

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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Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ

Vol. LXII

October 29, 2023

No. 43

Welcome New Members



Bennett, Blake & Gina

Group 1

Identified October 22

27th Annual
 South Florida Lectureship

You Can
Trust
 the
Bible



November 2-5, 2023

READING THROUGH THE NEW TESTAMENT

*A Chapter
 A Day*

This Week's Reading:

*Hebrews 12 -
 James 3*



By Dan Jenkins

Blessed Blessings

Sometimes the best way to define a word is to look at the word which stands in opposition to it. We use the words “blessed” or “blessing” so often and in so many ways that we lose track of their exact meaning. Take a moment and look at the words that are the opposite words—cursed and cursing.

Think of the emphasis the Bible gives to those who fail to find His favor and blessings and come under judgment. “The Lord is angry with the wicked every day” (Psa. 7:11). “Even his prayer is an abomination” (Prov. 28:9). “It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God” (Heb. 10:31). “A certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries” (Heb. 10:27). This is the opposite of being blessed by God and finding favor in His sight. A simple definition of the word “blessed” is that it means “happy.” But, that word is too “simple” to see how magnificently blessed it is when we find His blessed favor.

The words of the song, “Blessed Assurance,” were first published 150 years ago. The fact that is so often sung today is evidence of how so many have rejoiced in the fact that we live under His favor and find great hope in Him. It was written by Fanny J. Crosby, who was blind from six weeks old. Mrs. Crosby wrote at least 4,000 hymns, possibly 8,000.

The first stanza of “Blessed Assurance” describes how wonderful it is to be His child. “Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!” It then looks at specific ways we are blessed—“heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.” Read these phrases again and think soberly about how they express the blessing of having His favor.

The second stanza speaks of the perfect delight which we have when we submit to Him and His control of our lives. It looks upward to see the rapturous blessings of vision depicted as angels descending from heaven to bring them. Two specific blessings are mentioned—“echoes of mercy” and “whispers of love.”

The third stanza turns our hearts to the peace we have. “Perfect submission, all is at rest.” In Christ, we are “happy and blest, watching and waiting, looking above, filled with His goodness, lost in His love.”

Is there any wonder why the chorus speaks of this blessed assurance being our story and our song? We are “praising my Savior all the day long.”

There is so much depth in the meaning of songs which for centuries have stirred the hearts of others. They have become part of the “psalms, hymns and spiritual songs” today. Think of the words of these songs, and let them lift you upward toward heaven.

There is so much depth in the meaning of many of the older hymns we sing



By David Sproule

“But You Have Made It...”

As Jesus entered His last week before the cross, He entered the city of Jerusalem. Inside the temple complex, He “began to drive out those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves” (Mark 11:15). He had done this at the beginning of His ministry (John 2:13-17), and now His “Father’s house” was being abused again.

Jesus did not just show His disapproval for their actions, but He also “taught” them what was wrong with what they were doing. Note His short “teaching” in verse 17.

Jesus began by quoting Scripture. “Is it not written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations’?” He was quoting from Isaiah 56:7 (cf. 2 Chron. 6:32). In order to begin trying to correct their actions, notice where Jesus began—with Scripture. If someone is going to argue against something that you say, make sure that their argument is against the Scripture itself, and not you.

After pointing out God’s clear expectations in His Word, Jesus identified what they were doing. Note that He uses a Bible term to identify what they are doing. “But you have made it a ‘den of thieves.’” The expression “den of thieves” comes from Jeremiah 7:11.

We learn at least two lessons from this example of Jesus. First, start with the Bible—“Here is what God says.” Second, if you are going to correct someone, use Bible words to do that (2 Tim. 3:16). That keeps you “out of the way.”

Now, is there any further application of Jesus’ words in Mark 11:17 to us today? Is it possible (or likely) that there is a clear teaching of Scripture that we “have made” into something completely different?

Could God say to us, “Is it not written, ‘Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own’ (1 Cor. 6:19)? But you have made it whatever is ‘right in your own eyes’ (Deut. 12:8)”?

Could God say to us, “Is it not written, ‘Upon this rock I will build My church’ (Matt. 16:18)? But ‘you have made your gods for yourselves’ to serve them (Jer. 2:28)”?

Could God say to us, “Is it not written, ‘Fear God and keep His commandments’ (Ecc. 12:13)? But ‘you have made the commandment of God of no effect by your tradition’ (Matt. 15:6)”?

Jesus corrected the actions of those in the temple by pointing to Scripture. He corrects us today in that same way—with Scripture. May we conform ourselves to His teaching.

Is it possible that we “have made” Scripture into something different?



By Robert Lupo

God Is Able

Is anything too hard for God? Throughout the Bible we see story after story of the miracles of God. One of the most memorable is the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego in the fiery furnace.

In chapter 3 of Daniel, the Babylonian king, Nebuchadnezzar, erected a massive image of gold and commanded all of his subjects to worship it. Anyone who failed would be thrown into the fiery furnace.

Soon, word reached Nebuchadnezzar that three Jews were refusing to worship. They had already found favor in the king, so he gives them one last chance. If they refused this time, he would throw them into the furnace. He said, "And who is the god who will deliver you from my hands?" (Dan. 3:15). The king spoke very frankly here. No god he ever heard of could save them. But, he didn't know the God of Israel. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, however, knew Him and trusted in Him. They responded, "...our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king" (v. 17).

So, Nebuchadnezzar commanded that they be thrown into the furnace. They raised the temperature of the furnace seven times hotter and cast them into the blaze. But, when the

king peered into the furnace, all three men were untouched and were accompanied by someone like a son of God.

The miracle astounded Nebuchadnezzar. He had never seen anything like this. He was filled with so much awe and fear of the power of God that he made a decree that no one speak anything against Him. He said, "...because there is no other god who can deliver like this" (v. 29).

Our God is able to deliver like no other. His power exceeds all the universe. There is nothing too difficult for God (Gen. 18:14). We know and believe this. Then, why do we struggle to accept God's forgiveness? Many of us will look at the sins of our past and wonder, "How could God forgive a wretch like me?" Have we forgotten who God is?

Our Lord is not some false image, incapable of delivering or some myth we tell our children to help them fall asleep. He is Jehovah, the God who saved Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego from the fiery furnace! If He can do something as amazing as that, surely God is able to forgive. If we let it, the guilt of our past can cripple our spiritual growth and work in His church. But, if you are a faithful Christian, then you can rest assured that God has taken all your sins from you and has made you worthy for the work of His kingdom. "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works..." (Eph. 2:10). How? Because God is able.

**Our God whom
we serve is able
to deliver us.**

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

Thank God for Christians who do the right (but hard) thing!

Most decisions as a Christian are not that hard. Some folks might tend to make them hard (like a child who makes a household chore a harder task than it really is), but they are not actually "burdensome" (1 John 5:3). But there are some decisions that are quite hard. Some decisions (to become or to remain faithful as a Christian) require true sacrifice.

Some decisions may involve severing relationships with family (Matt. 10:34-37). Some decisions may involve quitting a job (1 Cor. 6:9-11; Eph. 4:28). Some decisions may involve a complete overhaul of life direction (Matt. 16:24-26; Luke 14:33). Some decisions may involve remaining in a tough marriage or remaining single for the rest of life (1 Cor. 7:10-11; Matt. 19:9-12; Rom. 7:2-3). Some decisions can "cost" quite a bit (Luke 14:28).

Thank You, God, for those faithful, determined Christians who have made the decision to do the right thing, even when it is hard! They may "lose" out on something, but they will "receive a hundredfold now in this time...and in the age to come, eternal life" (Mark 10:29-30). – DS



The Bible is not that hard to understand

There are some folks who want to make the Bible out to be this overly complicated, mystically complex book that is highly difficult to understand. Are there "some things hard to understand" in it (cf. 2 Pet. 3:16)? Yes. Some. And the Bible acknowledges that. But note that it does not say, "Impossible to understand" or "You'll never understand."

When Satan asked Eve what God had said, Eve recited exactly what God had said (Gen. 3:1-3). It was not difficult or complex. It did not require higher education or years of study to know or understand. It was only after Satan twisted it (see 2 Peter 3:16 again) that Eve disobeyed it.

Friends, what the Bible says about morality is not hard to understand. What the Bible teaches about salvation is not hard to understand. What the Bible tells us to do in the worship and service of our God is not hard to understand. It's only when Satan makes us think that we are "God" (Gen. 3:5) and know better that things go awry! Truly, God's Word "gives understanding to the simple" (Psa. 119:130). – DS

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

Jimmie Banks	outpatient procedure on November 3
Linda Coe	recovering from knee replacement surgery
Doris Friedly	recovering at home from a stroke
Ophelia Holmes	undergoing tests on her lungs on November 6
Lynne Jorgensen	recovering from a procedure
John Loftis	fractured his left shoulder and dealing with a lot of pain
Norma Mariano	shunt procedure (11/1) to drain excess fluid from brain
Robert Mariano	dealing with serious skin cancer issues
John Patrick	dealing with severe hip pain, surgery on November 6
Isolyn Sinclair	undergoing medical tests
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

Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

Patty Alexander	Jean Archer's brother, undergoing tests
Myrick Bassie	Yolanda Stewart's father, suffering serious health issues
Ignacio Ramirez	Joel Ramirez's father, dealing with cancer
Quinntel Smith, Jr.	Willie & Giselle's grandson, having mouth surgery soon
Peter Villa	Natalie Perez's father, hospitalized with pneumonia
Donna Williams	Linda Coe's sister, recovering from major surgery





Church Family Calendar of Events

Sunday, October 29

- ♦ **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 short devotional before evening worship begins.

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.)
(Please bring drinks & desserts for the Corn Roast)	
Sunday, Nov. 5	9:00 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Bible Class

Sunday, November 5

- ♦ **Daylight Saving Time Ends.** Set your clocks back one hour.
- ♦ **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 short devotional before evening worship begins.

Friday, November 10

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

Sunday, November 12

- ♦ **Shepherds Praying** at 5:30 p.m. in Adult 3. All members are invited to come and pray with them.
- ♦ **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 short devotional before evening worship begins.
- ♦ **Youth & Family Singing** after evening worship in the Family Room. Every member is invited to stay and sing for about 35 minutes.

Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ Young Adults

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

- ♦ **Shepherds Praying** at 5:30 p.m. in Adult 3. All members are invited to come and pray with them.

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. 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, November 18

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

Monday, December 4

- ♦ **Men's Meet** at 6:30 p.m. at the church building.



Palm Beach Lakes Youth

Sunday, October 29

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

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 5

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

Sunday November 12

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

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.

PALM BEACH LAKES CHURCH OF CHRIST

Men's Worship Service Assignments - November 2023

November 5 ^(A)

November 12 ^(S)

November 19 ^(L)

November 26 ^(A)

Morning Worship Service				
Song Leader	Gary Friedly	Robert Lupo	Gary Friedly	Dion Hayes
Opening Prayer	Jeff Goodale	Douglas Alvarenga	Dion Hayes	Jeff Goodale
Scripture Reader	James Green	Tim Cox	Bill Ingram, Jr.	Jim Rogers
Presiding at Table	Jeff Leslie	Philip Porter	David Lord	Jimmie Banks
Serving at Table	Lance Collier Michael Erickson Graysen Hayes Jack Holoman Islay Rodriguez Jim Rogers Cayden Scriven Joseph Snyder Cristian Suarez Marty Williams	Troy Alberga Victor Colage Ryan Hankins Sylvester Jackson Richard Kelley Steward Lynch Tim Mahlbacher Taylor Reeves Nahum Villard Tyler Williams	David Brown Ed Buonadonna Addison Collins Cris Cuevas Gorman Ericksen Gary Jenkins Keith Joy Daniel Lord Chuck Reeves, Jr. Brandan Widner	Lance Collier Kirk Crews Mike Damron Connor Goodale James Green Jack Holoman Jeff Leslie Vincent Rogers Cayden Scriven Joseph Snyder
Closing Prayer	Kirk Crews	Robert Mariano	David Holaday	Michael Erickson

Evening Worship Service				
Song Leader	Dion Hayes	Ivan Villard	Stephen Beliech	Graysen Hayes
Opening Prayer	Johnny Davis	Ricky Smith	Dirk Summerlot	Trey Higbee
Scripture Reader	Jim Davis	Willie Smith	Dan Fuller	John Hoelzer
Presiding at Table	John Hoelzer	Stephen Beliech	Darin Summerlot	Joe Maloney
Serving at Table	Connor Goodale Joe Maloney	Silas Balfour Nicholas Pietro	Jimmie Banks Daniel Wagner	Jim Davis Luther Robinson
Closing Prayer	Ivan Villard	Richard Watson	Andres Fernandez	Islay Rodriguez

Technical Assignments (Sunday & Wednesday)				
Audio	Ricky Smith	David Brown	James Green	David Brown
Computer	Daniel Lord	Cris Cuevas	Bob Higbee	Ivan Villard
Video	Todd Juckett	Edward Gager	Todd Juckett	Scott Studer

Service Assignments (Sunday & Wednesday)				
Safety	Vincent Rogers	Seth Watson	Daniel Swayne	Lawrence Williams
Usher	Jimmie Banks Lawrence Williams	Rick Hall Namdidie Ikon	Freddie Gadson Eugene Williams	Kane Campbell Marty Williams

Service Coordinator (Sunday Morning & Evening)				
	Bob Higbee	Eugene Williams	Mike Damron	Tim Cox

Please consider this opportunity to serve as special and dress accordingly.

Sunday Morning - Meet in Grade 6-8 classroom at 9:45 AM. Sunday Evening - Meet at front of auditorium before 5:50 PM.

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

Technical, Safety and Usher assignments are for Sunday morning, evening and Wednesday.

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

Members Traveling
this week



 **Thank You**
for worshipping with us

Sunday,
October 22

 Thank You

Thank you for all of the cards and expressions of love extended to us following the passing of our sweet Carolyn. And, thank you for the beautiful flowers. You have lifted our spirits so much.

Love,
John Kemp and family

It's girl!

Congratulations to **Dan & Loni Fuller** upon the birth of their **granddaughter, Kirklee Hananiah Fuller**, to **Grant & Kathryn Fuller** on Thursday, October 19 weighing 7 lbs., 11 oz.

LOCAL VISITORS: Ms. Ayanna Sutherland; Mr. Alton Ellis, Ms. Careen Ellis; Mr. George Fraser; Mr. & Mrs. Rai & Ashley Masuda; Ms. Doris McCall; Mr. Don McClintock; Ms. Manoella Mendieta; Mr. Michael Menendez & Mrs. Astrid Arevalo; Miss Victoria Michwanazi; Mrs. Liz Otero; Ms. Lizzie Rozier; Mr. & Mrs. Arpit & Swati Samson; and Mrs. Trellini Smith.

OUT-OF-TOWN VISITORS: Miss LaDon Cruz, Ft. Lauderdale, FL; Mr. & Mrs. Pete & Kristi Harker, New Market, AL; Mr. David Hill, Nashville, TN; Mr. Bosco Madriz, Costa Rica; Mrs. Jacqueline Parker, Ringgold, GA; Ms. Andrea Penaranda, Costa Rica; Ms. Darlene Smith, Valdosta, GA; and Mr. & Mrs. Ivan Lenis Villard, Daytona Beach, FL.

Birthdays & Anniversaries *This Week*

Monday, October 30th
Marie Yvette Achille

Thursday, November 2nd (cont.)
Isolyn Sinclair

Thursday, November 2nd
Trish Clark
Michelle Franck

Saturday, November 4th
Phil Porter



Directory Changes

Hunter & Kaitlin Hinton are moving to Georgia.

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 29

Singing Dion Hayes
Opening Prayer Paul Metzkes
Scripture Reading David Lord
Singing
Lord's Supper Dirk Summerlot
Contribution
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Closing Prayer Gary Jenkins

Serve at Table:

Ed Buonadonna	Bill Ingram, Jr.
Addison Collins	Keith Joy
Cris Cuevas	Dan McLeod
Gorman Erickson	Chuck Reeves, Jr.
Freddie Gadson	Daniel Swayne

Sunday Evening, October 29

Singing Young Men
Opening Prayer Young Men
Scripture Reading Young Men
Singing
Lord's Supper Young Men
Contribution
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Closing Prayer Young Men

Serve at Table:

Young Men

Audio this week: David Brown
Computer this week: Daniel Lord
Video this week: Edward Gager

Thursday Evening, November 2

Singing Gary Friedly
Invitation David Lipe
Family Prayer David Sproule

Our Record

Attendance	Oct. 22	Sep. Avg
Sun. Bible Study	173	154
Sun. AM Worship	237	262
Sun. PM Worship	139	114
Wed. Bible Study	120	129
Contribution	\$15,480	\$18,047

2023 Weekly Budget: \$16,450

Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: \$21,289

Service Coordinators:
Rick Hall & Robert Lupo

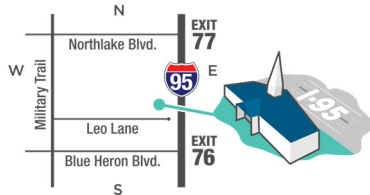
Ushers for this week: Andres Fernandez & Bob Higbee
Safety Team for this week: Rick Hall



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: **Allison Roman & Amy West**

NOW TO HIM WHO IS ABLE TO KEEP YOU FROM STUMBLING AND TO PRESENT YOU

BLAMELESS



BEFORE THE PRESENCE OF HIS GLORY WITH GREAT JOY...

JUDE 24