for great in the midst of thee is the Holy One of Israel.” Isaiah 12:6

No Work Needed!

Many believers in God and His word will claim that people need no works to be saved. Yet, the very ones opposed to salvation-related works will staunchly insist that belief is essential. Claiming that works are not necessary for salvation while insisting that it is awarded to those who simply believe shows not only a lack of understanding of Bible works but also ignorance of Jesus' clear teaching. Jesus plainly taught, *“This is the work of God, that ye believe on him who he hath sent”* (John 6:29). The phrase (“this is the work of God”) has, of course, led many to suggest that causing souls to believe in Christ is the work which God is supposed to do and not the work required of man. To suggest that belief is God's work is to ignore the immediate and remote context of this phrase. Jesus spoke the words of John 6:29 to those who wanted to “work the works of God” (John 6:28). No one is to imagine that Jesus' hearers on this occasion desired to do the works that God was supposed to do! Jesus' hearers simply wanted to obey the Heavenly Father.

There are also many who teach that works do not save while insisting that those who will be saved must repent. This touting this doctrine are unfamiliar with sound Biblical teaching. Jonah 3:10 undeniably states that repentance is a work: *“And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way* [This is repentance!]; *and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not.”* Repentance is a work. Repentance ALWAYS comes before salvation (Acts 2:38). Therefore, repentance is a salvation-related work. The one who denies the place of works in salvation while requiring repentance on the part of the sinner is unknowingly affirming the necessity of works.

On his third missionary journey (which likely took place from A.D. 53-57), Paul visited magnificent centers of trade, communication, transportation, art and science. The city of Ephesus

possessed all such greatness plus it was the home of the Temple of Diana. What Ephesus lacked at the time of Paul's visit, however, was the Gospel. Paul preached the truth of the Gospel in its simplicity and power. The gospel changed the life and message of Apollos of Ephesus, and it changed the lives of other Ephesians as well. *“When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus”* (Acts 19:5). The response to the gospel call of these Ephesians brethren is significant because Paul would later (around A.D. 62) write a letter to these people and affirm that *“by grace are ye saved through faith”* (Eph. 2:8). For this statement, however, to be considered without the knowledge of earlier actions of the Ephesians would be at best a gross neglect, or, at worse, willful perversion. The earlier obedience of the Ephesians (their baptism) is a splendid commentary on Ephesians 2:8. God's grace offers salvation (Titus 2:11), and in that sense we are saved by grace. Yet, it is a person's faith, properly conjoined with works (James 2:17), that accepts God's gracious offer of salvation. In sum, man is saved by grace through faith.

Peter, preaching to the household of Cornelius, stated: *“Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that feareth God, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him”* (Acts 10:34, 35). Cornelius was ready to hear all things God commanded Peter to preach (Acts 10:33). Peter's God-given message involved the necessity of works in order to enjoy eternal acceptance by the Father. Peter gives two requirements to being accepted by God. The first requirement is reverence (or fear), and the second is working righteousness. The words of the Psalmist shed much light on Peter's sermon to Cornelius. Psalm 119:172 states: *“My tongue shall speak of thy word: for all thy commandments are righteousness.”* There can be no doubt that Peter instructed the eager household of the first Gentile converts that God accepts those who work His commandments. Later in the account, Peter *“commanded them* [the household of Cornelius] *to be baptized in the name of the Lord”* (Acts 10:48). The conversion of Cornelius is indeed an example of salvation-related works.

Though many have tried, no one can be successful in denying the connection between salvation and works to those that love the truth on the matter. The evidence is too clear and abundant to allow the objective Bible student to come away with any conclusion other than there are works that must be done on the part of the sinner who will be saved by God. Those works are not of merit, but of obedience to the commands of God.

-BTH

By the Numbers

Attendance 11/28/21

Bible Class: 28

A.M. Worship: 55

Wed. B. C.: 31

Family News and Notes

Matthew Vann, friend of Elaine Turnage, is in critical condition. **Debbie Smith's** parents' are not doing well at this time, especially her dad. Linda Williams' mother, **Mary Pipkens** and her brothers, **Wayne** and **Harry** all are in need of prayer because of serious health concerns. **Jack** and **Sondra Wain**, Kim Perkins' parents, are dealing with serious health issues. Her sister-in-law **Rhonda Wain** needs prayers as well. **Jamie Phillips** is caring for his mother and going through a hard time. **Claudia Farrington** is having a difficult time right now. **Frances Salaz** is going through chemo. Let's remember one another in prayer. Active military: Pray for our active duty military members; they could be called to a conflict area at a moment's notice. Remember to pray for their families as well.

Also remember: **Margaret Langston, Vicky Carver, Deborah Ross Alex Freshley, Frances Salaz, Tylia Landrum, Gwen & Sarah Jennen, John and Linda Williams**, the **Pollard** family, **Claudia Farrington, Rick Caldwell**, and **Thelma Adams**. Please pray for those in Bible Studies, teachers and students!

Bible Reading Plan

Dec 5	Dec 6	Dec 7	Dec 8	Dec 9	Dec 10	Dec 11
Eze 46-48	Dan 1-3	Dan 4-6	Dan 7-9	Dan 10-12	Hos 1-3	Hos 4-6
Pr 5	Pr 6	Pr 7	Pr 8	Pr 9	Pr 10	Pr 11

Events

Men's Lunch: Friday, Dec 10th at 11:00am @ Golden Corral

Holiday Baskets: Friday December 10th at 7pm. Delivery on the 11th. Please bring items for the baskets and put on the counter in the kitchen.

Holiday Get-together - Sunday December 12th at 5pm. Bring food and drink, sign up on sheet in foyer and what you plan on bringing.

New Years Eve: Fellowship and singing. Friday, Dec 31st at the building.

