

# 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, March 6th:

### *Bible Classes*

Song Leader  
..... Jerry Dickey  
Bible Reading .... (Hebrews 1:1-14)  
..... Stephen Stewart  
Prayer  
..... Ronnie Phillips

### *Morning Worship*

Song Leader  
..... Claus Martel  
Prayer  
..... Monroe Pressnell  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Claus Martel  
Assisting ..... Andrew Gatlin  
Serving ..... Mike Rogers  
..... Eddie L. Hammond  
..... Redney McCrary  
..... Wesley Phillips  
Closing Prayer  
..... Aric Butler

### *Evening Worship*

Song Leader  
..... Mark McIntyre  
Bible Reading .... (Hebrews 2:1-18)  
..... Curtis Mosely  
Prayer  
..... Phil Pressnell  
Lord's Supper  
..... Claus Martel  
..... Andrew Gatlin  
Closing Prayer  
..... Brad Hammond

Volume XII

March 6, 2005

No. 10

## *Lead Me To Calvary*

**Bubba Garner**

"And if you have any questions about what we do, please do not hesitate to ask." That statement, or some variation, is usually made at the beginning of our worship service to help the visitors feel more at ease. Some of them even take you up on your offer. I've noticed that two questions are more frequent than any other. Why don't you have musical instruments and why do you observe the Lord's Supper every Sunday?

Since we've made the claim that we're trying to follow the Bible and do what it says, our answers to those questions should not fall back on personal preference or taste or convenience. Every part of our worship involves just doing what we've been told to do. The same Bible that commands us to sing and make melody with our hearts to the Lord (Ephesians 5:19) says that the disciples were gathered together to break bread on the first day of the week (Acts 20:7). God deserves to be worshiped in His way on His day.

That's why it's called the Lord's Supper. It is not my supper, it is not even ours. It belongs to the Lord. And doesn't that give Him the right to regulate it and decide the manner in which it is observed? It doesn't matter if I think it is more special to do it only once a month or twice a year. I'm not in the position to make that call. Besides, if the Son of God dying on the cross is something that you have to think about less so it will mean more, then there's a bigger problem to address here.

Why did the Lord institute a supper for His people? What value is there in eating the bread and drinking the cup every first day of the week?

He wants us to **remember**. Paul reminds us what Jesus said on the night He was betrayed: “Do this in remembrance of Me” (1 Corinthians 11:24-25). God knows something about us that we, at times, seem to forget. We have short-term memories. Even when we try to address this problem as a country and celebrate Memorial Day or Veteran’s Day, it’s still just for one day. We may get out the flags and play the patriotic music, but those things are right back in the closet come morning. And so are the people and causes we were so intent on remembering.

We shouldn’t have any trouble replaying the scenes of Calvary in our minds. We shouldn’t even have to be told to remember the Lamb of God who was slain for our sins. It is good for us to reflect on those who have fought and died for our country, who have secured our rights and liberties. But it does not compare to the freedom that Jesus won by His death on the cross. As often as we eat the bread and drink the cup, we show our remembrance and honor of Him.

He wants us to **commune**. Communion. Union. Common. Communication. This supper is a sharing. “Is not the cup of blessing which we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ? Is not the bread which we break a sharing in the body of Christ” (1 Corinthians 10:16)? Our observance of the Lord’s Supper is a reminder of the covenant we share with God and our commitment we have made to Christ. By eating His flesh and drinking His blood, we become one with Him and make Him a part of us.

We commune with Christ. We commune with one another. “For we all partake of the one bread” (1 Corinthians 10:17). This unites us together. We are many, from many walks of life, at many levels of spirituality, with many problems. But we’re all sitting down at the same table. We all have one thing in common and that is that Jesus died to take away our sins. We all have one objective, and that is to remember His death until He comes again. It is an individual act, but we all have a share in it.

He wants us to examine. “Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But a man must examine himself, and in so doing he is to eat of the break and drink of the cup” (1 Corinthians 11:27-28). I have known some to use this verse to excuse themselves from partaking because they didn’t feel worthy that day. If that were the point of the passage, none of us could ever observe the Lord’s Supper, for we are most unworthy. But it seems Paul is warning us not to partake flippantly, in a manner that does not show reverence for Him or His memorial feast.

What preparations would you make if you had plans to dine with the king? You wouldn’t just show up. You would carefully consider how to speak, dress, and act appropriately in his presence. Does the Lord not deserve such special treatment? Does Jesus’ death not compel us to examine our mind, our heart, our motive, our all?

God gave us the best of heaven. What better way to remember what He has done for us than to give Him our best when we commune with Him and with one another.

~via *Southside Sunday*; Pasadena, Texas.



The Anderson  
church of Christ  
website at:

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

**On the Site You Will Find:**

1. Information about the church at Anderson
2. The **Gospel Power** in .pdf format uploaded each Sunday.
3. Sermons preached at Anderson in Real Audio.

*Please Visit Our Site Regularly.*

# *The Glory of Change*

**Steve Dewhirst**

The gospel of Christ has but one purpose: to change people. From sinner to saint, from condemned to forgiven, from self-righteous to truly righteous through faith in God's Son.

As we mature, growing in the grace and knowledge of our lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:18), we continue to change. God's plan is that we be conformed to the image of His Son (Romans 8:29). And the degree that we increase our spiritual knowledge and insight, we continue to adjust ourselves toward that standard. We change to fit the Divine estimation of what we can become. We alter our character and conduct, ever aspiring to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ (Ephesians 4:13) Change is glorious when we're moving closer to the example of expectations of heaven.

Yet many Christians have lost respect for healthy change. Some will forever equate change with apostasy, as though the sole responsibility of Christians and local churches is to maintain the status quo of an idealized vision of "restored Christianity" from a given point in history. True Christianity is not a "maintenance plan," but a way of life animated by a living, growing faith. Good, positive change will never be built upon a new standard of truth, that is, a new Bible written by man, but upon an ever-growing desire to fulfill God's unchanging word. Whether one makes changes in personal conduct to conform more closely to truth, or a local church modifies its practice to fulfill its responsibility in a more effective way, we should always be motivated by the gospel of Jesus Christ.

But we often tend to view any alteration in practice as a "change agent" for error not admitting even the possibility that it could be for the good. New song books with scriptural psalms, hymns and spiritual songs may be viewed as

"dangerous," simply because that are new and unfamiliar. The use of PowerPoint in preaching and teaching may be viewed with suspicion because it's "modern," without any recognition of its expediency as a teaching tool. Historically, nearly every change to have come along has been viewed askance in its day and age, including things we now recognize as perfectly scriptural. As Jesus charged, let us not "judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgement" (John 7:24). Let's reject any change that departs from the authority of God's word, but let's do all we can that's right and proper in pursuit of serving the Lord.

-via *Stonegate Standard*, Port Arthur, Texas.

## **N**ews and Notes

**THE SICK:** *Virginia Lovell* was able to be at Bible study on Wednesday after been sick this past weekend...*Erin Cooper* was able to be at Bible study on Wednesday after been sick earlier this past week...*Myrtie Williams* is now at home and out unable to be out...*Jerry Dickey's father, David Dickey*, is in Mitchell-Hollingsworth rehabilitation in Florence ...*Tisha Thomas' mother, Shelia Johnson*, has not been able to begin her treatments for her multiple myeloma yet...*Morgan Grisham* has been sick this past week and was unable to be at Bible study Wednesday night ...*Lisa Word* has been sick this past week and was unable to be at Bible study Wednesday night ...*Claus Martel's sister, Ann Martinez*, is in rehabilitation in New York following surgery ...*Monroe Pressnell's aunt, Mildred Pressnell*, is at home ... *Leota Springer's husband, Bob Springer*, continues to take kidney dialysis ...*Helen Stewart's grandson, Adam Stewart*, is

at home now, and is doing well ... **Curtis Cooper** is continuing his chemo treatments ... **Mattie Blanche Word** is at home ... **James McConnell's mother, Della Mae McConnell**, continues at home... **Jerry Best's nephew, Shannon Johnson**, continues at home ... **Tisha Thomas' grandmother, Nellie Hunter**, is in the Meadow Brook Nursing Home in Pulaski.

**SYMPATHY:** We want to express our deepest sympathy to **Eddie Hammond** and all the family in the tragic passing of his niece, **Brittany Hall**, this past Thursday night. Her funeral will be this afternoon.

**OUT OF TOWN: The McConnells:** *James and Freda* have been in Florida, but are now back home.

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

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

**Sunday:**

- Bible Classes ..... 95
- Morning Worship ..... 118
- Evening Worship ..... 80

**Wednesday:**

- Bible Classes ..... 95

# Gospel Meeting

March 27 – April 1

Schedule of Services

Sunday: 9:45 a.m.; 10:45 a.m.& 4:00 p.m.  
Singing at 3:00 p.m.

Monday – Friday 7:00 p.m.

Randall Hammock, Speaking

**Anderson church of Christ**

Highway 207 South  
Anderson, Alabama

## 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**

- Michael Clemmons ..... (256) 247-0836
- Scottie Goode ..... (931) 565-3391
- Monroe Pressnell ..... (256) 232-0780

**Deacons**

- Jimmy Glass ..... (256) 247-0571
- Mark McIntyre ..... (256) 233-1953
- Phil Pressnell ..... (256) 232-8509
- Rocky Rose ..... (256) 247-0011
- Larry White ..... (256) 247-0988
- Brian Word ..... (256) 229-5823

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