

Elders

*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 December

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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Vol. LXII

December 3, 2023

No. 48

Welcome New Members



Dyer, Erika

Group 2

Baptized November 26

A *Merry*
 HEART
 DOES GOOD
 LIKE
 MEDICINE
 PROVERBS 17:22

READING THROUGH THE NEW TESTAMENT

*A Chapter
 A Day*

*This Week's Reading:
 Revelation 3 -
 Revelation 7*



By Dan Jenkins

The First Words Truly Given by God

What were the first words ever literally given by God that are part of the Bible? You might immediately answer, "The first words of the Bible are 'In the beginning...,'" but you would be wrong. Before Moses ever wrote Genesis, our God gave the first written words at Mount Sinai. These words were spoken by God and even written by the hand of God on tablets of stone. There are some amazing words used to describe how all this happened.

When Israel arrived at the holy mountain, the thunderous voice of God gave the Ten Commandments. The Jews were terrified and begged Moses to let God speak to him, and then Moses could tell them what God said. The scene was so ominous that even Moses was filled with fear, even to the point of trembling, when he ascended to the top of Mount Sinai to get the tables of stone written by the hand of God (Heb. 12:21). There are some eternal truths we need to learn as we read what was happening.

Look at the details carefully and notice the words I have emphasized by using capitalization. The Jews said, "You go near and hear ALL that the Lord our God may say, and tell us ALL that the Lord our God says to you" (Deut. 5:27). What an amazing picture of the inspiration and trustworthiness of

the Bible. The prophet of God went into the presence of God and received ALL that God said. He then brought it to the people and gave them everything that God said.

Now look at the concluding words spoken by Israel. "Tell us ALL that the Lord our God says to you, and we will hear and do it." God heard them speak these very words and said to Moses, "They are right in ALL that they have spoken." When we study the Bible today, we must have the same attitude. It is one that longs to hear everything God says and promises to listen and do it. The Lord Himself said that this is the right thing to do!

**We must know
ALL His words
and promise to
do it ALL, with
ALL our heart!**

However, there is more than just understanding the words of God given by His prophets. There is more than just knowing these words. God heard their words and then looked at their hearts. "Oh, that they had such a heart in them that they would fear Me and ALWAYS keep ALL My commandments." The Jews heard the voice of God speak about graven images. They were to receive a written copy of those words. Even God praised them for saying they would do all that He said, but their hearts were not part of their words.

What a great lesson for us to learn. We must respect the fact that the Bible is from God, but we must engrave ALL these heavenly truths in our hearts. God said this is right! It is always right to do right.



By David Sproule

Works Will Not Save But Works Are Required to Save

There are fewer subjects that will get some denominational folks charged up as much as the discussion of works and salvation. It has seemed over the years that some very sincere religious individuals consider "work" (as used in a "Christian context") to be a four-letter word that should be avoided.

Unfortunately, some have tried to pit some Bible verses against other Bible verses, to make an apparent contradiction between what the Bible says about works. We must remember that the Bible has no contradictions! If there is an apparent contradiction, the problem is with us and not with the Bible! It is up to us to change us, and not to change the Bible!

The New Testament speaks about "works of the law" (Gal. 2:16; Rom. 3:27-28). Early Christians of a Jewish background struggled with their new relationship to (and without) the old law. They had to be reminded that "by faith in Jesus Christ" (Gal. 2:16), they no longer needed nor could they be "justified by works of the law." When we read, we need to see if these are the "works" under discussion.

The New Testament speaks about "works" of human merit (Rom. 4:2-9; Eph. 2:8-10). Ephesians chapter two is often the passage to which individuals run to "prove" (in their minds) that we are not saved by works. But what kind of

"works" is Paul addressing? Notice in both of these passages that Paul is speaking of "works" by which a man (whether Abraham or a Christian) could "boast." Our salvation is certainly "not of works" by which we might "boast" (Eph. 2:8-9), lest we think that we can earn our salvation. But that does not, by any means, deny that God can still require certain works of us in order to secure salvation. When we read, we need to see if the "works" are meritorious works.

**"Work" is not a
bad word.**

The New Testament speaks about "works" of obedience (Jas. 2:14-26). This is where folks want to suggest that the Bible contradicts itself. It does not! The inspired text clearly teaches that "...faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead...faith without works is dead...Abraham our father [was] justified by works...by works faith was made perfect...a man is justified by works, and not by faith only..." These are not meritorious works, by which someone earns salvation. These are works of obedience, which are required in order for Christ to save us (Heb. 5:9). When we read, we need to see if the "works" under discussion are the means of obeying God.

Christians are "created in Christ Jesus for good works" (Eph. 2:10; cf. Matt. 5:14-16; Tit. 2:11-14; 3:1, 8, 14). We are required to "work out [our] own salvation with fear and trembling" (Phil. 2:12). "Work" is not a bad word. It's a glorious requirement to demonstrate our love (John 14:15).



By Robert Lupo

What Kind of Man Are You?

A Washington Post article from February 9, 2016 reads, "Assault with a deadly weapon: Florida man charged with throwing alligator into Wendy's." If you are not yet familiar, let me introduce you to Florida Man. No, I'm not talking about myself. I'm referring to the phrase that seems to continuously pop up in news articles every other week. Each time you hear the phrase, "Florida man," you know you are in for a story that is crazier than the last. No one has a reputation quite like Florida Man.

A reputation is a very important thing, especially to a Christian. A good reputation can equip us to reach a great number of souls and a poor reputation can drive them away. Our reputation tells others what kind of men we are. What does your reputation say about you?

When David handed the throne over to Solomon, he told him that he needed to prove himself to be a man (1 Kgs. 2:2). He said, "Keep the charge of the LORD your God: to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, His judgments, and His testimonies, as it is written in the Law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn."

If Solomon wants to be a good man, then there are

some things he needs to do. He needs to understand God's purpose for him, behave according to God's will, and remain obedient to God's law. Solomon would stay faithful to his father's words for a while, but eventually, he lost his way.

As early as 1 Kings 3:1, Solomon broke the law (Deut. 7:3) by marrying the Pharaoh's daughter. His desire for foreign women grew even stronger by 1 Kings 11:1-2. By verse 4, it revealed that his hundreds of pagan wives turned his heart from God and toward idols. Because of his betrayal, God took the northern kingdom from his son (1 Kgs. 11:31-33).

What kind of man did Solomon prove himself to be? He was certainly not the man his father David expected him to be. Instead of seeking to please God, he filled his own desires. Despite all the wisdom God bestowed upon him, he did not behave as God expected him to. Instead of heeding God's commands, he turned from the Lord and worshipped false idols.

What kind of man are you? If you say you are a Christian, does your reputation reflect Christ? Are you walking the walk or just talking the talk? If our lives have not been transformed into the image of Christ, we do not have the right to call ourselves Christians. It's time to prove ourselves. "Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong" (1 Cor. 16:13, ESV).

What does your reputation say about you?

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

Your work...your money...what is it all for?

How much of your life does your work consume? Quite a bit? Then you get your paycheck. How much of that is consumed by bills (blah!) and family and recreation (yay!)? Have you ever wondered, "What is all of this for?"

Tie the following two verses together. In Ephesians 4:28, Christians are instructed, "Let him labor, working with his hands what is good..." Why work? The rest of the verse says, "...that he may have something to give him who has need." I work to "have" so that I can "give." Is that a different way of thinking about why you work?

Connect that with why God blesses His children in 2 Corinthians 9:8. When we give to God "bountifully" and "cheerfully" (9:6-7), "God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance..." Why does God want to give us "an abundance"? Finish the verse: "...for every good work." Is that a different way of thinking about why God blesses you with money and things? Think about it. —DS



Those who love the Lord with incorruptible love

We need to read the Bible slow enough and carefully enough to catch expressions that we would not normally expect. And, sometimes, we skip right over the beginning or end of a letter, because we think it's "just going to say the same thing." They don't!

Consider the very last words of the letter to the Ephesians. "Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ with incorruptible love" (Eph. 6:24). What an interesting way to say that!

Do you love Jesus with "incorruptible love"? The Greek word for "incorruptible" means, "not liable to corruption, decay or interruption; purely, sincerely, constantly, unflinching." Isn't this a beautiful thought?! The *agape* love in this verse is an active love...not just a feeling or something expressed in words. It is demonstrated in genuine...holy...living. So, the question is, "Is the way that I live my life every day a demonstration of a love that I have for Jesus that will not decay, fail or be interrupted?" If so, then God's grace will abide with me! Wow! —DS

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

Charles Hayes	having skin cancer removed
Loretta Holaday	reverse shoulder replacement on December 1
Ophelia Holmes	awaiting further diagnosis and treatment plan for mass
John Loftis	fractured his left shoulder and dealing with a lot of pain
Norma Mariano	will be having adjustments on the shunt in her brain
Juliette Mauvais	suffering with severe pain
John Patrick	recovering at home from hip replacement surgery
Maurine Reed	back at Hamlin Place and is doing better
Amy West	recovering at home from her stroke

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

Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

Patterson Alexander	Jean Archer's brother, hospital, multiple health issues
Myrick Bassie	Yolanda Stewart's father, suffering serious health issues
Ignacio Ramirez	Joel Ramirez's father, dealing with cancer & recent fall
Ken Springer	Tina Wagner's brother, low blood pressure issues

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, December 3

- ♦ **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.

Monday, December 4

- ♦ **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, December 5

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

Thursday, December 7

- ♦ **Ladies' Soup Supper** at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Traci Sproule. Sign up on the bulletin board to bring a soup, bread, dessert or drink. Bring an ornament for the exchange. See Traci for more details.

Friday, December 8

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

Sunday, December 10

- ♦ **Robert Martin Mission Report** at 9:00 a.m. Jr. High, Sr. High and 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 short devotional before evening worship begins.

Saturday, December 16

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

Sunday, December 17

- ♦ **PBL Family Photos Updated.** If you've never had your photo take in the Family Room or if your photo needs to be updated, please have your photo taken **after morning services or before evening services** by Mike Erickson in the Family Room.

Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ Young Adults

Monday, December 4

- ♦ **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.

Thursday, December 7

- ♦ **Ladies' Soup Supper** at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Traci Sproule. Sign up on the bulletin board to bring a soup, bread, dessert or drink. Bring an ornament for the exchange. See Traci for more details.

Saturday, December 9

- ♦ **Youth & Young Adult Holiday Party** at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Mary Brown. Bring a \$15 gift for the exchange. See Robert or Ivan for more details.

Saturday, January 6

- ♦ **Young Adult Devo** at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Dion & Misty Hayes. See Ivan Villard for more details.



Palm Beach Lakes Youth

Sunday, December 3

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

Monday, December 4

- ♦ **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.

Wednesday, December 6

- ♦ **Challenge Youth Conference Registration Deadline.** Cost is \$40 per person. Sign up on the bulletin board in the Lobby and give your payment to Robert Lupo or Ivan Villard.

Saturday, December 9

- ♦ **Youth & Young Adult Holiday Party** at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Mary Brown. Bring a \$15 gift for the exchange. See Robert Lupo or Ivan Villard for more details.

A Chapter A Day

Keeps me on the Lord's way

READING THROUGH THE *New Testament* IN A YEAR

For the Month of *December*

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 1 | Mark Your Bible | <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 17 | Revelation 13 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 2 | Day of Reflection | <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 18 | Revelation 14 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 3 | Revelation 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 19 | Revelation 15 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 4 | Revelation 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 20 | Revelation 16 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 5 | Revelation 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 21 | Revelation 17 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 6 | Revelation 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 22 | Mark Your Bible |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 7 | Revelation 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 23 | Day of Reflection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 8 | Mark Your Bible | <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 24 | Revelation 18 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 9 | Day of Reflection | <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 25 | Revelation 19 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 10 | Revelation 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 26 | Revelation 20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 11 | Revelation 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 27 | Revelation 21 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 12 | Revelation 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 28 | Revelation 22 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 13 | Revelation 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 29 | Mark Your Bible |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 14 | Revelation 12 | <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 30 | Day of Reflection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 15 | Mark Your Bible | <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 31 | A Day of Prayer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 16 | Day of Reflection | | |

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

Members Traveling
this week



 **Thank You**
for worshipping with us

Sunday,
November 26

LOCAL VISITORS: Mrs. Astrid Arevalo; Ms. Ayanna Babcock-Sutherland; Mr. & Mrs. Charles & Sandra Davidson; Ms. Erika Dyer; Mr. Alton Ellis; Ms. Careen Ellis; Mr. & Mrs. Robert & Claudja Henry; Mr. & Mrs. Andre & Laurie Lortie; Mr. & Mrs. Rai & Ashley Masuda; Miss Jasmine Matthews; Mr. & Mrs. Johnny & Lauren Singer; and Mr. Garfield Walks.

OUT-OF-TOWN VISITORS: Mr. & Mrs. Chet & Brenda Brown, Elko New Market, MN; and Mr. & Mrs. Kevin & Brittney Groff, Shippensburg, PA.



We rejoice with **Erika Dyer** who was baptized on Sunday morning, November 26.

We rejoice with **Ayanna Babcock-Sutherland** who was baptized on Monday, November 27.

Birthdays & Anniversaries *This Week*

Monday, December 4
Guadalupe Tipton

Wednesday, December 6th
Cara Blackmer

Tuesday, December 5th
Troy Alberga
Adrienna Gadson
Janice Osborne

Thursday, December 7th
David Perez
Jeannie Buonadonna

Saturday, December 9th
Mike & Jean Archer (Ann.)



"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:16

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, December 3

Opening Prayer Stephen Beliech
Singing Robert Lupo
Contribution..... Willie Smith
Scripture Reading.....Douglas Alvarenga
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Lord's Supper
Singing
Closing Prayer Taylor Reeves

Serve at Table:

Troy Alberga	Steward Lynch
Ryan Hankins	Tim Mahlbacher
Namdidie Ikon	Robert Mariano
Sylvester Jackson	Ryan Smedberg
Orlando Lolo	Tyler Williams

Sunday Evening, December 3

Singing Dan McLeod
Opening Prayer.....Phil Porter
Scripture ReadingTim Fry
Singing
Lord's Supper..... Richard Watson
Contribution
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Closing Prayer..... Victor Colage

Serve at Table:

Silas Balfour Trevin Roman

Audio this week: Ricky Smith

Computer this week: Daniel Lord

Video this week: Todd Juckett

Wednesday Evening, December 6

Singing Jimmie Banks
Invitation..... Kirk Crews
Family Prayer Dan Fuller

Our Record

Attendance	Nov. 26	Oct. Avg
Sun. Bible Study	138	173
Sun. AM Worship	238	257
Sun. PM Worship	114	121
Wed. Bible Study	116	128
Contribution	\$17,183	\$17,072

2023 Weekly Budget: \$16,450

Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: \$25,773

Service Coordinators:
Rick Hall

Ushers for this week: Tim Cox & Tom Garrison
Safety Team for this week: Nahum Villard



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: Caleb Beliech & Thomas Rogers



MISSION Sunday

TAKING THE GOSPEL TO THE WORLD

January 28

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).