

# 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, January 18th

#### *Bible Classes*

Song Leader  
..... Jerry Dickey  
Bible Reading (Proverbs 16:17-33)  
..... Jim Phillips  
Prayer  
..... Michael Clemmons

#### *Morning Worship*

Song Leader  
..... Jerry Dickey  
Prayer  
..... Rocky Rose  
Lord's Supper ..... Scottie Goode  
Serving ..... Phil Pressnell  
..... Jim Phillips  
..... Wesley Phillips  
..... Daniel Clemmons  
..... Eddie Hammond  
Closing Prayer  
..... Monroe Pressnell

#### *Evening Worship*

Song Leader  
..... Brian Word  
Bible Reading .. (Proverbs 17:1-14)  
..... Jimmy Glass  
Prayer  
..... Aric Butler  
Lord's Supper  
..... Scottie Goode  
..... Jerry Dickey  
Closing Prayer  
..... Larry White

Volume XI

January 18, 2004

No. 3

## *We Need To Move On*

**Glen Young**

There is an expression that we hear quite often. It is not a bad expression. There is even wisdom in the expression when used a certain way. However, it does have a dark side. I speak of the expression, "you (we) need to move on." There is a variation of it that goes like this, "why don't you just move on?"

There are times when "moving on" is good sound advice. God did not create us to live in the past. The whole of the new birth is summarized by Paul's statement in Romans 6:4 which reads "Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."

Paul further elaborated on this new walk of life by writing, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17). The Christian will not live up to his or her potential until they put the old things in the past. We could say they need to "move on."

The past can, and often does, become a hindrance to the faithfulness of a Christian. Some Christians have allowed their past lives to limit their efforts to serve the Lord. They will not invite someone to study the Bible for fear the person will reject them because of their past life. They refrain from rebuking sin in fellow Christians fearing their past sin will be used against them. It is obvious that if we let our past life in sin control our present life with Christ, our work will be hindered.

Another group of Christians who need to "move on" are those who will not let the past of other Christians be in the past. They hinder those who would work in the church by opposing them

should they ever desire to do the work of an elder, deacon, teacher, or evangelist. They do this by pointing to the person's past iniquity as disqualification. We are made to wonder if Paul could have labored among such brethren considering that he was a persecutor of the church in his past life (1 Corinthians 16:9; Galatians 1:23).

The point is that these things all reside in the past. Therefore, one should "move on" and walk in newness of life. There is much work to do and being hindered by what we once did, or to have others hinder the growth of a church because of the past sin of other Christians is wrong, and it is sinful. The great Judgment Day will prove just how sinful it is.

Unfortunately, not everyone who uses the expression "move on" is encouraging one to live their life in the present rather than in the past. It is sometimes used to discourage the identifying of current sin. Those who use it this way will say, "Why don't you just move on" meaning, "leave me alone!" This attitude is based upon the false idea that if you forget about it, it no longer exists or no longer matters.

Sin does not go away because we wish it to go away. Sin does not go away because large segments of time have past. Sin remains in our lives until we do what is commanded by the Lord.

The alien sinner is told to repent and to be baptized for the remission of his sins (Acts 2:38). Turning over new leaves in life or making New Year's resolutions are not sufficient for the absolution of sin.

The Christian who sins is told to confess his or her sin to God and the brethren, then pray for God to forgive them the wickedness of their thoughts (1 John 1:9; Acts 8:22; James 5:16).

There is no doubt that we need to "move on". We must not live in the past, whether good or bad. Neither can we "move on" by overlooking sin in our lives or the lives of others. The lesson for us is to live in the present. Live in the present by obeying the Lord and our sins will be forgiven.

Live today in the assurance that old things have passed away.

-via *Road Creek Bulletin*: Elkhorn City, Kentucky.



## Gospel Meeting

March 28 – April 2

David Hartsell, Speaking

Anderson church of Christ

Highway 207 South  
Anderson, Alabama

## *What Happens When We Miss A Service of the Church?*

**Monroe Pressnell**

To me, one of the great mysteries of the people of God is why so often they choose not to assemble with other saints at the scheduled services of the church. After having made an earnest effort to find something good that happens when we choose to miss, I have concluded that no good, but many bad things take place when we make this choice. Let's look at some things that happen when we miss a service...

(1) We miss an opportunity to spend a short period of time on earth with those people that we profess to want to spend eternity with. These are the very people that we shall be caught up together in the clouds, to meet the Lord and so shall we ever be together with the Lord (1 Thessalonians 4:17). Do we want to spend eternity with people that we care nothing about spending a little time

with here on earth?

(2) We miss an opportunity to proclaim our faith in Christ in a public way. It is important for others to see your faith at work. Is your faith alive and vibrant? Peter said that Christians are lively stones, a chosen generation, a peculiar people that should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light (1 Peter 2:5-9). Do we show forth our Savior in a public way when we choose to miss the assembling of the saints?

(3) We miss an opportunity to encourage and exhort one another. We need each other! That word translated “exhorting” in Hebrews 10:25 means “to call to one’s aid or side.” We need to be at one another’s side. In 2 Chronicles 35:2, the record says that “Josiah set the priests in their charges and encouraged them to the service of the house of the Lord.” Does the Lord expect any less of His priest today?

There are many others bad things that happen when we choose to miss the services of the church, but I believe that we can see that our service to God and our brethren is not acceptable when we choose not to meet with the saints. Brethren, we need to understand that God ordained the assembling of ourselves together for our good. It is a sin to forsake this assembling together. God will hold us accountable.



*Remember our regular scheduled song service will be this afternoon at 5:00. Brian Word will be directing the service. I hope all of us will make our plans to attend as we teach and admonish one another in songs, hymns and spiritual songs.*

## News & Notes

**THE SICK:** *Helen Trousdale* has been sick this past week with bronchitis ...*Myrtie Williams* continues at home making slow progress in her recovery ...*Onzell Tucker* has been sick and not able to be out...*Samuel Phillips* has been sick this past week with RSV ...*Sam Noles* has been sick this past week and has been unable to be out...*Hoyt Hammond* is at home now... *Melissa Martel* had several tests done this past week on her gallbladder in Huntsville...*James McConnell's mother, Della Mae McConnell* suffered a fall last Sunday afternoon but was not seriously injured ... Remember *Mattie Blanche Word* continues at home ... *Marcia Cooper's and Brian Word's uncle, Paul McCafferty* who is at the SunBridge Nursing Home in Lawrenceburg ...*James McConnell's mother, Della Mae McConnell*, continues at home... *Jerry Best's nephew, Shannon Johnson*, continues at home ... *Tisha Thomas' grandmother, Nellie Hunter*, who is in the Meadow Brook Nursing Home in Pulaski ... *Freda McConnell's father, Alton Wray*, who is at El Reposo Nursing Home ... *Janice Glass' grandmother, Emma Ray*, who is staying with family.

**OUT OF TOWN:** *Eddie Hammond* is back home after working out of town recently...*June Calvert* is also back in town after being away traveling.

**SONG PRACTICE:** This afternoon at 4:15 we will be meeting for our song practice. Our young boys will each lead a song as they work to develop their talents and we will sing some songs that we are not as familiar with. I hope that everyone who can will be here at 4:15 to encourage our young boys.

**ELDERS/DEACONS:** We are currently having names submitted for people that the congregation believes are qualified to serve as elders or deacons. If you have not submitted your list,

please submit it today. There is a tray on the left as you exit the auditorium to place your list. Remember the church here and the process we are undergoing as you go to God in prayer.

**PICTURES FOR DIRECTORY:** Remember we are currently remaking everyone's picture for the pictorial directory. If you did not have your picture made last week, be sure to do it in the next couple of weeks. *Claus Martel* is taking the pictures and they are being made in the High School classroom after services.

**COMMUNICATION GROUPS:** Tonight will be the time for Communion group 3 to meet following our evening service. If you are in group 3 plan to meet this evening.

**WEBSITE:** The *Anderson church website* has been updated recently with the bulletins from last year. Also sermons are being upload in audio and video formats. I hope that you will take time to visit the website and tell others about it. The address is:

[www.Anderson-church.org](http://www.Anderson-church.org)

**THE RECORD:** *For The Week of January 11th*

**Sunday:**

Bible Classes ..... 94  
 Morning Worship ..... 114  
 Evening Worship ..... 84

**Wednesday:**

Bible Classes ..... 76



**Remember:**

- What?** Young Adult Home Bible Study
- When?** Next Sunday, January 25th, following our evening service.
- Where?** At the home of David & Kerry Cox
- Subject?** Building Strong Homes

*Come join us as we study together.*

**Schedule of Services**

**Sunday**

Bible Classes ..... 9:45 a.m.  
 Morning Worship ..... 10:45 a.m.  
 Evening Worship ..... 5:00 p.m.

**Wednesday**

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

**Elders**

Michael Clemmons ..... (256) 247-0836  
 Scottie Goode ..... (931) 565-3391

**Deacons**

Phil Pressnell ..... (256) 232-8509  
 Rocky Rose ..... (256) 247-0011  
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