

Bishops

*Dan Fuller..... 685-4454
Dion Hayes 214-533-5065
Paul Metzkes..... 870-8042
Phil Porter 575-4782
Richard Watson..... 307-2608

*Chairman for the Month of February

Evangelists

Dan Jenkins 379-2325
David Sproule..... 301-2230
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
Gary Jenkins..... 889-3585
Jeff Leslie..... 744-3444
David Lord 346-2228
Buzz Nelson..... 385-1588
Lawrence Williams 662-3419

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Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ

Vol. LXIV

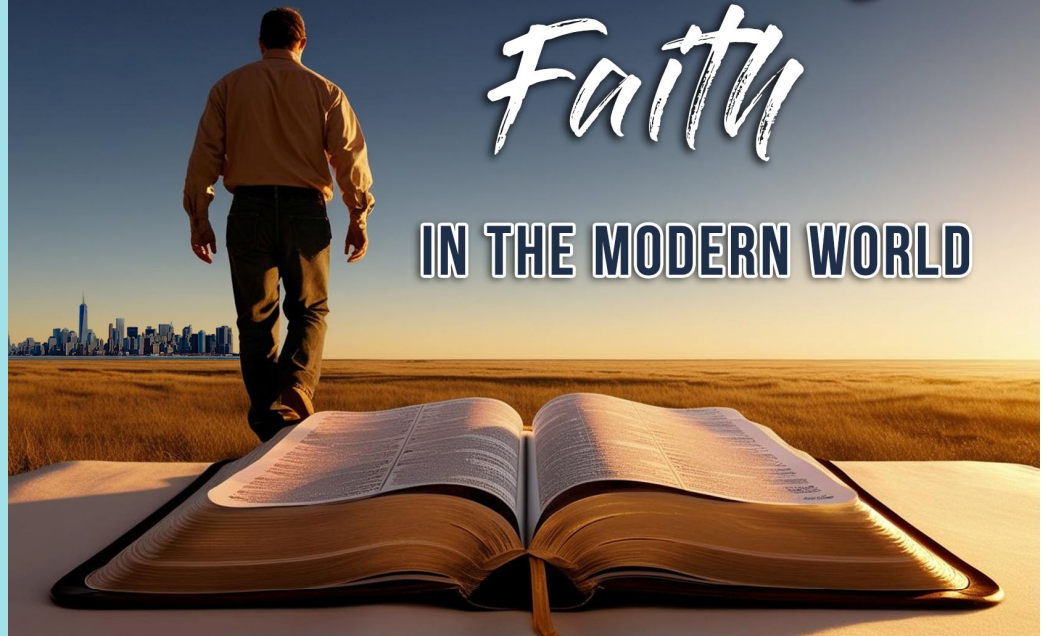
February 23, 2025

No. 8

GOSPEL MEETING *with Hiram Kemp*

*First-Century
Faith*

IN THE MODERN WORLD



MARCH 2-5, 2025



By Dan Jenkins

Once a Goat, Always a Goat—Once a Sheep, Never a Goat

Church history shows there was a great rebellion against the Catholic Church in Europe in the 16th century. Who has not heard of Martin Luther and how he sowed the seeds for other Protestant churches who openly departed from the catholic (world-wide) church centered around the Vatican?

At that same time, John Calvin, who was born in France but fled to Switzerland, and his writings became the basis for many of the doctrines so widely believed.

There were no mainline churches like Presbyterians, Methodists, or Baptist churches, but as the reformation movement spread, Calvin's writings became the doctrinal foundation of these various Protestant churches. There were five major aspects of the doctrine of Calvinism that were so widespread in these churches. One of these doctrines was predestination, which in our day is no longer in the forefront of the creeds of Protestantism but many of the others are widely held.

One of central teachings of Calvin affirms that once a person is saved he can never be separated from God. Calvin called it the "perseverance of the saints." In our day it is described as the "impossibility of apostasy," the "eternal security of believers" or the "impossibility of falling from grace." The clearest way to describe this teaching is that once one be-

comes a child of God, there is absolutely no way he can forfeit his salvation. There is no sin or action that could cause him to ever be destined for the fires of hell.

Jesus used two animals, sheep and goats, to describe mankind. Predestination says, "Once a goat, always a goat," and there is nothing one can do to change that. The doctrine of the impossibility of apostasy says "Once a sheep, never a goat." A goat has free will to turn to Jesus and become one of

His sheep, but once he is a sheep he loses his free will. He cannot go to hell, even if he wants to!

A "goat" can turn to Jesus, but a "sheep" has no freedom to turn away from Him

This aspect of Calvinism is part of the teachings of the largest denomination in the south. Just say the "sinner's prayer" and you can never lose that salvation. It is also widely believed by community churches today.

The important question is not who is right or who is wrong about these teachings. The most important question is, "What is right?" How do I find the answer to this? Go to the Bible and read the epistles written to the early Christians. Were they warned against falling away? Read the six chapters of Galatians and see what God said. Pay special attention to Gal. 1:6-9; 3:1; 4:11; 5:1-2, 4, 7, 21; 6:7-8. Truth is not determined by a pope, by a creed, by a statement of faith, by Luther or Calvin or televangelists today. Read the Bible to see what God teaches about sheep and goats, about sin and salvation.



By David Sproule

That Tempting Situation

In May 2022, Tyreek Hill, of the Miami Dolphins, purchased a 7-bedroom, 8.5-bathroom home for \$6.9 million. That's a really nice place! On January 3, 2024, a fire ripped through that house, and it took firefighters two hours to quell the flames, leaving extensive water and smoke damage

throughout the house. A really nice place was nearly destroyed and left with severe and very costly damage.

How could something so valuable and beautiful so quickly be ravaged and left with lasting devastation? What could cause such destruction? Here it is: The fire was sparked by a child playing with a lighter in one of the bedrooms.

Do you think that child had any idea the damage that such a small, seemingly innocent act could cause? Playing with a lighter is no big deal, right? It's "small." It's "controllable." It's "easy to keep secret," so that no one will ever know, right? And, sure, it's a little risky, but that's what gives it a sense of excitement and intrigue. The child had no idea what would happen! But that's the point.

How often do we, as Christians, behave in a similar fashion to this little child? I'm not talking about playing with lighters, but I'm talking about playing with temptation.

How often (and why?) do we put ourselves in tempt-

ing situations (even if "only slightly tempting"), but we think we can "handle it"? Maybe we think it's just a "small" thing. Maybe we think that it's "controllable." Maybe we think that it's a "secret" and nobody knows about it, so it's no big deal. And, maybe, we realize that we are bordering on the edge of temptation, but that little "risk" gives us a little spark of excitement and adrenalin and intrigue.

Let us not be fooled!

Friends, are you playing with temptation? Are you getting yourself too close, but you think you've got it under control? The book of wisdom says, "Can a man take fire to his bosom, And his clothes not be burned? Can one walk on hot coals, And his feet not be seared?" (Prov. 6:27-28). Peter probably thought it was no big deal for him to go and warm himself with those who hated Jesus, but putting himself in that situation led him into sin (Luke 22:54-62). David probably thought it was no big deal for him to take a sneak peak at Bathsheba while she was bathing, but allowing himself to keep looking led him into sin (2 Sam. 11:1-27).

We need to "watch and pray" to keep ourselves from entering "into temptation" (Luke 22:40, 46; 8:13; 11:4). Our "own desires" entice us to think we can control temptation (Jas. 1:13-14). Let us not be fooled! Let us "flee" (2 Tim. 2:22) and "abstain" (1 Thess. 5:22; 1 Pet. 2:11), rather than playing with fire to see how close we can get without getting burned. Your soul is more valuable than a 6.9-million-dollar home!



By Robert Lupo

In An Instant...

On the evening of January 29, 2025, a United States Army Sikorsky UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter collided with an American Airlines CRJ700 airliner. The crash resulted in the deaths of 67 people. Although an investigation is still underway, it is believed that the crash happened because the helicopter crew did not see the incoming passenger jet.

When I hear of tragedies like this, I can't help but wonder how many of these victims were in a right relationship with God. About 45,000 flights transporting around 2.9 million people occur every day in the US. It is safe to assume that everyone on board the CRJ700 and Army Black Hawk expected to go home that day. They had plans for what they were going to do after they landed and, in an instant, they were facing eternity.

We never know when our lives will suddenly come to an end. James tells us, "...whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away" (Jas. 4:14). Will we suffer an accident? Will we be diagnosed with a terminal illness? Or will the Lord choose today to return? We have no way of knowing (cf. Matt. 24:36). But, what is certain is that our final day will come, and we will stand before God in judgment.

"And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment..." (Heb. 9:27). Are you ready to meet the Judge?

Many people will foolishly live their lives as if there is nothing to fear. But, unless you are in Christ, you have everything to be afraid of. The Bible tells us that "...all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23) and that "The wages of sin is death..." (Rom. 6:23). When you stand before the Lord in judgment, what will your record show? If you are covered in sin, then there is only one verdict God can render: guilty. Before you stand before Him, you need to be forgiven.

Christ came to this world so that the guilt of your sin might be washed away. Paul tells us, "Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life" (Rom. 5:18). If we are in Christ, then we are no longer in danger of judgment. In His sacrifice, we can become justified before God.

Many have known this for a long time but haven't yet chosen to become a Christian. Some day they will be out of time. But, in an instant, you can be free of the guilt of sin and the fear of death. "And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins..." (Acts 22:16).

**When you stand
before the Lord
in judgment,
what will your
record show?**

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

What somebody else is thinking

So many times, people have struggled with anxiety, have avoided certain places or individuals, have doubted their own worth, have made poor decisions, have chosen to not take a needed step, have caused trouble or hurt in other people's lives (and a host of other choices) all because they thought that someone else was thinking a certain way toward them. Here are two things to keep in mind.

One, you cannot know what another person is thinking just by thinking you know (or worrying about) what the person is thinking. Unless they tell you with their own mouth, you cannot know (1 Cor. 2:11). So, stop worrying about it and making decisions based upon what you do not know.

Two, you cannot stop another person from thinking what they are going to think. You can do all the right things and make all the right decisions, and someone is still going to think negatively about you. Ask Elijah. Ask John the Baptist. Ask Jesus. So, do what is right...in the eyes of God...and only worry about what is pleasing in His sight (1 John 3:22)! That is all that matters! – DS



Jesus has been talking about you

Some claim that Jesus talks to them today. Well, the Bible says that it contains "all things that pertain to life and godliness" (2 Pet. 1:3) and "all truth" that has been given God (John 16:13), and that God's Word has been "once for all delivered" (Jude 3). So, if Jesus speaks to anyone today, He is going against His own word that says we are "thoroughly equipped" (2 Tim. 3:17).

BUT, while Jesus is not going to talk directly TO you today, did you know that He talks ABOUT you? We don't usually like it when others talk about us, but there is nothing better than to know that Jesus talks about you! Right now, He is "in the presence of God for us" (Heb. 9:24), where "He always lives to make intercession for" us (Heb. 7:25), as our "Advocate with the Father" (1 John 2:1).

When one of God's faithful children succumbs to sin and has a penitent heart pricked by godly sorrow for that sin (1 John 1:7, 9), the One who shed His blood to save us from our sins (Eph. 1:7) constantly intercedes with the Father to keep on forgiving us of our sins! What an immeasurable blessing! – DS

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

Linda Coe	undergoing therapy on her knee following surgery
Mary Beth Hester	recovering at home
Bettye King	recovering from a stroke, slowly improving
Norma Mariano	recovering from an outpatient procedure
Isolyn Sinclair	in severe pain
Jackie Stout	dealing with severe chronic back pain

Ongoing Health Issues

Judy Carmack	chronic health issues
John Loftis	back pain, weakness
Joel Ramirez	dialysis treatments
Sherri Richmond	multiple health issues
Henry Williams	dialysis treatments

Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

Sharon Banks	Derrick & Jimmie Banks' sister, diabetes complications
Donald Coe	Linda Coe's father, hospitalized and undergoing tests
Lillian Cunningham	Mary Brown's sister, recovering from knee replacement
Thelma Findley	Maria Hackshaw's mother, blood clots in her legs
Scott Kelley	Dick & Marcia Kelley's son, recovering from tumor surg.
John Lord	David Lord's father, prostate cancer treatments
Beverly Michaelian	Lynne Jorgensen's mother, heart complications
Sandra Perez	Cherylann Banks' sister, biopsy on her liver

Pray for Our Shut-Ins

Millie Ames	Daniel Johnson
Josie Dawson	Kasandra Jones
Zula Garrett	Leigh Puckett
Dick Haines	Maurine Reed
Margie Hardin	Ricky Smedley
Loretta Holaday	

Remember Our Mission Works

Pacific Islands

Robert & Mary Martin
Wayne & Kristi Parker

Africa

Nnanna Aforji
Tamuka Arunashe

Bahamas

Tavaro & Shameika Hanna

United States

Apologetics Press
Robert C. Lupo
Mauricio & Kayla Yegros

Answering Macedonian Calls
Josh & Cara Blackmer



Church Family Calendar of Events

Monday, February 24

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

Tuesday, February 25

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

Wednesday, February 26

- ♦ **Prayer Meeting** to prepare for the Gospel Meeting. Jr. High, Sr. High and adults will meet together in the auditorium after the devotional. Children in Grade 5 and under will have their regular classes.

Friday, February 28

- ♦ **Ladies' Fellowship** at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Sue Hoelzer. Please bring finger foods or a charcuterie board and your Bible. See Allison Roman for more details.

Saturday, March 1

- ♦ **Congregational Work Day** to clean up the appearance of our building and grounds from 9:00-11:30 a.m. See Tim Fry for details.

Saturday, March 1 (cont.)

- ♦ **Ladies' Day hosted by Sixth Street.** This year's speakers will be Becky Blackmon and Janet Wilson.
- ♦ **Men's Day hosted by Savona Blvd** from 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$55 per person. See the bulletin board for more details.

Sunday-Wednesday, March 2-5

- ♦ **Gospel Meeting with Hiram Kemp.** This year's theme is "First-Century Faith in the Modern World."

<u>Sunday</u>	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	10:00 a.m.	Morning Worship
	12:45 p.m.	Evening Worship
<u>Mon.-Wed.</u>	12:15 p.m.	Midday Bible Study
<u>Mon.-Wed.</u>	7:00 p.m.	Evening Bible Study

Saturday, March 8

- ♦ **MOM Group Dinner & Devotional** at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Beth Fry. This is for all PBL moms of children from birth to 18.

Sunday, March 9

- ♦ **Daylight Saving Time Begins.** Set your clocks ahead one hour.

Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ Young Adults

Saturday, March 1

- ♦ **Young Adult Devo** at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Rick & Melinda Price. See Ivan Villard for details.

Sunday, March 16

- ♦ **Youth & Young Adult Family Lunch** after morning worship in the Family Room. All Youth and Young Adult families are invited to have lunch together and prepare advertising packages for this year's Vacation Bible School. Cost is \$5 per person (age 5 & up); kids under 5 are free. Please RSVP by March 12 and pay Ivan Villard (cash or venmo @Ivan-Villard-1).

Saturday, April 5

- ♦ **Young Adult Bike Ride** at 10:00 a.m. Location TBD. If you do not have a bike, bike rentals will be available. We will be riding our bikes and then have a picnic lunch. See Ivan Villard for more details.

Saturday, April 26

- ♦ **Young Adult Connect Day** at 10:00 a.m. See Ivan Villard for more details.



Palm Beach Lakes Youth

Sunday, February 23

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

Sunday, March 16

- ♦ **Youth & Young Adult Family Lunch** after morning worship in the Family Room. All Youth and Young Adult families are invited to have lunch together and prepare advertising packages for this year's Vacation Bible School. Cost is \$5 per person (age 5 & up); kids under 5 are free. Please RSVP by March 12 and pay Ivan Villard (cash or venmo @Ivan-Villard-1).

Sunday-Monday, March 23-24

- ♦ **Youth Rally hosted by West Broward.** See Robert Lupo for details.

Sunday, March 30

- ♦ **Youth Mission Trip Application Deadline.** See Robert Lupo for details.
- ♦ **Jr. High & Sr. High Devo** after evening worship. Location TBD.

PALM BEACH LAKES CHURCH OF CHRIST

Men's Worship Service Assignments - March 2025

March 2 ^(A)

March 9 ^(C)

March 16 ^(A)

March 23 ^(L)

March 30 ^(A)

Morning Worship Service					
Song Leader	Robert Lupo	Dion Hayes	Gary Friedly	Dion Hayes	Robert Lupo
Opening Prayer	Jeff Goodale	Stephen Beliech	Dion Hayes	Dan Jenkins	Philip Porter
Scripture Reader	Jeff Leslie	Philip Porter	Freddie Gadson	Michael Erickson	Tim Fry
Presiding at Table	Dan Jenkins	Robert Mariano	Dan McLeod	Jeff Goodale	Stephen Beliech
Serving at Table	Lance Collier Casey Crews Michael Erickson Connor Goodale James Green Michael Menendez Joseph Snyder Marty Williams	Ryan Hankins Namdidie Ikon Steward Lynch Tim Mahlbacher Rick Price Taylor Reeves Trevin Roman Lawrence Williams	Ed Buonadonna Israel Cuevas Gorman Ericksen Andres Fernandez Bill Ingram, Jr. Gary Jenkins Cristian Suarez Daniel Swayne	Lance Collier Connor Goodale Graysen Hayes John Patrick Jim Rogers Vincent Rogers Joseph Snyder Marty Williams	Tim Cox Ryan Hankins Namdidie Ikon Orlando Lolo Steward Lynch Tim Mahlbacher Taylor Reeves Nahum Villard
Closing Prayer	Kirk Crews	Orlando Lolo	Dan Fuller	Jeff Leslie	Richard Watson

Evening Worship Service					
Song Leader	Dion Hayes	Graysen Hayes	Stephen Beliech	Robert Lupo	Young Men Conducting PM Worship Service
Opening Prayer	Jimmie Banks	Richard Watson	David Lord	Kane Campbell	
Scripture Reader	Graysen Hayes	Ricky Smith	Addison Collins	Islay Rodriguez	
Presiding at Table	Ivan Villard	Tim Fry	David Brown	John Hoelzer	
Serving at Table	Kameron Heitler John Patrick	Troy Alberga Richard Weinstein	David Perez Daniel Wagner	Casey Crews Jack Holoman	
Closing Prayer	Eugene Williams	Joe Maloney	Douglas Alvarenga	Mike Archer	

Technical Assignments (Sunday & Wednesday)					
Audio	Ricky Smith	David Brown	James Green	David Brown	James Green
Computer	Buzz Nelson	Israel Cuevas	Buzz Nelson	Ivan Villard	Israel Cuevas
Video	Ed Gager	Scott Studer	Ed Gager	Scott Studer	Scott Studer

Service Assignments (Sunday & Wednesday)					
Safety	Vincent Rogers	Rick Hall	Dirk Summerlot	Kirk Crews	Victor Colage
Usher	Kane Campbell Islay Rodriguez	Tim Cox Nahum Villard	Chuck Reeves, Jr. Darin Summerlot	James Green Eugene Williams	Rick Hall Rick Price

Service Coordinator (Sunday Morning & Evening)					
	Rick Hall	Eugene Williams	Mike Damron	Tim Cox	Rick Hall (AM) Robert Lupo (PM)

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,
February 16

LOCAL VISITORS: Mr. Jordan Anderson; D. Elaine; Mrs. Terietta Frazier; Mrs. Ann Freseman; Mr. & Mrs. Dennis & Sharon Mann; Mr. & Mrs. Bret & Shelley Nesbitt; Mr. & Mrs. Hunter & Jewell Sanders; and Mr. Trevor Wellington.

OUT-OF-TOWN VISITORS: Mr. Jordan Bretherick, Florence, AL; Mr. & Mrs. Cory & Nicole Brown, Eagon, MN; Ms. Patricia Harrington, Gladwin, MI; Mrs. Jacqueline Parker, Ringgold, GA; Mr. & Mrs. Terry Myrna Sanders, Camden, AR; and Mr. Lukas Stults, Florence, AL.



We rejoice with **Taylor Hayes** who was restored on Sunday evening, February 16.

Birthdays & Anniversaries *This Week*

Sunday, February 23rd
Ricky Smedley

Thursday, February 27th
Sonia Davidson
Caila Juckett
Chuck Milton

Tuesday, February 25th
Ayanna Babcock-Sutherland
Lisa Eutsey

Saturday, March 1st
Willie Smith

Thank You  notes

Dear Palm Beach Lakes Family,

Thank you so much for the cards and calls and most of all your prayers during the passing of our brother. It's a blessing being a part of this family.

Christene Bean & Loretta James

News & Notes

Sabrina Swayne started basic training for the Marines in January.

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, February 23

Opening Prayer Dirk Summerlot
Singing Gary Friedly
Contribution..... Dion Hayes
Scripture Reading..... David Lord
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Lord's Supper
Singing
Closing Prayer David Holaday

Serve at Table:

Ed Buonadonna	Gorman Ericksen
Addison Collins	Freddie Gadson
Israel Cuevas	Ed Gager
Mike Damron	Bill Ingram, Jr.

Sunday Evening, February 23

Singing Ivan Villard
Opening Prayer..... Dan Fuller
Scripture Reading Paul Metzkes
Singing
Lord's Supper..... Douglas Alvarenga
Contribution
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Closing Prayer..... Daniel Wagner

Serve at Table:

David Perez Bobby Shelton

Audio this week: David Brown

Computer this week: Israel Cuevas

Video this week: Scott Studer

Wednesday Evening, February 26

Singing Freddie Gadson
Invitation..... Jimmie Banks
Family Prayer David Lord

Our Record

Attendance	Feb. 16	Jan. Avg
Sun. Bible Study	140	183
Sun. AM Worship	232	270
Sun. PM Worship	118	117
Wed. Bible Study	134	132
Contribution	\$17,452	\$18,349

2025 Weekly Budget: \$16,803

Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: \$4,039

Service Coordinator:
Tim Cox

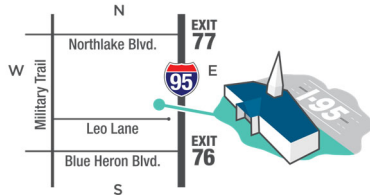
Ushers for this week: Andres Fernandez & Daniel Swayne
Safety Team for this week: Darin Summerlot



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: **Sarah Collier** (Teaching Toddler's Bible Class)

HUMBLE YOURSELVES
BEFORE THE LORD,
& HE WILL EXALT YOU.

JAMES 4:10