

Pastors

Johnny Davis 307-4232
Dan Fuller 685-4454
Paul Metzkes 870-8042
*Phil Porter 575-4782
Richard Watson 307-2608

**Chairman for the Month of October*

Evangelists

Dan Jenkins 379-2325
David Sproule 301-2230
Josh Blackmer 319-1418
Robert Lupo 315-1411

Deacons

David Brown 972-7608
Victor Colage 719-1490
Lance Collier 985-4407
Kirk Crews 339-9283
Mike Erickson 310-9916
Tim Fry 373-9121
Jeff Goodale 261-1188
Rick Hall 622-5131
Dion Hayes 214-533-5065
Bob Higbee 303-386-6405
Gary Jenkins 889-3585
Jeff Leslie 744-3444
David Lord 346-2228
Buzz Nelson 385-1588
Lawrence Williams 662-3419

Church Office

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Ivan Villard 667-8675
Cindy Nelson 801-9457
June Pack 627-5363



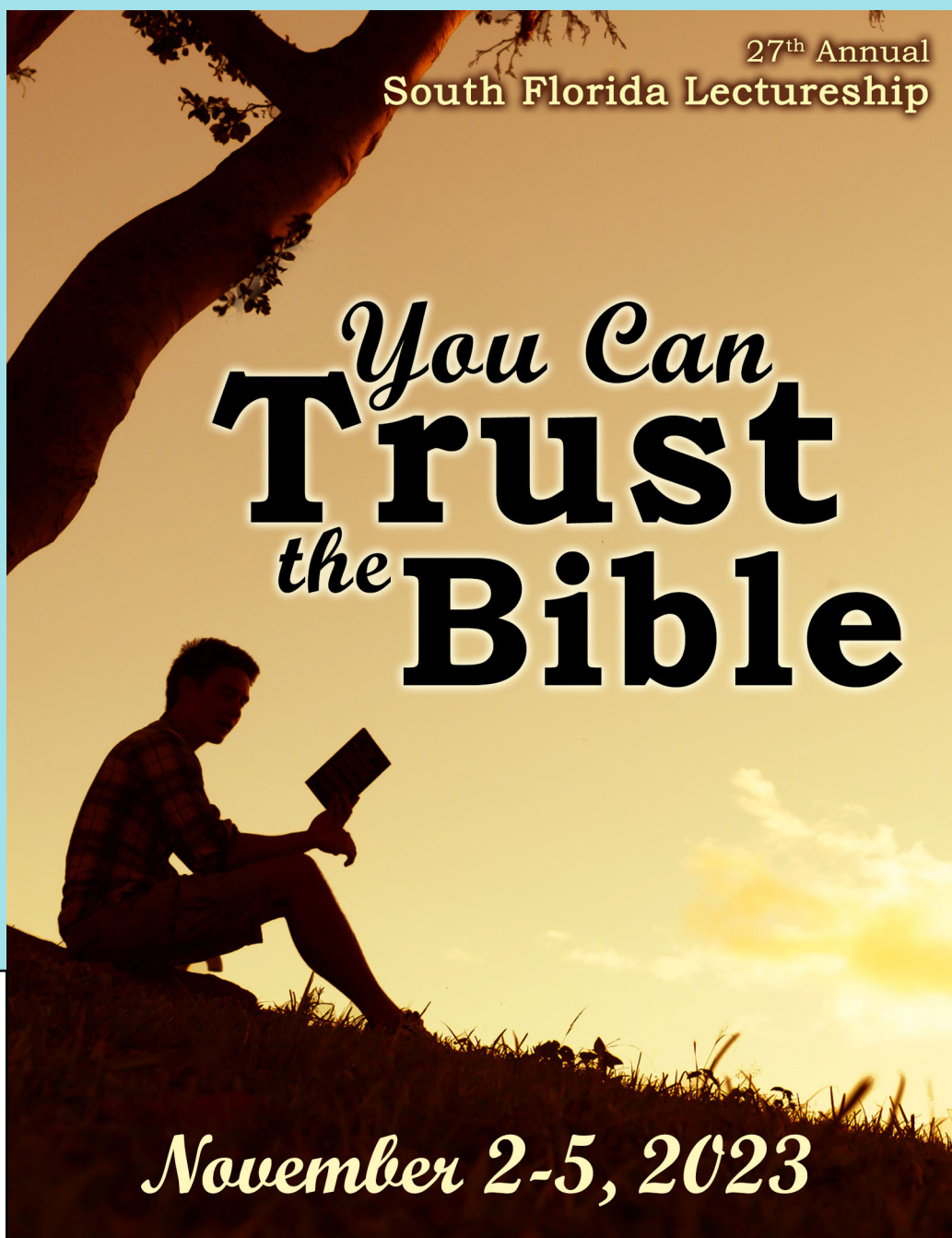
Vol. LXII

October 1, 2023

No. 39

27th Annual
South Florida Lectureship

You Can
Trust
the
Bible



READING THROUGH THE NEW TESTAMENT

*A Chapter
A Day*

This Week's Reading:

*1 Timothy 6 -
2 Timothy 4*

November 2-5, 2023



By Dan Jenkins

Your Raised Your What?

What or who comes to your mind when you hear the word “Ebenezer”? In all likelihood it is the miser created by Charles Dickens in *A Christmas Carol*—Ebenezer Scrooge. Now a second question is, how long has it been since you talked about Ebenezer? You may not be aware of this, but this past Sunday you sang this very word! It was in the second verse of “O Thou Fount of Every Blessing,” which we sang together and said, “Here I raise my Ebenezer, hither by Thou help I’ve come.” You told God that you had raised your Ebenezer. What on earth did you raise? What is an Ebenezer?

Before answering that question, let’s take a moment to consider what singing it is all about. If I do not understand the meaning of the words I am singing, I am “singing in an unknown tongue.” Paul said that he would not sing in a language which he did not understand. “I will sing with the spirit and the understanding” (1 Cor. 14:15). Yet, we often do. What is that Ebon Pinion that brooded o’er the vale? What is a vale? We sing about the Rose of Sharon—who or what is Sharon? What do we mean when we sing about “my pillow a stone” in “Nearer, My God, to Thee”? We really need to pay greater attention to the words as we sing.

What is my Ebenezer? The word certainly predates

Dickens’ Ebenezer, which was published in 1843. It is a Hebrew word which literally means “stone of help” and was a geographical location in Palestine. That place was where the Philistines captured the Ark of the Covenant and killed the two sons of Eli. The magnitude of the loss of this holy vessel is highlighted as we read that when Eli heard of this loss he fell over backwards, broke his neck and died.

When adversity comes, never forget to raise your Ebenezer before God!

Twenty years later, Samuel called all Israel to an assembly at that location in Israel. The Philistine army (who had returned the Ark to the Jews) assembled to attack the Jews. When the Jews repented and turned to God, Samuel took a stone and set it up as a memorial of their repentance and deliverance from their enemy. He called that stone “Ebenezer” and said, “Thus far the Lord has helped us” (1 Sam. 7:12).

The significance of the words “thus far” must not be overlooked. They look backwards to see the past where God helped the Jews, and by implication show the confident assurance that He would help them regardless of what adversity they faced. The Jews saw providence in that stone.

Thus, when we sing about our Ebenezer, we call upon the Fount of Every Blessing and verbalize what Samuel verbalized—my God has helped and will help me! It is an affirmation of praise to our Helper and our faith in Him. Never forget to raise your Ebenezer!



By David Sproule

When It's More Than You Think You Can Bear

What was it? Was it a health scare or diagnosis or uncertainty that grabbed you and wouldn’t turn your mind loose? Was it the sudden death of someone dear to you? Was it the dissolving of your marriage? Was it the unexpected revelation from a family member or friend that stunned your senses?

You’ve been there. What was it that got you staggering a bit emotionally, mentally and even spiritually? How did you handle it? How did you get through it?

In the book of Second Corinthians, Paul revealed some “trouble” that he had faced (1:8). The word for “trouble” primarily means “a pressing, pressure,” with reference to sufferings due to the pressure of outward circumstances or the antagonism of persons. Does that description sound familiar to your life experience? Notice how Paul portrays this event.

“We were burdened beyond measure, above strength, so that we despaired even of life. Yes, we had the sentence of death in ourselves” (1:8-9). Think about each expression in this statement. The word “burdens” means “to be heavy upon, press down with a weight,” and Paul said this one was “excessively” (NASB) “beyond” the “measure” that he could handle, and it was “beyond our strength” (ESV) of what could normally be endured. But, he was going to be alright,

“We were burdened beyond measure, above strength.”

wasn’t he? Brush it off and keep going, right? Note how he shares that “we despaired even of life.” The Greek for “despaired” literally means “to be utterly without a way.” Truly, “we had the sentence of death in ourselves.”

As you read Paul’s description of where he was, could you relate? Have you been there? “Paul, how did you get through that?” Note two things that he pinpoints.

First, Paul reveals that this point of despair “was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead” (1:9, ESV). If we think we can get through things on our own, we’re deceived and just arrogantly wrong. We must learn to trust God, period! Seeing that He had power to raise the dead, what is there He cannot do or handle in our lives? Look in the past—has He delivered you before? Yes! And “He will still deliver us” (1:10).

Second, Paul reveals that what was there “helping” him get through it were the “prayers” of his brethren on his behalf, as they were “joining in helping” (NASB) or “helping together” (NKJV) “in prayer.” When you have an excessive life burden that is beyond your strength to handle, ask your brethren to pick up the other side of it...with their prayers.

Life burdens are not meant to bear them alone. First, trust the Lord to not just carry your burden, but to carry you! Second, seek and let fellow Christians bear it for you in prayer!



By Robert Lupo

Who Is Like the Lord?

After the defeat of Pharaoh's army, Moses and the children of Israel sing to praise the Lord for His unchallenged victory in chapter 15. In verses 1 through 10, they sing of God's triumph over the Egyptians. Then, from verses 14 through 18, they sing confidently of the Lord's future victories over the Canaanites and the fulfillment of His promises.

I want to notice a couple things here. While verses 1-10 speak of the past, and verses 14-18 speak of the future, verses 11-13 are written in the present tense. The crossing of the Red Sea gave Israel an understanding of their relationship with God that was different from the past and would shape their future. What can we learn from this section?

"Who is like You, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like You, glorious in holiness, Fearful in praises, doing wonders?" (Ex. 15:11). Israel speaks as people who saw a universe governed by a plurality of gods. Many prayed, not only to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, but also to the gods of the Egyptians. But, after witnessing the defeat of Pharaoh, they realized that The Great I AM is unique.

Is there any one like our God? His majesty far exceeds any false god imagined by man. We simply cannot imagine a being like our heavenly Father. Foolishly, we invent gods like

ourselves, capable of some good but flawed. Like us, we imagine them given to selfishness, lust, and cruelty. In Romans 1:23, Paul wrote that we "...changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man..." Our God is incorruptible, infinitely kind, merciful and powerful.

"You stretched out Your right hand; The earth swallowed them" (Ex. 15:12). Here, Israel speaks of the protective power of God. After witnessing God's mighty power and loving care, Israel had nothing left to fear. If the Lord is our God, we do not need to fear any man or power. We can confidently go and proclaim His gospel knowing that He can overcome any force (Col. 1:16; Eph. 6:2).

"You in Your mercy have led forth the people whom You have redeemed; You have guided them in Your strength To Your holy habitation" (Ex. 15:13). God reclaimed Israel as His children of promise. We too have been redeemed by our God, but to an even greater promise. Through Jesus Christ, the home we look forward to is one not made of hands. We have not been redeemed from earthly bondage, but from the bonds of sin.

Who is like the Lord? By His grace, any who put on Christ and faithfully obey His word have the promise of eternal life (John 10:28-30). So, take a moment, right now, and recognize that God is holy and able to save us from any work of evil, and choose to live faithfully without fear.

If the Lord is our God, we do not need to fear.

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

There's not a friend like...

Do you have some good friends? Do you have the kind of friend that you can call or text any time and you know you'll get a quick response? Someone you pretty much can reach out to any time of the day or night? But, even that friend has other things to do—right? There are times that he/she needs to focus on "his/her own things"—right? And, you need to be respectful of that. Plus, at some point he/she has got to sleep—right?

Think carefully about the words of Psalm 121. "From whence comes my help?" Answer that question. Where do you turn when you need help? The answer of the psalmist: "My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth," for "He will not allow your foot to be moved." Do we have that kind of confidence in our God?

But then there's this! Before you read it, ask yourself, "Is God my friend?" The next words of the psalm say, "He who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, He...shall neither slumber nor sleep." Your heavenly Friend is ALWAYS open to you! He never gets drowsy! Is He your friend? – DS



It says what it says!

Has someone ever started telling you something and you either (1) thought you knew what they were going to say or (2) hoped they were going to say something, but then (3) they said something completely different? Did you try to change what they actually said into what you thought or hoped they would say? Or did you just accept what they said?

So many people come to the Bible with one of those first two approaches: they think they know what the Bible is going to say or they hope it is going to say something. That is not necessarily a bad thing until those presuppositions flavor, interfere and misdirect the person from what the Bible actually teaches. When the Bible says something that is not expected, it is essential that the mind of man yield completely to the mind of God! Who are we to change what it actually says into what we thought or hoped it would say?

"You shall not add to it nor take away from it" (Deut. 12:32). Pretty simple! And non-negotiable! – DS

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Lucy Bond | recovering from heart valve replacement & pacemaker |
| Linda Coe | knee replacement surgery rescheduled for October 11 |
| Brenda Collier | Palms West Hospital, multiple blood clots in left lung |
| Mattie Cox | recovering from surgery to remove kidney tumor |
| Dick Kelley | dealing with very low blood pressure |
| Carolyn Kemp | under Hospice Care in a nursing home in Titusville |
| John Loftis | fractured his left shoulder and dealing with a lot of pain |
| Norma Mariano | having a lumbar puncture test on 9/29 |
| Winifred Patterson | medical procedure on September 28 |
| Sherri Richmond | recovering from her thyroidectomy |
| Isolyn Sinclair | dealing with a lot of ankle pain |
| Amy West | undergoing chemo treatments |

Ongoing Health Issues

| | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Robin Landen | multiple health issues |
| John Loftis | back pain, weakness |
| Joel Ramirez | dialysis treatments |
| Sherri Richmond | multiple health issues |
| Henry Williams | dialysis treatments |

Pray for Our Shut-Ins

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Millie Ames | Joan Holloway |
| Lillian Bankston | Inell Ingram |
| Judy Carmack | Daniel Johnson |
| Josie Dawson | Betty Matter |
| Zula Garrett | Joyce Parker |
| Terri Hahn | Leigh Puckett |
| Margie Hardin | Maurine Reed |
| Loretta Holaday | Ricky Smedley |



Inell Ingram, upon the passing of **her sister, Iris Massey**, on Saturday, September 23.

Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Myrick Bassie | Yolanda Stewart's father, suffering serious health issues |
| Brian Harvey | Allison Snyder & Lisa Suarez's father, cancer treatments |
| Delores Sims | Jimmie Banks' mother, undergoing radiation treatments |

Remember Our Mission Works

Pacific Islands

Robert & Mary Martin
Wayne & Kristi Parker
Joey & Tammy Treat

Africa

Tamuka Arunashe
Nnanna Aforji

Montgomery, Alabama

Apologetics Press

Coral Springs, Florida

Mauricio Yegros

Bahamas

Tavaro & Shameika Hanna



Church Family Calendar of Events

Sunday, October 1

- ♦ **Leadership Training Course** at 5:00 p.m. in Adult 1-2. All members are welcome to attend this class.

Monday, October 2

- ♦ **Monday Night Bible Study** at 7:00 p.m. in the Family Room.
- ♦ **Men's Meet** at 6:30 p.m. at the church building. All PBL men in Grades 9 and up are invited. Bring your Bible, a chair, some meat to grill, a drink and your own plate/utensils. This is a great opportunity for men of all generations to fellowship.

Tuesday, October 3

- ♦ **No Tuesday Morning Bible Study.**

Friday-Saturday, October 6-7

- ♦ **Ladies' Fall Encampment at CFBC.** Cost is \$40/person. Register online at www.cfbiblecamp.org.

Sunday, October 8

- ♦ **2 Week Mini-Session Classes Begin.** Age 3-Grade 5 meet in the Sr. High Room. Jr. High, Sr. High and all adults meet in the Auditorium at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, October 8 (cont.)

- ♦ **New Member's Orientation Class** at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room. See Tim Fry for more details.
- ♦ **His Kids Class** at 5:30 p.m. for Age 3 and up. Meet in the front of the auditorium.

Friday, October 13

- ♦ **Family Group 4 Meeting** at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Dirk & Elizabeth Summerlot. Please bring a potluck dish. This is for all PBL members and families who live south of Southern Blvd.

Saturday, October 14

- ♦ **Trunk-or-Treat for Grades 5 & Under** at 5:00 p.m. There will be food, games and Trunk-or-Treating. Wear your costume! All members are encouraged to come early to decorate your trunk and pass out treats to the kids. See Ivan & Amber Villard for more details.

Sunday, October 15

- ♦ **Joey Treat Mission Report** at 9:00 a.m. Jr. High, Sr. High & all adults will meet in the Auditorium.
- ♦ **His Kids Class** at 5:30 p.m. for Age 3 and up. Meet in the front of the auditorium.

Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ Young Adults

Monday, October 2

- ♦ **Men's Meet** at 6:30 p.m. at the church building. All PBL men in Grades 9 and up are invited. Bring your Bible, a chair, some meat to grill, a drink and your own plate/utensils. This is a great opportunity for men of all generations to fellowship.

Saturday, October 14

- ♦ **Trunk-or-Treat for Grades 5 & Under** at 5:00 p.m. All members are encouraged to come early to decorate your trunk and pass out treats to the kids. See Ivan & Amber Villard for more details.

Friday, October 20

- ♦ **Ladies & Lattes** at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Trish Clark. All PBL women in Grades 9 and up are invited to fellowship and grow together in God's word. Coffee and tea will be provided. Please bring a dessert.

Saturday, October 21

- ♦ **Young Adult Devo** at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Keila McLeod. See Ivan Villard for details.



Palm Beach Lakes Youth

Monday, October 2

- ♦ **Men's Meet** at 6:30 p.m. at the church building. All PBL men in Grades 9 and up are invited. Bring your Bible, a chair, some meat to grill, a drink and your own plate/utensils. This is a great opportunity for men of all generations to fellowship.

Sunday, October 8

- ♦ **His Kids Class** at 5:30 p.m. for Age 3 and up. Meet in the front of the auditorium.

Saturday, October 14

- ♦ **Trunk-or-Treat for Grades 5 & Under** at 5:00 p.m. There will be food, games and Trunk-or-Treating. Wear your costume! All members are encouraged to come early to decorate your trunk and pass out treats to the kids. See Ivan & Amber Villard for more details.

Sunday, October 15

- ♦ **His Kids Class** at 5:30 p.m. for Age 3 and up. Meet in the front of the auditorium.

A Chapter A Day

Keeps me on the Lord's way

READING THROUGH THE *New Testament* IN A YEAR

For the Month of *October*

- | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| ❑ October 1 | 1 Timothy 6 | ❑ October 17 | Hebrews 4 |
| ❑ October 2 | 2 Timothy 1 | ❑ October 18 | Hebrews 5 |
| ❑ October 3 | 2 Timothy 2 | ❑ October 19 | Hebrews 6 |
| ❑ October 4 | 2 Timothy 3 | ❑ October 20 | Mark Your Bible |
| ❑ October 5 | 2 Timothy 4 | ❑ October 21 | Day of Reflection |
| ❑ October 6 | Mark Your Bible | ❑ October 22 | Hebrews 7 |
| ❑ October 7 | Day of Reflection | ❑ October 23 | Hebrews 8 |
| ❑ October 8 | Titus 1 | ❑ October 24 | Hebrews 9 |
| ❑ October 9 | Titus 2 | ❑ October 25 | Hebrews 10 |
| ❑ October 10 | Titus 3 | ❑ October 26 | Hebrews 11 |
| ❑ October 11 | Philemon | ❑ October 27 | Mark Your Bible |
| ❑ October 12 | Hebrews 1 | ❑ October 28 | Day of Reflection |
| ❑ October 13 | Mark Your Bible | ❑ October 29 | Hebrews 12 |
| ❑ October 14 | Day of Reflection | ❑ October 30 | Hebrews 13 |
| ❑ October 15 | Hebrews 2 | ❑ October 31 | James 1 |
| ❑ October 16 | Hebrews 3 | | |

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

Members Traveling
this week



Thank You
for worshipping with us

Sunday,
September 24

Thank You  notes

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, calls and cards. Please continue to keep me in your prayers as I recover from my surgery. I love my church family.

Mattie Cox



Directory Changes

Max Eizaga moved to Tennessee.

Terri Hahn no longer has a home or cell phone number.

LOCAL VISITORS: Mr. Duane Barnhouse; Mr. Terrence Breaux; Mr. Cornelius Brown; Mrs. Mae Dukes; Mr. Bryan Galvez; Ms. Marilyn Gibson; Ms. Debra Juckett; Mr. & Mrs. Patrick & Nikki O'Hanlon; Mr. & Mrs. Michael Menendez & Astrid Arevalo; Mrs. Liz Otero; Mr. & Mrs. John & Andrea Phillip; Mr. & Mrs. Arpit & Swati Samson; Ms. Marcia Thomas; Miss Witiki Walls; and Miss Charleigh Ward.

OUT-OF-TOWN VISITORS: Mr. & Mrs. Blake & Gina Bennett, Hutchison Island, FL; Miss LaDon Cruz, Ft. Lauderdale, FL; Mrs. Adrienne Hawk, Covington, GA; Mr. Colton McKinney, Tampa, FL; Ms. Alexandra Offor, Auburn, GA; Ms. Jill Reeves, Paducah, KY; and Mr. & Mrs. Max & Jane Thomas, Eustis, FL.

Birthdays & Anniversaries This Week

Sunday, October 1st
Robin Stone

Tuesday, October 3rd (cont.)
Kathy Nelson

Monday, October 2nd
Casey Crews
Joel Ramirez

Thursday, October 5th
Rosa Nash

Tuesday, October 3rd
Francis Morales

Saturday, October 7th
Hunter & Kaitlin Hinton (Ann.)
Lisa Suarez

Those to Serve

If you are unable to serve, please contact the Service Coordinator for the week or Rick Hall at 827-4269.

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, October 1

Singing Dion Hayes
Opening Prayer Willie Smith
Scripture Reading Phil Porter
Singing
Lord's Supper Robert Mariano
Contribution
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Closing Prayer Tim Cox

Serve at Table:

| | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Douglas Alvarenga | Steward Lynch |
| Namdidie Ikon | Vincent Rogers |
| Sylvester Jackson | Cayden Scriven |
| Richard Kelley | Ryan Smedberg |
| Orlando Lolo | Nahum Villard |

Sunday Evening, October 1

Singing Stephen Beliech
Opening Prayer Richard Watson
Scripture Reading Tyler Williams
Singing
Lord's Supper Tom Garrison
Contribution
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Closing Prayer Troy Alberga

Serve at Table:

Silas Balfour John Patrick

Audio this week: Ricky Smith

Computer this week: Daniel Lord

Video this week: Todd Juckett

Wednesday Evening, October 4

Singing Graysen Hayes
Invitation Robert Lupo
Family Prayer Richard Watson

Our Record

| Attendance | Sep. 24 | Aug. Avg |
|------------------|----------|----------|
| Sun. Bible Study | 138 | 175 |
| Sun. AM Worship | 233 | 255 |
| Sun. PM Worship | 117 | 119 |
| Wed. Bible Study | 136 | 126 |
| Contribution | \$17,384 | \$16,871 |

2023 Weekly Budget: \$16,450

Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: \$19,145

Service Coordinator:
Bob Higbee

Ushers for this week: Victor Colage & Tim Mahlbacher
Safety Team for this week: Seth Watson



Palm Beach Lakes CHURCH OF CHRIST

4067 Leo Lane
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

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



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: **Men Serving Communion on May 21, 2023**

First-Century Christianity in the Twenty-First Century



Speaking where the Bible speaks



Silent where the Bible is silent



Calling Bible things by Bible names



Doing Bible things in Bible ways

CHURCH OF CHRIST

What Must I Do to Be Saved?

The Bible says...

1. Believe that Jesus is the Son of God

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31).

2. Repent of your sinful ways

"Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out" (Acts 3:19).

3. Confess your faith in Jesus

"If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus...you will be saved" (Rom. 10:9).

4. Be immersed in water

"He who believes and is baptized will be saved" (Mark 16:16).

5. Commit to a lifetime of faithful service

"Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life" (Rev. 2:10).