



Welcome

Welcome to the assembly of the church of Christ that meets at Georgia Avenue, where we strive to follow God's plan for the New Testament church as closely as possible. Thank you for coming. We are encouraged by your presence and invite you to search the scriptures with us.

Sermon Text & Title

AM: "The First Commandment of All"
Mark 12:28-34

PM: "Walking on Troubled Waters with Jesus"
Matthew 14:22-33

Schedule of Services

<i>Sun Bible Study</i>	9 AM
<i>Sun AM Worship</i>	10 AM
<i>Sun New Converts</i>	4 PM
<i>Sun PM Worship</i>	5 PM
<i>Wed Bible Class</i>	7 PM

Gene Cooper
Minister
703.380.6008 (c)

Melvin Otey
Asst. Minister
202.345.4528 (c)

FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK:

Church Growth

Almost every religious journal carries an article about church growth. Seminars are conducted about it. Experts on church growth have become as numerous as fleas on a dog. There are many misconceptions about church growth as well as mistakes as to what real growth is. Many err in regard to what it takes for a congregation to grow.

The Amount Of Contribution: The general consensus seems to be that if the contribution is above average or exceeding the budget, it is an indication of church growth. While it is true that if a church is to grow properly each member must give liberally and cheerfully (2 Cor. 8:2; 2 Cor. 9:7), a big contribution is not the determining factor in church growth. Some "big givers" in the church are such because the preacher doesn't "step on their toes". Should he begin to "crack down" on their sins, they cut down on their contribution. A church is not growing much if an above average contribution depends on sanctioning sin.

The Incorrect Assessment Of Numbers: Another false measurement of church growth is an incorrect assessment of numbers. A mere shift of members from one place to another is no growth at all. The Lord's instruction is "Go make disciples" (Matt. 28:18 - ESV) rather than "compete for what you already have". New carpet, air conditioning, comfortable pews, or size and beauty of a building do not determine growth. Millions of dollars have been spent on the concept that such are indications of church growth.

Indications Of Real Growth: What then are indications of real growth? Let's ask ourselves:

- How God conscious are the members? Do they put Him first in their lives? (Matt. 6:33).
- Are they seeking to present His image in daily conduct? (2 Cor. 3:18; Jam. 1:23).
- How do the members treat one another? Do they "rejoice with them that do rejoice and weep with them that weep"? (Rom. 12:15).
- What about indications of concern for the needy? (Jam. 2:14-18; 1 Jn. 3:17-18).
- Is there an earnest desire that the lost hear the gospel? If members are faithful in true evangelism and real benevolence as they should be, church growth will take care of itself, all the church growth seminars being conducted notwithstanding.

Most members say they want the church to grow. But church growth is a lot like the weather - everybody talks about it, but no one does much about it. Ask yourself, how long has it been since I invited a non-Christian to attend a service and hear the gospel preached? It might be surprising how many people in your city or community have never been personally invited to attend the services of the Lord's church. Thank God for those who understand their calling, commission and their commandment, to "Go ye into all the world..." Let us continue to take an active part (both numerically and spiritually) in the growth of the church.

Bro. Gene Cooper

If God be for us, who could be against us...

Majority of Article borrowed from Bro. Mike Riley, a contributor to a brotherhood website.

“RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD”
BIBLE STUDY TOOLS - AN ENGLISH DICTIONARY

#7 Perhaps the most underappreciated Bible study tool commonly available to us is a good English dictionary. One English word can have shades of meaning and, oftentimes, have several, distinct meanings. For example, the word “fear” can mean “to be afraid of” or “to have reverential awe.” One does not need to consult a Greek or Hebrew lexicon to understand that the Bible does not tell Christians to be afraid of God; instead, it tells us to have reverential awe of Him (Eccl. 12:13; 1 Pet. 2:17). Many more examples could be given, but the essential point is that it is vital that we look up important and unfamiliar words in our English Bibles in order to better understand what God is saying to us.

Bro. Melvin Otey

Earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Door Knocking, Sat, 6/14, 9:45AM-noon. If you are able to prepare some of the door knocking materials for our neighbors, please see Bro. Otey.

“Women in the Word,” Sat, 06/14 & 6/28, 12:30-1:30PM. Sisters, bring your lady friends for a study on salvation at Sis. Mosby’s home. See Sis. Johnson or Mosby for details. This is an excellent learning/evangelism opportunity.

Summer Bible Class for Teenage Girls, Sun, 06/15 - 09/14. All girls (13 yrs-17yrs) are encouraged to attend this class each Sunday at 9am. See Sis. Mosby for a syllabus.

Adopt-a-Block, Sat., 6/21, 9AM. If you missed the first community clean up, then you missed a good time in the Lord! Help us keep our neighborhood clean. Bring your gloves and your Georgia Avenue t-shirt.

Nursing Home Visitation, Sun, 6/22, 2PM. We will visit the Washington Center for the Aging monthly for the remainder of the year. Please help make this outreach effort a success. We will leave from the building at 1:45pm. If you are interested in attending, please see Sis. Mosby.

Summer Series/Vacation Bible School, 7/21 - 7/25. Help make our first one a success! Please plan to be in attendance each night and invite as many young people as you can.

PRAYER REQUESTS

STATISTICS

May 25, 2008

Sunday Class: 32 AM Worship: 45 PM Worship: 29 Wed Class: 32

WORSHIP LINE-UP

AM

Usher	C. Merriweather
Song Leader	M. Williams
Announcements	M. Otey
Invocation	R. McQuirter
Scrip Reading	R. McQuirter
Message	G. Cooper
Lord’s Table	C. Bingham
Assist	M. Davis
	D. Rogers
Giving	C. Bingham
Benediction	W. Ford

PM

Usher	C. Merriweather
Song Leader	R. McQuirter
Announcements	G. Cooper
Invocation	I. Thompson
Scrip Reading	I. Thompson
Message	M. Otey
Lord’s Table	K. Wall
Assist	O. Eaton
	J. Green
Giving	K. Wall
Benediction	M. Davis

God’s Plan of Salvation

Hear the Gospel. Rom 10:17
Believe in Jesus. John 8:24; Heb. 11:6
Repent of Sin. Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30
Confess Christ. Rom. 10:9-10
Be Baptized. Mk. 16:15-16; Acts 2:38
The Lord adds you to the church.
 Acts 2:47
Live Faithful Unto Death. Rev. 2:10

Clean Up This Month:

Y. Weir and B. Alford

Communion:

Rosslyn Davis and Family