



# The Worker

3108 Hamburg Pike, Jeffersonville, IN 47130 Ph. (812) 284-3125

Volume 4 Issue 13

[www.hamburgpikecofc.org](http://www.hamburgpikecofc.org)

March 29, 2015

## Leadership

**Elders** Hayward Blanton, Jerry Casey  
**Deacons** Clint Smith Sr, Clint Smith Jr,  
 Robby Stocksdale, Joe Sweeney  
**Pulpit Minister** Eric Welch  
**Associate Minister** Irvin F. Williams

## Schedule of Services

### Sunday

Bible Class 10:00 AM  
 Morning Worship 11:00 AM  
 Evening Worship 6:00 PM

### Wednesday

Bible Class 7:00 PM

## Panama Mission

Pablo Sanchez

We Offer Free Personal Bible Studies and Bible Correspondence Courses - Phone (812) 284-3125

Visit Our Website: [www.hamburgpikecofc.org](http://www.hamburgpikecofc.org) Email: [church@hamburgpikecofc.org](mailto:church@hamburgpikecofc.org)

## Sermon Titles

Sunday Morning: "Levi's Genes" Matthew 9:9-13

Sunday Evening: Singing Emphasis

## Those Privileged to Serve

### AM Service

Song Leader Michael Hawkins  
 Opening Prayer Joe Sweeney  
 Scripture Fin Burton  
 Sermon Eric Welch  
 Lord's Supper Matt 27:57-28:10  
 Message Clint Smith Jr  
 Attendant Rick Martin  
 Attendant Marc Owens  
 Closing Prayer Matt Johnson

### PM Service

Song Leader Robby Stocksdale  
 Bible Reading Harold Tincher  
 Selection 12  
 Prayer Jerry Montgomery  
 Sermon *Singing Emphasis*  
 Closing Prayer Nathaniel Welch  
*If you are unable to serve, please  
 call Art Patrick 502-819-9481  
 or Harold Tincher 502-409-3511*

### AM & PM Services

Announcements Leon Stocksdale  
 Lord's Supper Grover Blanton  
 Offering Ethan Welch  
 Usher Art Patrick  
 Count Offering Joe Sweeney  
 Assist Count Art Patrick

### Last Sunday

Contribution \$2,555  
 Attendance 81

## Taking care of your Bible

In a small New England town, a grandmother came to visit her granddaughters and she brought a brand new Bible for each of them. She told them that on her next visit the one who had taken the best care of her Bible would get a nice crisp \$5 bill.

Jane wrapped her Bible up in a clean linen towel and placed it in her dresser drawer where it would be safe. Jenny the curious one, opened hers up and started reading it. While reading John's account of the crucifixion of the Lord, tears began to run down her face and they fell on the pages of her Bible. She continued to read her Bible every day. Soon, the pages became dog eared and stained with her tears that she shed every time she read it. She had decided that Jane could have the \$5 bill when Grandma came again.

A couple of months went by and one bright warm morning grandma came back just like she had promised. Both girls rushed out to greet her. After they got settled in the parlor the grandmother asked to see their Bibles. Jane was all smiles as she unwrapped the still new book and proudly displayed it for her grandmother. Jenny hesitated a moment and then very slowly, handed her Bible over to her grandmother. As she turned the tear stained pages the grandmothers eyes filled with tears and she reached out and pulled Jenny close to her. "Child, you have taken the best care of your Bible and the \$5 bill is yours." Jane was in shock as she stared in disbelief at Jenny's Bible and then at hers still in pristine condition. "I don't understand Grandmother" she said. "Mine is still brand new and hers is tattered and torn."

The grandmother reached out and pulled both children into her lap. "You see my dear children, a Bible is best cared for when used."

## We Must Let Go Of Self Will

One of the most challenging aspects of becoming a Christian, and then living a dedicated Christian life, is being willing to completely turn your life over to God. Total surrender! Such a concept is rather foreign to the typical philosophy of our culture. We're told to take control of our own lives, take charge, take the bull by the horns and make things happen. To an extent, such a philosophy is good. However, when we understand what should be the real purpose and focus of life, we will also understand that we cannot, by ourselves, maintain absolute control. We must trust God with our lives if we hope to gain the most in our lives.

Jesus gave us the ultimate example of total surrender. In Gethsemane, just before His arrest, He prayed for deliverance from the ordeal that lay before Him. But His desire did not begin and end with His own personal will. He subjected His request to God's will: "...nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will..." (Matt. 26:39). Jesus' personal desire was to be spared having to go to the cross and die a physically agonizing death thereon. But His will was in subjection to God's will on the matter. If God's will was that He die on the cross, then that would also be Jesus' will.

It is often difficult to let go. We want to have certain things, achieve certain things and do certain things. We want to go certain places. Surrendering to God's will could mean having to give up many, if not most, of those things that we want. We equate giving up those things with sacrifice, and in some cases it may indeed be such. But often it is a matter of God rescuing us from our own mistakes. Many of the things we want in life are not what we need. Many of the things we want are not good for us. God knows this truth, He can see the ultimate consequence of our actions even before we make them. We cannot always see the end of the road as we begin to head down that road. By submitting to God's will we avoid a lot of dead ends!

Jesus told Nicodemus "unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (Jn. 3:3). In order to be born again, we must first die to self and be buried with Christ (Jn. 12:24-26). That happens at baptism (Rom. 6:3-4). We die to the life we had been living, that which was in disharmony with God's will, and take up a new life in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 2:20). Coming up out of the waters of baptism is likened to coming forth from the grave. It is, truly, being reborn spiritually.

But one thing we need to leave buried is our self will. Central to being "born again" is to surrender our life, our will, our entire being to God. We are not only letting Him have control, we are asking Him to take control of our life. Only with such an attitude can we find all that God holds for us in the blessed life of a Christian.

Who is in charge of your life, you or God? Whose will reigns in your life, yours or God's? Your answer could determine your eternal destiny...

### Still Listening

Eric Welch

In my sermon Sunday evening March 15, I set out to answer the argument presented by the preacher at Otter Creek church in Brentwood that acapella music is no longer relevant in our culture and that church history has a stronger influence than passages like Ephesians 5:19 and Colossians 3:16.

However, for those willing to listen to and accept, I listed 8 verses that pointed out the instructions and to sing and the examples of certain individuals actually singing.

One particular example was that of Paul and Silas. Act 16:25 *About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. **Listening to them.*** People are still listening today. Steven Hugley was a music major out Delta State University in Cleveland, MS. Steven was auditioning for the chorus when his director asked him afterward if he was a member of the church of Christ. Steven affirmed that he is. The director said that he can always tell when someone was a member of the church of Christ because they know how to harmonize. It takes harder work and greater skill when the members rely on each other to sing well and not on a lifeless machine.

Another story I can personally relate comes from a dentist chair. I had a dentist who liked to share his denominational faith with others while they were in the perfect spot to listen. He knew that I was a preacher and when he had my mouth full of anesthesia and drills, he would talk about the different aspects of Calvinism. I was in no position to answer him. However, he made an interesting observation. He actually commended the church of Christ for its use of acappella music. That said a lot coming from one of his denomination. Indeed, People are still listening. Let's never be ashamed of doing things the Bible way.

## **Saying versus Seeing**

It's important that we teach our children to love one another. However, this becomes difficult when they hear us constantly criticizing and complaining about others.

What they see outweighs what we say. It's critical that we teach our children to obey all of the Lord's commands. However, the job becomes hopeless when they see us excusing ourselves from obeying certain commands we may find "too restrictive."

What they see outweighs what we say. It's crucial that we teach our children how the Lord wants them to act as husbands, wives and parents. However, there is more likelihood they will follow our example rather than follow our teaching.

What they see outweighs what we say. Unless, and until, what we say and what we do are one and the same, we will never be convincing.

## **Hamburg Pike Happenings**

The next Monday Night for the Master group meeting is Monday March 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. Potluck is the meal theme.

Would you like to help with VBS? There is a "Giving Tree" in the foyer with items that are needed for our upcoming Vacation Bible School. If you would like to give a donation towards the purchase of these items please see Ashley Smith or Stephanie Welch.

The dates for VBS this summer will be Monday, July 20 to Thursday, July 23; from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. Helpers are needed for crafts, snacks, decorating, and advertising. There are sign-up sheets in the foyer.

The Tincher fellowship group will meet Sunday March 29<sup>th</sup> after the morning worship. The theme is cook-out. Hot dogs provided, bring your favorite cookout food.

Ladies Bible Class will meet this Saturday morning, March 28, at 10:00 am, at the church building. The lesson will be Anna, the prophetess, from Luke 2. All ladies are invited.