

# THE BROOKSVILLE BULLETIN

*Brooksville church of Christ*  
604 W. Fort Dade Avenue, Brooksville, FL

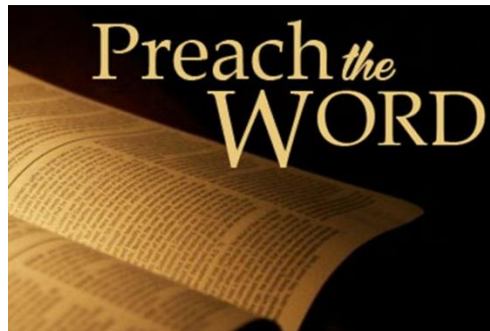
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October 9, 2022

## WELCOME TO OUR GOSPEL MEETING

Thank you for being with us this week during what we call a "Gospel Meeting." A Gospel Meeting is precisely what the name implies: we are blessed to have **Jeff McCrary** with us this week to hear lessons from the word of God. The apostle Paul wrote, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek" (Romans 1:16).

A gospel meeting is a time the Brooksville church has set aside to devote the week to a study of the word of God. Today, we will worship in song, prayer, taking the Lord's Supper, and exhortation through the preaching of the gospel. Again, this evening we will gather for an hour of worship. Beginning Monday night, we will meet at 7:00 pm for an hour of study.

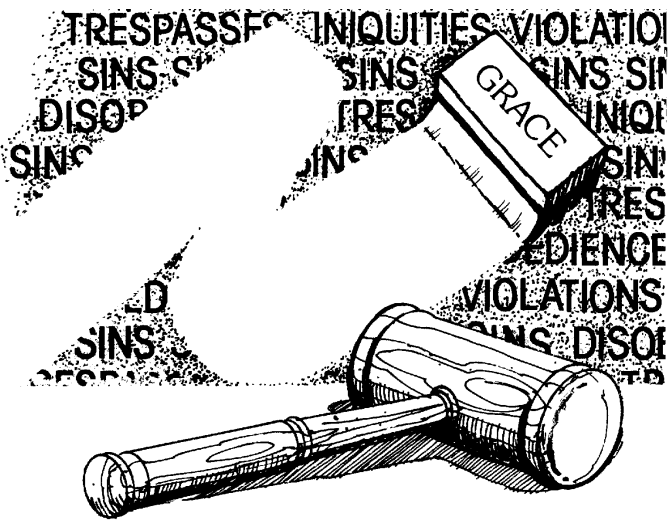


The gospel is the word of Christ as the Holy Spirit delivered by the authority of the Father. Jesus told His disciples to "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:19-20).

**Jeff** will direct our attention to the word of God in these lessons to challenge us to know more about the will of God. Understanding what God wants us to do is paramount to our lives here and that which is to come. The Bible reveals that we need God's grace and how to find that grace. Through the love of the Father, Jesus Christ came to bear witness of the Father and deliver the message of salvation.

Two thousand years later, we must come to know what the will of the Father is for my life so I can look forward to the eternity that awaits all men. The wisdom of men cannot

answer the questions about life and death – the gospel can! Spend this week with us as we open the word of God. It will give you hope and bring peace to your life, and we pray to help you come to know the grace of God.



## Just As I Am (Doy Moyer)

*Just as I am without one plea,  
But that Thy blood was shed for me.  
And that Thou bids't me come to  
Thee*

*O Lamb of God, I come.  
(Charlotte Elliot)*

I have long thought that “Just as I am” is a beautiful, inspiring hymn. While I don’t know that it was initially written to be an “invitation song,” as we call it, it has become one of the best known for that. My dad, Forrest D. Moyer, used to tell me that back when meetings were much more active and well attended (tent meetings, two-week meetings, etc.), he had more responses to that song than any other. It does tend to touch the emotions in a powerful way when

someone has first been touched by Scripture to reflect upon his or her relationship with God. But this is not really about the hymn, per se.

“Just as I am” is not saying that we come to God without needing to repent or that somehow we are good enough to merit what He gives. As the hymn notes, we come to Him “to rid my soul of one dark blot,” and that when we come, God will “welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve.” This is God’s promise. Scripture is clear on the need for repentance (Acts 2:38; 3:19). What the idea does do, however, is to point to the fact that God wants us to come to him as we are — sick, hurting, broken, and in need of His healing. We cannot just fix ourselves first, then try to come to Him as if we are capable of that. There are a couple of things I think about this:

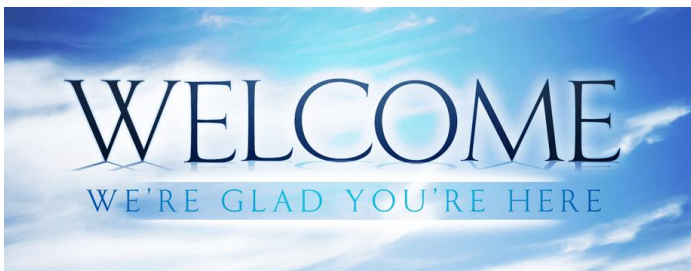
*You Don't Have to Be Perfect to  
Come*

I have talked with people who thought they had to perfect their lives before they were worthy to come to the Lord. This is backward. If you are going to wait until you have somehow made yourself worthy, you’ll never come to Him. God doesn’t say, “Only the worthy may come.” He tells all to come, and He will forgive and heal. Then our manner of life can reflect walking worthy of the calling (Ephesians 4:1).

If you think you are not good enough to come to the Lord, you are the very one who needs to come to the Lord now. The truth is that you are not good enough. Nor am I. That's the point of God's grace. Come just as you are, and you will be changed into a new creation: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come" (2 Corinthians 5:17).

*God Wants You, Even If You Aren't Good Enough*

If you think you aren't good enough to begin with, you might have corollary feelings that God just



doesn't want you. After all, how can God want someone who has been impure? How can God love the unlovable? How can God desire to have in His fellowship any who has been evil, immoral, and so stained by the world? What hope can I possibly have for God to want to do anything with me?

Let's clear this up now: God wants you! He wants you if you have been stained, immoral, and evil. He wants you when you are broken and sick. He wants you when you have hit bottom and have nowhere else to turn. He wants the drug addict, the alcoholic, and the sexually immoral. Come to Him just

The fact that the gospel is not popular is all the more reason for preaching it. The very fact that men cannot endure sound doctrine is all the more reason for seeing that they get it. It is not our responsibility to make it acceptable; it is our duty to make it available.  
(Vance Havner)

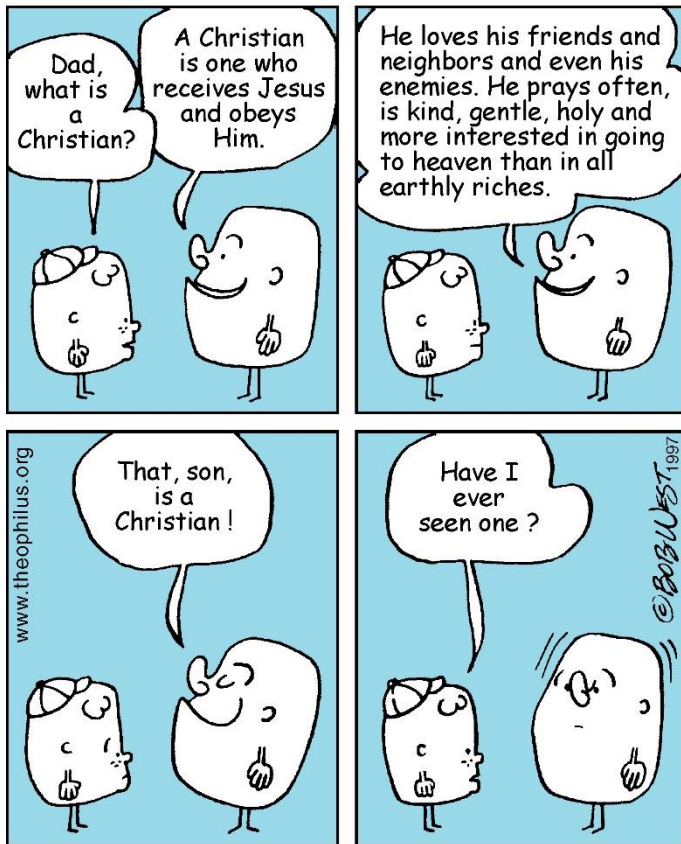
as you are in your broken state ... And you will be changed: "And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God" (1 Corinthians 6:11).

"Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance" (Luke 5:32).

Think of the sinful woman in Luke 7:36ff. Think of the woman at the well (John 4). Think about the fact that the Lord, against the convention of the Pharisees, at with tax collectors and sinners (Matthew 9:10-13).

Let us, then, admit that we aren't good enough. We do not waltz up to God's banquet table without an invitation. We are invited. We might first be found on the by-ways, but we are yet invited.

Let us admit, then, that we are weak, hurting, sick, and in need of the Great Physician. There is no one whom He cannot heal, none whom



He cannot re-create, and none whom He cannot bless. The only thing left to get rid of, the one thing that keeps us from coming to Him, is our pride. Give that to Him, too, and He will give grace to the humble.

There may be many conflicts, doubts, and fears within and without. Yet we can rely upon the promises of God and entrust our souls to Him who loved us and died for our sins. O Lamb of God, I come!

## The Eternal Word Of God (Selected)

Generation follows generation, but the Bible lives on. Nations rise and fall, yet it lives. Kings and presidents come and go, yet it lives. Doubted and criticized, yet it lives. Condemned by unbelievers, yet it lives. Misquoted and misinterpreted, yet it lives.

HELLO  
my name is

**CHRISTIAN**

And the disciples were called  
Christians first in Antioch. -Acts 11:26

THANK YOU FOR  
VISITING WITH US  
PLEASE COME AGAIN

### Brooksville Church of Christ

604 W. Fort Dade Avenue – P. O. Box 751 – Brooksville, Florida 34605  
352-796-9803 / Brooksvillechurch@gmail.com / www.Brooksvillecoc.com

#### Times of Services

Sunday Bible Class for all ages (10:00am)

Sunday Worship all Welcome (11:00am & 6:00pm)

Wednesday Bible Class for all ages (7:00pm)

Supporting the GOSPEL in other places:

- ✎ Jamey Hinds, Hollywood, Florida; Roy Fenner, Panama City, Florida
- ✎ Zeke Flores, Columbus, Texas; Philip North, Branson, Missouri
- ✎ The saints in Nicaragua

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