

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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June Pack 627-5363



Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ

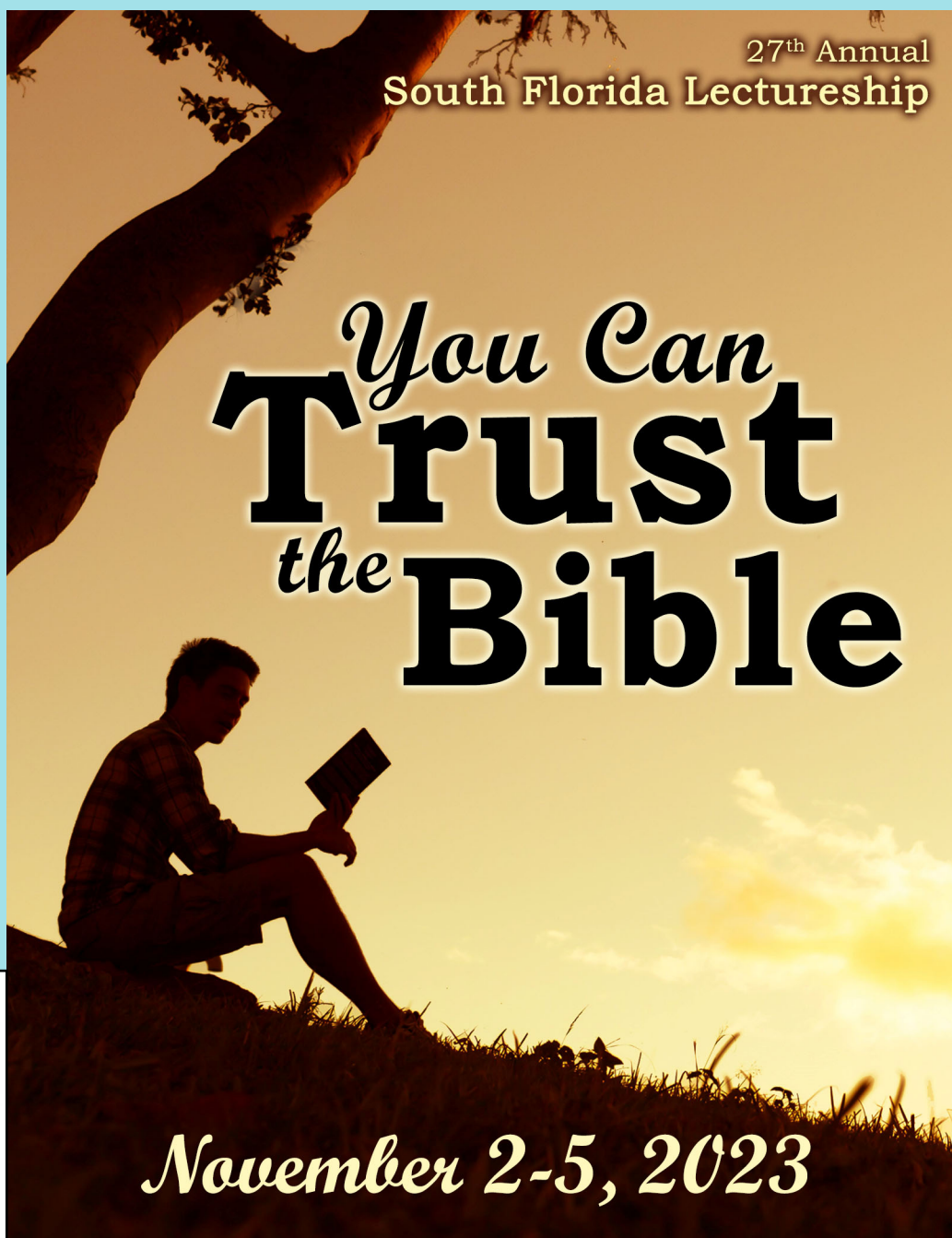
Vol. LXII

October 15, 2023

No. 41

27th Annual
South Florida Lectureship

You Can
Trust
the
Bible



READING THROUGH THE NEW TESTAMENT

*A Chapter
A Day*

This Week's Reading:

*Hebrews 2 -
Hebrews 6*

November 2-5, 2023



By Dan Jenkins

Follow the Leader

I remember a game I played as a child, but I am not sure what it was called. I think it was called “Follow the Leader,” where one child became the leader and whatever he did had to be exactly duplicated in all those other children who were following the leader. If he jumped, they jumped. If he turned in a circle, they turned in a circle. If he walked backwards, they walked backwards. If he did all three in an immediate sequence, they did all three.

There is serious application of this game in the lives of those early Christians. Paul came to Thessalonica as part of the “Macedonian Call” and went first to Philippi and then to Thessalonica. He was only there three weeks before tremendous persecution forced him to leave. He came back there often for several years. In his first letter to that church, Paul spoke of what had happened as the church began. “And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit” (1 Thess. 1:6).

For the first time, these people in Macedonia met a follower of Jesus. He taught them, and they saw the way he lived what he taught. They followed him. They had worshiped images made by the hands of mortals which were embellished with gold and precious stones. Paul taught them about the

One who created these very stones, and they “...turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God” (1 Thess. 1:9). What they had seen and heard from the apostle caused them to follow him. Look at verse 6 again. They followed Paul, but he taught them more. They became followers of Paul and “of the Lord.” The apostle diverted their focus from him and focused it on the Lord, the One who really matters.

Paul had no desire to be an iconic apostolic hero for men to follow

The Greek word for “follower” (*mimos*) became a word we commonly use today. They saw the folly of idolatry and began to “mimic” Paul and Jesus. Paul was not seeking to become an iconic apostolic hero. He taught them what he taught those in Corinth. “Imitate (*mimos*) me just as I also imitate Christ” (1 Cor. 11:1). He is the One to follow!

Paul described the lives of these new Christians in this way. “For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God which are in Judea in Christ Jesus” (1 Thess. 2:14). I will never forget how this verse was taught to the people of Easter Island. Josh Blackmer said, “We have come to this island to ask the people to become followers of ‘churches of God which are in’ the Bible. The Bible describes that church, and Jesus wants us to read about it and be followers of the Lord as seen in that church.”

Read about the Lord. Then become one who mimics the One who really matters!



By David Sproule

“The Heart Wants What the Heart Wants”

As if the heart and its desires cannot (and perhaps, should not) be controlled, often a statement is made to defend an unexpected or unjustifiable action, “Well, the heart wants what the heart wants, right?” Think about that claim. Think about what is behind such a claim. Think about where such a claim leads. What would happen if each person on this earth simply followed the inclinations of their hearts and did what felt right to them?

What would happen at traffic intersections if each person just followed the inclinations of their hearts? What would happen in schools if each person just followed the inclinations of their hearts? You get the idea. The philosophy that “The heart wants what the heart wants” leads to chaos and danger. There are standards and rules set in place for a reason!

The Old Testament era of the Judges was a dark time in the history of Israel. Do you know why? The book of Judges tells us twice, “In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes” (17:6; 21:25). The people followed their hearts and it led to turmoil and sin.

The New Testament Christians suffered tremendous persecution at the hands of a man from Tarsus named Saul. Do you know why? That man himself later said, “I thought to

myself that I had to do many things hostile to the name of Jesus of Nazareth” (Acts 26:9). That man following his heart led to havoc and murder of God’s people (Acts 8:3; 9:1).

People think that their “thoughts” or “ways” are as good as or better than God’s

There are standards set in place (ex: at traffic intersections) for a reason. Even greater, there are laws set in place by the Creator of the universe, which must be obeyed (Matt. 7:21; Acts 10:35; Jas. 1:25). God has put all of His laws in place “for our good always” (Deut. 6:24), “that it may be well with you” in this life (Deut. 4:40; 5:16, 33; 6:3, 18; 12:28) and that you enter into “eternal life” (John 6:68; 1 John 2:21-29). Who are we to question God and choose to “follow our hearts” instead of Him?

But, for some reason, certain people think that their “thoughts” and their “ways” are as good as or better than God’s. How foolish! God describes His infinitely superior knowledge and understanding by stating, “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts” (Isa. 55:8-9). Oh, that we would trust Him!

Truly, “There is a way that seems right to a man” (i.e., it “feels right in my heart”), “but its end is the way of death” (Prov. 14:12). May God help us to “Keep [our] heart with all diligence” (Prov. 4:23), and not allow it to be drawn “far from” Him and His ways (Matt. 15:8). Let us diligently train our hearts to want what God wants!



By Robert Lupo

Can Right and Wrong Exist Without God?

This weekend, our newsfeeds have been crowded with words like “atrocious,” “heinous,” “inhumane” and “barbaric.” All around the world, it is recognized that the attack made on Israel was reprehensible. But what is this judgment based on? Do you realize that without God, nothing can be called “wrong” or “right”?

As evolution has become more and more accepted as fact, atheists have struggled to find any basis for a system of morals. You may ask, “Why is that so difficult?” Consider this. If mankind is nothing more than the result of a mindless series of happenstance over billions years, then what separates us from the animals? Nothing. Humans just happen to be at the top of the food chain.

Atheists have attempted in several ways to patch together a moral framework. Some say that morality in an evolutionary reality means that what is right is what is best for the species. But this falls apart easily.

First, if these morals apply to humans, then we should see them in the animal kingdom as well. Why, then, should a human be punished for killing another human when we don’t put chimpanzees in prison for killing other chimpanzees? Why are we so special?

If evolution is true, then who could say Hitler was wrong?

Second, who gets to determine what is “best” for any species? Adolf Hitler’s exact point in justifying the Holocaust was that evolutionary progress relies on weeding out undesirables from the gene pool. If evolution is true, then who could say Hitler was wrong? Who could say Hamas is wrong?

However, we all know they were wrong because we follow a natural law given to us by God (Rom. 2:14-15). Man is not just some animal without purpose. Man was created by the eternal mind of God to bear His image (Gen. 1:26). We do not have to wonder what is right or wrong. We have an objective basis for morality: God.

Before even the Ten Commandments, God established the sanctity of life. In Genesis 4, God punished Cain for killing his brother Abel, exiling him from his people. And, in Genesis 9:6, God decreed, “Whoever sheds man’s blood, By man his blood shall be shed; For in the image of God He made man.”

This weekend, a disgusting act of barbarism was enacted upon innocent civilians in Israel. Those who find it difficult to say whether or not it was wrong do so because they have no objective basis for morality. The God of the Bible is not ambiguous in this matter. All of mankind, regardless of ethnicity, was created in the image of God. Therefore, we must uphold the sanctity of life. Let us pray for the innocent on both sides of this terrible conflict as it continues to escalate.

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

The goal of conflict resolution with brethren

When you set out to resolve a conflict with a brother or sister in Christ (i.e., to be “reconciled,” as Jesus instructed in Matthew 5:23-24), you should have a clear goal in mind and even seek to communicate that goal. The goal should not be oriented toward “selfish ambition” (Phil. 2:3), but it should be focused on the health of long-term Christian relationships (Gen. 13:8; 1 Cor. 6:7), the overall health and unity of the church (Psa. 133:1; Eph. 4:2-3), and how the world (i.e., unbelievers) may be impacted by this conflict (John 13:34-35; 1 John 4:19-21). In other words, when it comes to conflict between brethren, there is always a “bigger picture” to keep in mind.

Let me start with those same words again: When you set out to resolve a conflict with a brother or sister in Christ...read Romans 12. After you read Romans 12, go and practice Romans 12—especially verses 1 through 21. Even if “the other person” doesn’t, that does not let you off the hook from doing right (Luke 6:31; Rom. 13:8-10; 1 Cor. 13:4-7).

Listen. Consider. Listen more. Speak less. Think about heaven. Forgive. Pray. Repeat. – DS



“Let your fingers do the walking”

The old Yellow Pages. Some remember them well. Some have no idea what a “Phone Book” even was. The Yellow Pages were a printed telephone directory of businesses in a local area, which was organized by categories and provided their addresses and phone numbers. The slogan, “Let your fingers do the walking,” was created to encourage residents to flip through the directory (provided free of charge) to find (and contact!) businesses in their area.



Even though the Yellow Pages is a thing of the past, fellow Christian, we still need to let our fingers do the walking. They can walk through the contacts on your phone to find brothers and sisters in Christ who could use a phone call or a text. They can walk across your keyboard to find Bible study materials to share with those who need the gospel. They can walk through the church directory to find opportunities for daily prayers.

What can your fingers do to help you serve the Lord and His people this week? – DS

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

Linda Coe	St. Mary's, recovering from knee replacement surgery
Doris Friedly	now at home and slowly improving
Lynne Jorgensen	having a procedure on October 19
John Loftis	fractured his left shoulder and dealing with a lot of pain
Norma Mariano	waiting on date for procedure
Robert Mariano	dealing with serious skin cancer issues
John Patrick	dealing with severe hip pain, surgery on November 6
Amy West	undergoing chemo treatments



Sandy Colage, upon the passing of **her brother, Russell Algeier**, on Thursday, October 5.

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

Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

Patty Alexander	Jean Archer's brother, ICU in London, undergoing tests
Myrick Bassie	Yolanda Stewart's father, suffering serious health issues
Michael Miley	Owen Miley's son, seizures, recovering from a fall
Donna Coe Williams	Good Samaritan, recovering from surgery

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 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. **All members are encouraged to be here at 5:50 p.m.** to see the young boys lead a song, read Scripture and tell a Bible story before our evening worship begins.

Monday, October 16

- ♦ **No Monday Night Bible Study.**

Tuesday, October 17

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

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

- ♦ **PBL Ladies' Prayer Meeting** at 1:00 p.m. in the Family Room. See Maria Hackshaw for details.

Sunday, October 22

- ♦ **New Bible Classes Begin** at 9:00 a.m. for all children and adults.
- ♦ **Haverhill Road Lectures** each night at 7:00 p.m. (Mon-Wed). This year's theme is *"Recenter: How Jesus' Words and Ways Change Everything for Your Life."* Jonathan Banning (Tampa, FL) and Dave Schmidt (Fort Myers, FL) will be the guest speakers.

Wednesday, November 1

- ♦ **No Midweek Services.** We will not be meeting for Bible Classes on Wednesday evening. Instead, we will be meeting on Thursday night for opening night of our Lectureship.

Thursday-Sunday, November 2-5

- ♦ **27th Annual South Florida Lectureship.** This year's theme is *"You Can Trust the Bible."*

Thursday, Nov. 2	7:00 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 3	7:00 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 4	2:00 p.m. & 3:20 p.m. (Corn Roast at 5:30 p.m.)
Sunday, Nov. 5	9:00 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Bible Class

Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ Young Adults

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.

Tuesday, October 31

- ♦ **Youth & Young Adult Costume Party** at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Trish Clark. Food will be provided. Wear your costume! See Robert Lupo for more details.

Monday, November 13

- ♦ **Men's Meet** at 6:30 p.m. at the church building. All PBL men in Grades 9 and up are invited.

Saturday, November 18

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



Palm Beach Lakes Youth

Sunday, October 15

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

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.

Sunday, October 22

- ♦ **Jr. High & Sr. High Devo** after evening worship at the home of Bob & Jennifer Higbee. See Robert Lupo for more details.

Tuesday, October 31

- ♦ **Youth & Young Adult Costume Party** at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Trish Clark. Food will be provided. Wear your costume! See Robert Lupo for more details.

Sunday November 12

- ♦ **Youth & Family Singing** after evening worship.

Children's Bible Education & Experience



Age 3 thru Grade 5

Designed to develop and strengthen a living faith in the hearts of our children by walking them into the settings, narratives and truths of the living messages of God's Word!

Semester #10


October 22 thru March 6

Cradle Roll & Toddler Classes

**December 2023
thru
February 2024**

**Cradle Roll
"God Made Me"**
Micky Affron

**Toddlers
"Creation"**
Kathy Nelson

	Jesus Teaches the Church	Jesus Teaches About Serving	How Jesus Treated People	Saving the Lost	Jesus and Obedience
Session 1 <i>Oct. 22 thru Nov. 15</i>	Grades 4-5 <i>Paul Metzkes</i>	Ages 3-4 <i>Casey Bound</i>		K & Grade 1 <i>Allison Roman</i>	Grades 2-3 <i>Jennifer Goodale</i>
Session 2 <i>Nov. 19 thru Dec. 13</i>	Grades 2-3 <i>Jennifer Goodale</i>	Grades 4-5 <i>Paul Metzkes</i>	Ages 3-4 <i>Casey Bound</i>		K & Grade 1 <i>Allison Roman</i>
Session 3 <i>Dec. 17 thru Jan. 10</i>	K & Grade 1 <i>Brenda Collier</i>	Grades 2-3 <i>TBD</i>	Grades 4-5 <i>Willie Smith</i>	Ages 3-4 <i>Trish Clark</i>	
Session 4 <i>Jan. 14 thru Feb. 7</i>		K & Grade 1 <i>Brenda Collier</i>	Grades 2-3 <i>TBD</i>	Grades 4-5 <i>Willie Smith</i>	Ages 3-4 <i>Trish Clark</i>
Session 5 <i>Feb. 11 thru March 6</i>	Ages 3-4 <i>Trish Clark</i>		K & Grade 1 <i>Brenda Collier</i>	Grades 2-3 <i>TBD</i>	Grades 4-5 <i>Willie Smith</i>

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

Members Traveling
this week



Thank You
for worshipping with us

Sunday,
October 8

LOCAL VISITORS: Ms. Ayanna Sutherland; Mr. Lenworth Blair; Mr. Collin Kato; Mr. Rai Masuda; Mr. Don McClintock; Mr. & Mrs. Arpit & Swati Samson; and Ms. Meghan Styles.

OUT-OF-TOWN VISITORS: Mr. & Mrs. Blake & Gina Bennet, Hutchison Island, FL; Mr. Howard Johnson, Los Angeles, CA; Mr. & Mrs. Johnny & Lauren Singer, Canal Point, FL.

Birthdays & Anniversaries
This Week



Wedding
Announcement

Sunday, October 15th
Stahia Banks

Thursday, October 19th
Samantha Jewell
Todd Juckett

Monday, October 16th
Michael & Turkessa Staley (Ann.)
Adelene Honore

Saturday, October 21st
Janice Maloney
Sabrina Pietro
David Sproule

Congratulations to **Jimmie Banks & Cherylann Wineinger** who were married on Saturday, October 7.

Presentation
by His Kids Boys
Sundays at 5:50 p.m.



All members are encouraged to come and hear the young boys lead singing, read scripture and present a short lesson.

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 15

Singing Gary Friedly
Opening Prayer Jeff Leslie
Scripture Reading Johnny Davis
Singing
Lord's Supper Kirk Crews
Contribution
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Closing Prayer Jimmie Banks

Serve at Table:

Lance Collier	Jack Holoman
Michael Erickson	Islay Rodriguez
Connor Goodale	Jim Rogers
Jeff Goodale	Cristian Suarez
Hunter Hinton	Joseph Snyder

Sunday Evening, October 15

Singing Dan McLeod
Opening Prayer Ivan Villard
Scripture Reading Graysen Hayes
Singing
Lord's Supper Kane Campbell
Contribution
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Closing Prayer Joe Maloney

Serve at Table:

Jim Davis John Hoelzer

Audio this week: James Green

Computer this week: Bob Higbee

Video this week: Todd Juckett

Wednesday Evening, October 18

Singing Ivan Villard
Invitation Kirk Crews
Family Prayer Tim Fry

Our Record

Attendance	Oct. 8	Sep. Avg
Sun. Bible Study	180	154
Sun. AM Worship	255	262
Sun. PM Worship	113	114
Wed. Bible Study	101	129
Contribution	\$16,750	\$18,047

2023 Weekly Budget: \$16,450

Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: \$22,029

Service Coordinator:
Mike Damron

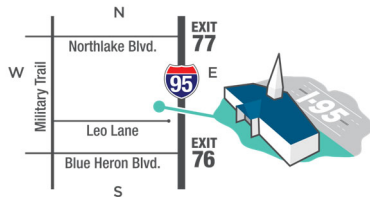
Ushers for this week: Trey Higbee & Marty Williams
Safety Team for this week: Lawrence Williams



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: **Victor & Sandy Colage**

What Jesus **DID** for YOU ...and why

He created you
(John 1:3; Col. 1:16)

He came to this earth for you
(Phil. 2:6; John 1:14)

He died on the cross for you
(Rom. 5:8; Gal. 2:20)

He shed His blood for you
(Eph. 1:7; Heb. 9:12)

He was raised from the dead for you
(1 Cor. 15:1-26; Rom. 8:34)

Because...

He loves you
(Eph. 5:2; 1 John 3:16)

He wants to save you
(Matt. 20:28; Tit. 2:14)

He wants to take you to heaven
(John 14:1-3; 1 Thess. 4:17)



What Jesus **EXPECTS** of YOU ...and why

Learn and know the truth (Rom. 10:17; John 8:32)

Obey the will of God (Matt. 7:21; John 14:15; Heb. 5:8-9)

Believe Jesus is God's Son (John 1:12; 3:16; 20:30-31)

Repent (turn) from your sins (Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30)

Confess your faith in Jesus (Matt. 10:32; Rom. 10:9-10)

Be immersed into Christ (Acts 2:38; 22:16; Gal. 3:27)

Live faithfully and serve Him (Rev. 2:10; 1 Cor. 15:58)

So that...

You can prove your love for Him (John 14:15; 1 John 5:2-3)

You can be saved from your sins (Acts 2:38; 1 John 1:7)

You can go to heaven (Matt. 7:21; Heb. 5:8-9)