

Elders

- *Johnny Davis 744-1636
- Dan Fuller..... 478-3755
- Joe Holland 626-2809
- Jerry Hopkins 434-4188
- Phil Porter 575-4782

**Chairman for the Month of September*

Evangelists

- Dan Jenkins 744-4559
- David Sproule..... 301-2230
- Josh Blackmer 319-1418

Deacons

- Mike Archer 422-2995
- David Brown..... 972-7608
- Novel Brown 848-6988
- Chuck Clark 627-4132
- Victor Colage..... 798-6275
- Lance Collier..... 793-2718
- Jim Davis 747-2984
- Mike Erickson..... 310-9916
- Tim Fry 373-9121
- Jeff Goodale 261-1188
- Rick Hall 622-5131
- Bob Higbee..... 303-386-6405
- Gary Jenkins..... 889-3585
- Dick Kelley..... 968-1799
- Jeff Leslie..... 744-3444
- Paul Metzkes..... 736-9086
- Buzz Nelson..... 627-4890
- Jerry Pittman..... 793-2725
- Kevin Weeks..... 386-4108

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Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ

Vol. LIV

September 6, 2015

No. 36

SEPTEMBER:

GOD
with
WE CAN

Strengthen Our Marriages

“A Balanced Marriage”



SEPTEMBER 11-12

A Special Series with Neal Pollard for PBL Couples



By Dan Jenkins

No Mortal, Not Even the Pope, Can Forgive Sins

As the pope's visit to America approaches, he has announced that this year local priests can absolve individuals of the sin of abortion. Prior to this announcement, forgiving this sin was restricted to those of a higher rank in the Catholic church. It is difficult for many to understand these matters.

The Roman Catholic church teaches that there are "levels" of sin. There are those lesser sins called venial sins which, when committed, do not destroy one's relationship with God. Those who commit them are still friends of God, but the relationship is tarnished. While one can confess these sins to a priest, it is not necessary for this to happen.

Then, there are mortal sins which separate one from God. There are many of them (the list includes extreme anger, hate, lying, cheating, extortion, murder, and many sexual sins—contraception, adultery, fornication, homosexuality, etc.). Forgiveness of these almost always demands confession of these sins to a priest.

Among these mortal sins and evidently elevated to a higher level is the sin of abortion. The Catholic church teaches that if it occurs the result is automatic excommunication from the church. As noted above, it cannot usually be forgiven by the local priests and demands a higher level of forgiveness.

Those who believe the clear teaching of the Bible are so perplexed by this. Forgiveness of sins lies in the heart of the one who has been sinned against. No mortal, not even the pope, has ever been given the right to forgive sins. "Sin is the transgression of the law" (1 John 3:4). It is the law of God which has been transgressed. The Jews fully understood this and said, "Who can forgive sin, but God alone" (Mark 3:7)? The pope cannot give forgiveness for the sin of abortion for he has not been sinned against.

If only the pope can forgive the sin of abortion, few have any chance of heaven

Some might say, "But did not Jesus give Peter the right to bind and loose on the earth?" This view misinterprets the words of Jesus in Matthew 16:19. Such a view makes Peter (and the "church") greater than God! God did not have to wait for Peter to bind and loose, nor does He have to wait for the pope to absolve sin. Read Jesus' words in the New American Standard Bible, for they absolutely reflect the Greek words Jesus used and the words Peter would have understood. "Whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven." The binding/loosing took place first in heaven.

If only the pope and those high in his church can forgive the sin of abortion, the world is doomed because only Catholics, and very few of them, have any chance of heaven.

God help us all to get back to the Bible!



By David Sproule

A Christian's Work Ethic

We are living in a time when hard work is often hard to come by and stick-to-itiveness regarding certain tasks is in short supply. Many employees are found glued to their phones rather than helping customers. Many employers have to make certain concessions just to fill needed positions. The entitlement mentality permeating our nation has made it hard for businesses to find good workers and for customers to receive reliable, timely and courteous service.

So, how is today's Christian to function in the workplace? Should the Christian be like all the other workers, or should the Christian stand out from the rest? Should the environment affect the Christian or should the Christian affect the environment? The work ethic of a Christian must stand in stark contrast to the trending ethic of our day.

God expects Christians to work. "Let him labor, working with his hands what is good" (Eph. 4:28). "Work with your own hands, as we commanded you" (1 Thess. 4:11). "If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat" (2 Thess. 3:10). The words for "labor" and "work" cannot be defined as merely "having a job" or as "going to work." The words themselves demand actual work, labor, toil.

God expects Christians to work hard. "Whatever

your hand finds to do, do it with your might" (Ecc. 9:10). In the context of a Christian's responsibility in the workplace, God commanded, "And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men...for you serve the Lord" (Col. 3:23-24). God calls upon His children to give it their all at work.

My work ethic should emulate what the work ethic of Jesus would be!

God expects Christians to set the standard for others in the workplace. Even if others deride the boss or find ways to "get around" doing the actual work, Christians must do what is right. We must "be obedient" to our bosses "with fear and trembling, in sincerity of heart, as to Christ; not with eye-service, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, with goodwill doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men" (Eph. 6:5-7). In the workplace, our work must done as if we were doing it unto Christ, for ultimately, we please (and serve) Christ.

Christians are to represent Christ, even at work. What if Jesus had your job? What if Jesus were to go into work for you tomorrow? How serious would He take it? How hard would He work? How would He respond to tasks from the boss? Would you envision Jesus lazily watching the clock and reading through His social media, or do you see Him giving His all to the work? My work ethic should emulate what the work ethic of Jesus would be, for I belong to Him and represent Him!

What kind of work ethic do you have?



By Josh Blackmer

The Greatest Love Story

His love for her is one that has inspired both writer and poet, song and sonnet. The true story of a man that loved his bride more than life itself, more than any earthly treasure. Even, it seems, more than she loved him. It was clear to most that she did not deserve his love or such devotion. To the same crowd, she appeared a common one, but he spoke of her as one set apart, a beautiful city on a hill for all to see. He spoke to thousands about the attributes of his beloved. He told them that everyone should know her and that she is a blessing to all acquainted with her. He spoke of her as though he knew her so intimately. "Such a great treasure," he would say. "Be prepared for our wedding," he would admonish, though no one had ever seen her. There were many who liked hearing about his bride, yet others did not. For envy and jealousy the bridegroom was taken. He was savagely beaten and died a gruesome death. Throughout his painful demise he spoke of her. He loved her and for his great love, he died.

This allegorical depiction of Christ, the Bridegroom, and the church as the bride highlights a very sacrificial love. It is a literary device that is used several times in the New Testament. On one occasion, John the baptizer mentioned Christ as a bridegroom and himself as a friend of the bridegroom (John

3:29). Jesus used this imagery twice in Matthew 9:15 and Matthew 25:1-12. These all tell of a responsibility to the Bridegroom. The Holy Spirit through the pen of Paul mentioned it again in Ephesians chapter 5. Paul, talking of the mystery concerning Christ and His church (Eph. 5:32), deepens our understanding of the relation between husband and wife.

In the short section of Ephesians 5:22-33, there are several commands. The wives are called to be in subjection to and show respect for their husbands (5:22, 33) "as to the Lord." That includes the expectation that husbands will be the head of the household and leading in spiritual matters. The command to husbands is to love "just as Christ." These three words are repeated twice, showing men how they are to love their wives. In verse 25, "Just as Christ...gave Himself for her." We are to have a sacrificial love for our wives. One that would take self out of the way and practice those things that would promote her well-being. We are also to have a love that "nourishes and cherishes...just as Christ" (5:29). This is a love that builds up and protects. It is not bound by just the physical needs but also speaks more to her spiritual needs.

As we contemplate this great love story, let us exercise diligence to graft it into our own story of love. By putting into practice those commands concerning marriage, we are given insight into the mysteries of Christ and His church.

As we contemplate this great love story, let us exercise diligence to graft it into our own story of love.

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

Are you sure you want to do that?

How many times every day does your computer ask you, "Are you sure you want to do that?" You try to place an order online, "Are you sure you want to order that?" You try to close a file without saving it, "Are you sure you don't want to save that?" You try to move files from one location to another, "Are you sure that you want to move that?" You try to open a document that has been emailed to you, "Are you sure you want to open that?" Sometimes you can even check a box that says, "Don't remind me about this anymore."

God invented a computer thousands of years ago that asks that same question over and over. It's called a conscience. When you're thinking about drinking, sexting, cursing, fighting, lying, cheating, insulting, you have a built-in computer that warns, "Are you sure you want to do that?" Unfortunately, some have checked the box that says, "Don't remind me about this anymore."

Let us, "by reason of use," allow the Bible to train our consciences to warn us when we're about to sin against God (Heb. 5:14; Psa. 119:11). – DS



You have the life that everyone else should want!

Sometimes a Christian may be inclined to look at those in the world and think, "It's not fair. They get to do whatever they want. They seem to be having more fun in life than me. They have so much more freedom to experience everything that's out there." If your eye and your heart is focused on the world and its ways, let's be reminded of a number of Proverbs.



"Do not let your heart **envy** sinners, but be zealous for the fear of the Lord all the day" (23:17). "Do not be **envious** of evil men, nor desire to be with them" (24:1). "Do not fret because of evil-doers, nor be **envious** of the wicked; for there will be no future for the evil man; the lamp of the wicked will be put out" (24:19-20). "**Envy** is rottenness to the bones" (14:30).

A Christian enjoys great liberty. Liberty from the bondage and consequences of sin! Liberty to do right and enjoy doing right! Liberty to experience an abundant life in Christ right here and now! Don't envy those who have no future! Love the freedom you have in Christ! – DS

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

Mike Archer	scheduled for a procedure in NY next week (9/9)
Adrienne Gadson	recovering at home from hospitalization
Patricia Hackshaw	recovering from car accident
Shirley Hopkins	fractured rib, in a lot of pain
Lynne Jorgensen	recovering at home from double knee replacement
Ruth Lipford	recovering at home, pacemaker put in last week
Ruth Milton	recovering from back procedure
Leigh Puckett	recovering at home from hospitalization

Long-Term Health Issues

Lillian Bankston	dialysis treatments
Janet Hickerson	suffering with back pain
Ruth Milton	chronic health problems
Silas Moses	dialysis treatments
Charles Norton	dialysis treatments
Norm Smedley	breathing problems
Patricia Ventress	dialysis treatments

Our Shut-Ins:	Millie Ames	Helen Gardner	Shelton Howell	Deidra Miley	Ricky Smedley
	Cora Lee Dennis	Margie Hardin	Daniel Johnson	Leigh Puckett	Margaret Wade
	Kay Fish	Loretta Holaday	Don & Betty Matter	Joe Quigley	

Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

Jefferey Byrd	Cheryl Floyd's brother, Renaissance Rehab, surgery
Hilary Findley	Maria Hackshaw's sister, recovering from major surgery
Richard Flowers	June Pack's nephew, stage 4 lung cancer
Brayden Gilles	Julie Trujillo's son, recovering from car accident in TN
Richard Hill	Shirley Hopkins' brother, recovering from carotid surgery
Brenda Lendsey	Debora Lynch's sister, under Hospice Care
Thomas Moore	Linda Coe's uncle, PBG Medical Center, chemo for cancer
Donald Smith	Traci Sproule's father, recovering from colon surgery

Remember Our Mission Works

Paraguay
Troy & Andrea Spradlin

Pacific Islands
Robert & Mary Martin
Scott & Rebecca Shanahan
Joey & Tammy Treat

Africa
Tamuka Arunashe
Nnanna Aforji

Montgomery, Alabama
Apologetics Press

Coral Springs, Florida
Mauricio Yegros



Church Family Calendar of Events

Sunday, September 6

- ◆ **Renova/North Lake Nursing Home Visit** at 2:30 p.m.

Monday, September 7

- ◆ **No Monday Night Bible Study.** Will resume next week.

Tuesday, September 8

- ◆ **Tuesday Morning Bible Study** at 10:30 a.m. in the Family Room.

Thursday, September 10

- ◆ **Family Group 1 Meeting** at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Rick & Melinda Price.

Friday-Saturday, September 11-12

- ◆ **Marriage Seminar with Neal Pollard.** The theme is "A Balanced Marriage." All sessions will be conducted in the Family Room. Free childcare will be provided. Please let Josh Blackmer know if you will be bringing your kids.

Friday	7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Saturday	10:00 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Saturday, September 12

- ◆ **Ladies' Day hosted by Miami Gardens** from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Theme is "Beauty Is Only Skin Deep."

Sunday, September 13

- ◆ **Marriage Seminar continues on Sunday morning.** Jr. High, Sr. High and Adults will meet in the auditorium at 9:00 a.m.
- ◆ **Baby Shower for Ted & Laura Schuemann** at 4:30 p.m. in the Family Room. They are registered at Buy Buy Baby. It's a girl!
- ◆ **Youth & Family Singing** after evening worship in the Family Room. Every member is invited to stay and sing for about 35 minutes.

Monday, September 14

- ◆ **Monday Night Bible Study** at 7:00 p.m. in the Family Room.

Tuesday, September 15

- ◆ **Family Group 2 Meeting** at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Joan Holloway.
- ◆ **Family Group 3 Meeting** at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Lance & Brenda Collier.



Palm Beach Lakes

Young Adults

Sunday, September 13

- ◆ **Youth & Family Singing** after evening worship in the Family Room. Every member is invited to stay and sing for about 35 minutes.

Monday, September 14

- ◆ **Young Adult Ladies' Prayer Night** at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Rachel Fuller.

Sunday, September 20

- ◆ **Young Adult Evening Worship at Palm Springs church of Christ** in Miami with Mauri & Kayla Yegros. See Shea Brown or Adam Seal for more details.

Friday-Sunday, September 25-27

- ◆ **Live Saved at CFBC.** This year's theme is "Taking a Selfie." Cost is \$45 per person.

Saturday, October 10

- ◆ **Young Adult Devo** at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Nate & Cindy Nelson.



Palm Beach Lakes

Youth

Sunday, September 13

- ◆ **Youth & Family Singing** after evening worship in the Family Room. Every member is invited to stay and sing for about 35 minutes.

Friday-Sunday, September 18-20

- ◆ **RUSH Weekend at FHU.** See Josh Blackmer for details.

Saturday, September 19

- ◆ **Young Families Potluck, Play & Movie** at 5:15 p.m. at the home of Jeff & Jennifer Goodale. Bring a dish to share. See Melinda Price for more details.
- ◆ **Jr. High Movie Night** at the Collier's at 5:00 p.m. Bring \$5 to help with costs for dinner. See Amber Villard or Sarah Collier for details.

Friday-Sunday, September 25-27

- ◆ **Live Saved at CFBC.** This year's theme is "Taking a Selfie." Cost is \$45 per person. Register online at www.cfbiblecamp.org.

Equipping & Edifying Families



10 Ways to Teach Your Children to Overcome Obstacles

Life can be well described as an obstacle course, with impediments that get re-arranged every time we start a new day. This fact is one of the elements that makes for rich experience, not only in our careers, but also in our personal lives.

Unfortunately, many children learn too early that obstacles are either there for someone else to deal with, or simply not worth the trouble. Consequently, too many young people leave school and enter the workplace without a good grasp on the possible.

The obstacles are not going away, and our children need to understand the art of the possible. We have this great opportunity to be involved in preparing young people to live complete and fulfilling lives. A huge part of this happens to be the question, "How can I teach my child to overcome obstacles?"

- 1. Be a role model.** Kids learn most of what they know about problem solving by watching their parents deal with difficulty. So demonstrate the deep satisfaction that comes with negotiating a challenge.
- 2. Equip them with the right tools.** Tools such as motivation, self-confidence, perseverance, faith, strength of character, sound judgment, and experience in solving small problems.
- 3. Play problem-solving games as a family.** Scavenger hunts, board games, word puzzles. This helps kids understand that obstacles are an important element of a rich and fulfilling life experience.
- 4. Understand the difference between "childhood" and "irrelevancy."** This is very important! Too many parents offer children neither responsibility nor the respect of expectation. Two truths come out of this point:
 - When we expect nothing of our children, then that's exactly what we get. Rather than solve problems, they will likely cause them.
 - Children who are not allowed to contribute to family life tend to develop other skills instead – and those are typically destructive.

It's important to act as if our children really are an integral part of family life, and that they really do have something of value to contribute.

- 5. Provide children with practice.** Introduce obstacles that kids can deal with; teach them how to develop strategy; encourage them to persevere; and then make a big deal of it when they succeed. Involve children with planning family outings, working out details on vacation, and handling the logistics for other family events.
- 6. Do not reinforce giving up.** Never solve a problem for your child that they can (with guidance) solve themselves. Instead, nudge and encourage so that "hanging in there" for success is experienced as much more rewarding than conceding defeat.
- 7. Be there when failure threatens to overwhelm.** This is the other side of the coin. There's no benefit to abandoning children to failure when the struggle is too huge. Can you help them re-direct? Can you steer them toward success, then back off? Can you be realistic, and counsel with them when an obstacle simply will not budge?
- 8. Facilitate solution-oriented conversations at the family table.** "Hey, kids, what do you think about such-and-such?" "I've got a challenging situation – any ideas?" "We've decided to slice 10% off the family budget – let's all talk about what we can do together to make this work."
- 9. Volunteer with your children.** Find a facility where so-called "handicapped" individuals work hard to overcome obstacles. Participate in community or church projects that call for creative thinking – then let your kids take the lead.
- 10. Don't forget balance.** Sometimes it's appropriate to ask for help when an obstacle won't budge. We don't drill our own teeth for a filling, most parents need assistance when it comes to funding a college education, and some of us really shouldn't mess with our own plumbing. Don't let your children confuse stubbornness with tenacity and perseverance.

"...always abounding in the work of the Lord..." (1 Cor. 15:58)



Directory Changes

Sabrina Lolo moved to Miami.
Lauren Grimaldi moved to New Jersey.



Sunday,
 August 30

Birthdays & Anniversaries This Week

Sunday (September 6th)

Derrick Banks
 Amanda Fetting

Monday (September 7th)

Ariana Aristy
 Bill Ingram, Jr.
 Scott Lewis
 Daniel Wagner

Tuesday (September 8th)

Verdell March
 Katie Sproule

Wednesday (September 9th)

Jennifer Carver

Thursday (September 10th)

Debi Watson

Friday (September 11th)

Mario & Marcia Clough-Moss (Ann.)

Saturday (September 12th)

Darin Summerlot

LOCAL VISITORS: Mr. Jean Charles; Ms. Rosa Charles; Mrs. Maxine Griggs; Milton Jones; Robyn Landon; Brett Lau; Patricia Patterson; James Proby; Jacade & Susan Reynolds; Christopher & Yolanda Stewart; Terry West; and Miss Myiah Young.

OUT OF TOWN VISITORS: Mrs. Lynda Davis, Equality, AL; Lloyd Dickerson, Albany, NY; Ms. Marcia Farrar, Palm City, FL; Mr. & Mrs. George Flynn, Nashville, TN; Wes Holland, CA; Ms. Chrissy Kato, Chattanooga, TN; John, Corinn, Linley, & Ellie Miller, Hobe Sound; Ben, Tresa, Allee, Cameron, & Alesha Shirrell, Palm City, FL; Tony Townsend, Road Mountain, TN; Emily, Simon, & Sully Tyson, Port St. Lucie, FL; and Mrs. Linda Wolfe, Fayetteville, NC.



FAMILY GROUP MEETINGS

Group 1: Thursday, September 10 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Rick & Melinda Price.

Group 2: Tuesday, September 15 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Joan Holloway.

Group 3: Tuesday, September 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Lance & Brenda Collier.

Group 4: Thursday, September 17 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Mike & Jean Archer.

News & Notes

The **Mount Dora Area-Wide Benefit Dinner** will be on Saturday, October 3 at 6:00 p.m. at our building. Admission is free. See Sarah Collier for tickets.

Those to Serve

If you cannot serve, please call Mike Ellis at 775-3533.

If you are scheduled to serve on Sunday morning, please meet in the Grades 6-8 classroom at 9:50 a.m.

If you are scheduled to serve on Sunday evening, please meet at the front of the auditorium at 5:50 p.m.

Sunday Morning, September 6

Lead Singing Bobbo Lupo
 Opening Prayer Justin Maloney
 Scripture Reading.....Orlando Lolo
 Preside at Table TBA
 Jimmie Banks Paul Metzkes
 Glen Dawson Rick Price
 Wallace Jones Daniel Wagner
 Jeremy Maloney Marty Williams
 Alternates:
 Johnny Davis Joe Maloney
 Closing PrayerTom Martens

Sunday Evening, September 6

Lead Singing Stephen Beliech
 Opening Prayer Nate Nelson
 Scripture Reading.....Dirk Summerlot
 Presiding at Table..... Brad Shelt
 Serve at Table:
 Pete Brown
 Nick Pietro
 Leonard Williams
 Closing Prayer Josh Blackmer
Wednesday Evening, September 9
 Lead SingingBobbo Lupo
 Invitation.....Taylor Reeves
 Family Prayer John Hoelzer

Our Record

Attendance	Aug. 30	July Avg.
Sun. Bible study	188	190
Sun. A.M. Worship	281	337
Sun. P.M. Worship	164	185
Wed. Bible study	208	214
Contribution	\$11,813	\$13,079
2015 Weekly Budget: \$14,500		
Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: -9,684		

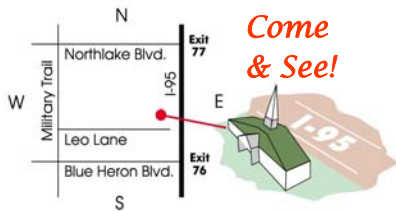
Ushers for the week of **Sept. 6:** Head Usher: Freddie Gadson; D. Lequernaqué & C. Ruckman



PALM BEACH LAKES CHURCH OF CHRIST

4067 Leo Lane
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
www.pblcoc.org

*Speaking
where
the
Bible
speaks,
silent where the Bible is silent.*



*Come
& See!*

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**PERIODICAL
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Service Schedule

Sunday:

Bible Classes..... 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday:

Bible classes 7:00 p.m.

Front Cover: Amber Villard & Sarah Collier

