

# Gospel Power



*"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation..." (Romans 1:16)*

*The Gospel Power is published in interest of New Testament Christianity and to enhance the work of the Anderson church.*

**Anderson  
church of Christ**  
5900 Highway 207  
Anderson, Alabama

**Visit Us On The Web**  
[Anderson-church.org](http://Anderson-church.org)

**Men Priviledged To Serve:**  
Sunday, December 4th

### *Bible Classes*

Song Leader  
..... Jerry Dickey  
Bible Reading ..... (Exo.. 3:13-21)  
..... Steve Parker  
Prayer  
..... Eddie J. Hammond

### *Morning Worship*

Song Leader  
..... Jerry Dickey  
Prayer  
..... Larry White  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Micahel Clemmons  
Assisting ..... Aric Butler  
Serving ..... Rodney McCrary  
..... Jimmie Lovell  
..... Eddie L. Hammond  
..... Zack Rogers  
Closing Prayer  
..... Mark McIntyre

### *Evening Worship*

Song Leader  
..... Ronnie Phillips  
Bible Reading ..... (Exo. 1:1-14)  
..... Brian Word  
Prayer  
..... Rocky Rose  
Lord's Supper  
..... Michael Clemmons  
..... Aric Butler  
Closing Prayer  
..... Andrew Gatlin

Volume XII

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No. 49

## *Oh, The Things We May Do*

**Dee Bowman**

Responsibility is the lot of every normal person. Things that have no purpose have no right to exist. When Jesus came across the fig tree that bore no fruit, he cursed it and it died. Why did He curse it? It was not performing according to its purpose. Just as "to everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1), there is a purpose for man. His primary purpose is to "fear God and keep His commandments" (Ecclesiastes 12:13).

You have individual purpose, personal responsibility. Your purpose and responsibility is measured by several things: your native personality, your peculiar abilities, your station in life, your opportunities. In fact, all responsibility is ultimately measured by ability and opportunity. Obviously, you can't do what you have no ability to do, nor can you do what there is no opportunity to do. But when you can, you must.

Here are some things all of us can do.

**I can pray often.** A strong prayer life is lacking in the lives of many Christians. We know we ought to pray more. We admit it. But we get involved with other things and forget. Would we forget to stay in touch with our children or grandchildren? Would we let our friendships deteriorate because of a lack of attention? See what I mean? It indicates a lack of interest when we don't pray like we ought. "Pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17) may not be saying we ought to pray continually, but it does say we should do it regularly. Are you?

**I can be present.** I seriously doubt there is one person who actually can't do more than be present at every service possible, but

I have no doubt at all that it's one thing we all can do. Sometimes you feel tired on Wednesday night and you say to yourself, "I just don't think I can make it tonight," but instead of giving in to the temptation to stay home, you force yourself and get up and go. After the stimulating Bible study, after the refreshment of spirited singing together with those who love God and having shared the other good things of so rich an association, you feel great. I've had it happen lots of times. Being together is what the local assembly is all about. It stimulates, it refreshes, it edifies. And everybody who has not been hindered by something over which he has no control can be here. Will you?

**I can make a contribution.** "Oh, now we have to talk about money," you say. No, let's talk about time. How much can a person give to the Lord? Can you give Him more than the three or four hours you spend each week at the building? And let's talk about talent. How much of that have you given to Him? And let's talk about sacrificial giving, giving where you actually have to make an extra expenditure of time, effort, ability to help someone. There's lots of giving to be done that has little to do with money. Do you?

**I can do my best.** Now there's something everybody can do, his best. What is my best? Do I really know? Many of us don't. We've never stopped and asked the question, "can I do better?" That's hard, isn't it? But it must be done. Can you give God less than your best? Will He be satisfied with paltry service, with abbreviated time, with less than you can give? We best think about that. God deserves the best we have to offer and we dare not give Him second place in anything we do. "Give diligence to show thyself approved to God," Paul said (1 Timothy 2:15). If I can do better, I must. Can you?

**I can watch my tongue.** How many problems could be prevented if people would learn to watch what they say, how they say what they say, where they say what they say, and to whom they say what they say. "What they say" is the operative

phrase. Every person should make sure that whatever he says about anything, is true. Not hearsay, not what someone said someone said, but truth. James says, "the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity (James 3:6), and "behold how great a forest a little fire kindles!" (James 3:5). Huge conflagrations are started by little, uncontrolled sparks. We best be careful that our one little remark doesn't start a huge rumor that eventually spreads out of control. Will you?

Well, those are some things each of us can do. Isn't it good we can be together today, together to warn and admonish one another, together to enjoy our common faith in Jesus, together to benefit from each other's warmth and friendliness. Let us love one another, for love is of God.

-via *Southside Sunday*: Pasadena, Texas.



## *True Discipleship*

**Tim Smelser**

We hear the word "disciple" used quite a bit in the religious world today. There are those who call themselves the Disciples of Christ; those who are a part of the Discipling Ministries; and many churches offer discipleship classes. Such usage should cause us to seek a better understanding of discipleship.

In John 8:31 Jesus said, "If you abide in my word, then are you truly my disciples." This better helps us define disciple as one who is a learner or a follower. If we are going to follow Jesus and learn from him then we need to study and learn from his word. Once that word is learned, then we must not stray. We must "abide in it."

There were those in the New Testament who epitomized the attitude of discipleship. The

Bereans, in Acts 17, received Christ's message with "great eagerness" and then they "searched the scriptures daily, whether these things were so" (17:11). We need to do this today if we are to be true disciples.

A true disciple will also strive to follow the example of Jesus' life. Peter wrote that we should follow in the steps of Jesus because He suffered for us and left us an example (1 Peter 2:21). Far too many times we make men our role models when in fact, the Christian should emulate and imitate the actions of the Savior.

As one considers the many people in the religious world today who claim to be disciples, or who call themselves disciples, it is readily apparent that not all of them teach, believe, or practice the same things. This is disheartening to the sincere seeker of truth and it is distressing to our Creator.

As we seek to be learners, followers, disciples of Christ, we should always keep John 8:31 in the forefront of our minds. "If you abide in my word, then are you truly my disciples." Jesus considers us His disciples only if we remain in His teachings and forsake that which is innovative and from man. John adds that if we so remain, we have the Father and the Son (2 John 9). This is what it means to be a true disciple.

-via *The Parchment*; Indianapolis, Indiana..



***Remember:***

- What?** Young Adult Home Bible Study  
**When?** Friday, December 9th; 7:00 p.m.  
**Where?** At the home of Mark & Suzette McIntyre  
**Subject?** Favorite Passages of Scripture

*Come join us as we study together.*

## *Me and My House*

**Phillip Mullins**

Fathers and mothers, it is up to you to create the home environment that will be best for the growth and development of your children. It is in your hands to provide them with the proper foundation on which to start life.

With the frustrations that so often go with parenting, it is easy to think you have no control over your home. The truth is you do. The rules you lay down or don't lay down, the discipline or lack of it to back those rules, the goals you establish or don't establish, and the reactions you have to difficulties and crisis will determine the type of atmosphere that will shape your child's attitude and character.

What is the best possible direction to take to guarantee your children the best possible home environment? A home based on belief in and service to God. Joshua made the choice to have that kind of home for his family (Joshua 24:15). While physical, mental, and emotional development is very important, the foundation to the proper growth of a human being is spiritual development. A child needs to know where he came from, why he is here, and where he is going. He needs to know the source to turn to for help with this life's dilemmas and problems. By introducing your children to God and teaching them, by word and example, to obey God, you supply your child with those very things.

Never mind how that God and His word are ridiculed by so many. Never mind how strong the forces of evil seem in this life. Put your confidence in God and put your family in the arms of God. If you do so, you would have fulfilled your duty as a parent and given your children the greatest gift that a parent can offer.

-via *Messages*; Kingsport, Tennessee.

***Remember Our Evening Service at 6:00.***

# News & Notes

**THE SICK:** *Tisha Thomas' mother, Shelia Johnson*, has been back in the Vanderbilt hospital in Nashville this week and will be starting another round of treatment ... *Signa Skipworth and C.L. Weathers cousin, Joel Snoddy*, is in the Huntsville Hospital following his recent accident...*Kerry Cox* is in the Crestwood Hospital in Huntsville due to a blood clot in her intestines and a mass in her stomach. Preliminary reports seem good ... *Virginia and Mary Lovell's aunt, Tessie Mancee*, came home from rehabilitation in Florence this week... *Mary & Virginia Lovell's cousin, Shelia Crosslin*, had surgery in Florence for cancer on Friday.....*Myrtie Williams* continues at home...*Mattie Blanche Word's son, Billy Word* is at home now recovering from a fall... *Mattie Blanche Word* continues at home ... *Judy Williams' mother, Flossie Kazzaire*, continues in a nursing facility in Fayette. Her condition has declined... *Monroe Pressnell's aunt, Mildred Pressnell*, continues at home ... *Tisha Thomas' grandmother, Nellie Hunter*, is in the Meadow Brook Nursing Home in Pulaski

**COMMUNICATION GROUPS:** Tonight will be the time for communication group one to meet. If you are in group one remember to meet with your group this evening.

**BUSINESS MEETING:** The elders have scheduled a business meeting with all the men of the congregation on Sunday, December 11th. Make your plans to be present.

**THE RECORD:** *For the week of November 27th*

**Sunday:** Bible Classes ..... 99  
 Morning Worship ..... 121  
 Evening Worship ..... 89  
**Wednesday:** Bible Classes ..... 85

## Remember Our Bible Class Periods

Sunday at 9:45 a.m.  
 Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

## Schedule of Services

### Sunday

Bible Classes ..... 9:45 a.m.  
 Morning Worship ..... 10:45 a.m.  
 Evening Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.

### Wednesday

Bible Classes ..... 7:00 p.m.

### Elders

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 Scottie Goode ..... (256) 247-1451  
 Monroe Pressnell ..... (256) 232-0780

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