

BELIEVE IN GOD—THEN JESUS

We frequently begin religious conversations with believing in Jesus. When you ask someone to believe in Jesus, you are asking that they believe:

VIRGIN BIRTH: We ask that they believe that Jesus was born of a virgin. It is impossible for a person to cause himself to be born of a virgin.

FIRST MIRACLE: Be ask that they believe that Jesus changed a pot of water to wine. That is impossible to do. That is why we would call such an event a miracle.

FEED THE 5000: We ask that they believe that after Jesus preached to 5000 men, plus women and children, that they took 2 fishes and 5 loaves of bread and fed them all. That is an impossible task.

VOLUNTEER FOR CRUCIFION: We ask that they believe that Jesus volunteered to endure great pain and suffering to be crucified on the cross at Calvary. That is hard to believe.

RESURRECTION: We ask that they believe that Jesus came back to life after being in the grave 3 days and 3 nights. That is impossible.

ASCENSION: We ask that they believe that about 40 days after his resurrection, Jesus defied gravity and simply ascended up from the earth. That is impossible.

Now consider that they believe in God, and then in Jesus.

VIRGIN BIRTH: When you are teamed up with the God who created all life on the earth, that would be easy to do.

FIRST MIRACLE: When you are teamed up with the God that created the chemical composition of all the lakes, rivers, and oceans on the earth, changing a little water to wine would be easy to do.

FEED THE 5000: When your Father is the one who created all the fish in the sea and all the grains on the earth for making bread, feeding 5000 would be easy.

VOLUNTEER FOR CRUCIFION: When you ask that they believe a Father volunteered for his Son to go to the earth to be painfully crucified by a small band of Roman soldiers to please a few hypocritical religious leaders, it is still hard to believe.

RESURRECTION: When you are working with God who created all life on the earth, it is easy to believe that God could breathe life back into Jesus.

ASCENSION: When you are working with the God who placed the Earth in delicate and perpetual orbit around the Sun and the Moon in perpetual orbit around the Earth, lifting Jesus off the Earth would be easy.

WHEN YOU HAVE CREATED THE OCEANS, CHANGING A LITTLE WATER TO WINE WOULD BE EASY.

Continued on page 2

BELIEVE IN GOD—THEN JESUS PAGE 2

In many cases people have a great deal of difficulty in accepting some of the miracles which the New Testament attributes to Jesus and the Apostles.

In reality the miracles are primarily a validation that Jesus was the Son of God and that the Apostles were inspired. This is one of the reasons this publication focuses on the Impossible for Evolution series. The miracles of God are spectacular and are all around us.

Prepare/Enrich Seminar

May 5, at the Memorial church building. Anyone, professional or not, who works with couples would be benefited by the training and tools offered by this seminar. It is especially important that anyone who conducts weddings or seeks to assist marriages have the knowledge to do this effectively (Rom. 15:14). The training offered in this seminar can open doors to effective evangelism. Please look at the P/E website or contact Kirk Castleman, [832-458-4470](tel:832-458-4470), kirk.castleman@gmail.com Enrollment deadline is April 29.

FIRM FOUNDATION

Bound volumes of past years Firm Foundations issues are available in years 2006, 2007, and 2008. Regular prices \$34.95, order now for \$23.95.

Numerous commentaries are discounted for sale.

John Prophet
Firm Foundation
979-553-3904

jprophet@firmfoundationpublishing.com



Foster's Home for Children

*"More than a home,
A sanctuary."*

Placement applications accepted.
Employment applications welcome.
Applications and donations available online
at

www.fostershome.org
Stephenville, Texas

THE CHRISTIAN ARRAY

AN E-MAGAZINE DEDICATED TO SUSTAINED SCRIPTURAL CHURCH GROWTH IN OUR GENERATION

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FILL-IN PREACHERS AND SPECIAL SUBJECTS

The topics presented below are presently prepared programs intended to be available at a moment's notice. All expenses are assumed to be taken care of by the speaker unless specifically otherwise agreed in advance. The home congregation is identified for the speakers for your information, but it does not imply in any way that the home congregation is responsible for the content of the lessons.

If you have one or more (max. 5) lessons you would like to present on this basis, send the information to bbaugh@thearray.org and we will post it.

If you are interested in using the services of one of these brothers (or sisters in the appropriate context), contact them directly. If you use one of them, we would appreciate hearing of the results.

KIRK EASON, Memorial Church of Christ,
Sermons: "Report on the work of Southern Africa Bible College", First Five Chapters of Mark Wisdom Literature, Ephesians, Old Testament Narratives. Kirk is Director of Development for Southern Africa Bible College, cell 512-965-0382.
keason@southernafricabiblecollege.org,

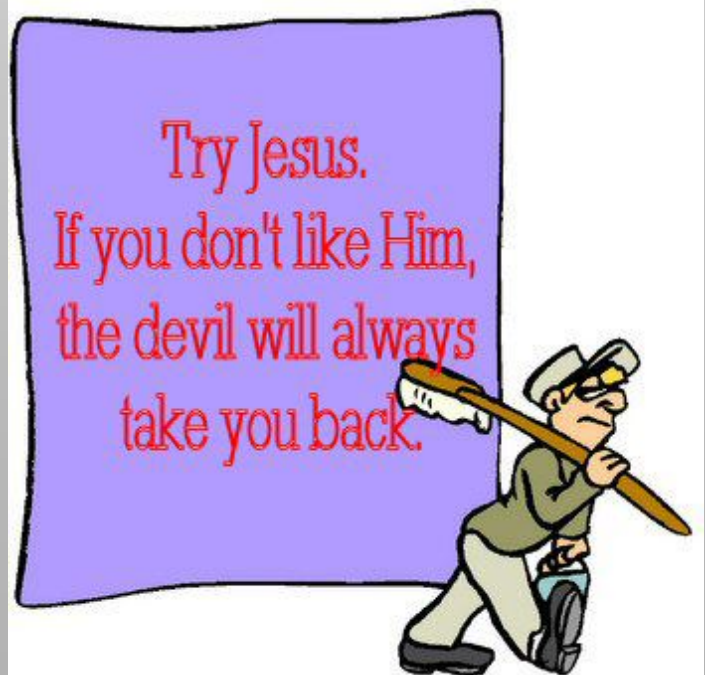
KIRK CASTLEMAN, Spring Creek Church of Christ,
Sermons: "Set Forth To be a Propitiation"; "Christ and the Church"; The Theme of God's Eternal Purpose
Classes: God's Eternal Purpose; Personal Evangelism Training; Jude; Romans.
Tomball, Texas, [832-458-4470](tel:832-458-4470), Preaching and Mission Work since 1965.

CHRISTIAN EVIDENCES (IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVOLUTION) Presentation of Biblical, scientific, and logic reasons to believe in Jehovah and Jesus. Presentation for worship service, Bible Class or youth group.
By Benton F. Baugh, Memorial Church of Christ, bbaugh@thearray.org, 281-599-9914 (Engineer)

SAVE THE DATE!
HOUSTON AREA WIDE CAMPAIGN FOR CHRIST
AUGUST 4-8, 2012

The Lakewood Church of Christ in Baytown, Texas is seeking a full time minister. We are currently averaging 150 in our Sunday morning attendance, which includes a diverse age group. We have a very active congregation, with activities such as Life Enrichment Group, children's programs, active teen groups, Sunday and Wednesday Ladies Bible Classes, etc. We have a full time youth minister and are looking for a minister to help us continue doing the Lord's work and grow our congregation. Please send all resumes to the attention of the Elders, Lakewood Church of Christ, 7701 Bayway Drive, Baytown, Texas 77520 or e-mail to bo@bcdventures.com

The Church in Utopia, Texas is looking for a preacher.
They have 40-45 members.



SOUTHERN AFRICA BIBLE COLLEGE BENEFIT DINNERS

Southern Africa Bible College is instrumental in spreading the Gospel across Sub-Saharan Africa. During late April/early May the College will be hosting benefit dinners in various cities. The keynote speaker will be Fred Bergh former South African Ambassador to the UN and current Director of the College. We will also be honoring several people who have contributed greatly to the College's success over the years. Below you will find a complete listing of the events and honorees. Attached is an invitation to the Houston area event

To RSVP for any event please email ceason@southernafricabiblecollege.org or call 512-965-0382.

Houston	April 19, 2012	Honoring Al & Donna Horne; Cecil & Martha Rix
San Antonio	April 20, 2012	Honoring Al & Donna Horne
Austin	April 23, 2012	Honoring Tex & Mary Jane Williams
DFW	April 24, 2012	Honoring Al & Donna Horne; George & Ela Beth Bailey
OKC	April 26, 2012	Honoring Al & Donna Horne
Knoxville	May 1, 2012	Honoring Jerry & Ann Hogg.

Peace,
Kirk Eason
Director of Development
Southern Africa Bible College
Memorial Church of Christ
900 Echo Lane
Houston, Texas 77024
512-965-0382 cell
www.southernafricabiblecollege.org
keason@southernafricabiblecollege.org

SAVE THE DATE!
RALLY FOR HOUSTON AREA WIDE
CAMPAIGN FOR CHRIST @ MEMORIAL
CHURCH OF CHRIST
June 24, 2012, 6:00 P.M.
900 ECHO LANE
77024, OFF I-10 WEST



Houston & Surrounding Area

CHURCHES

of

CAMPAIGN

for

Christ

CAMPAIGN RALLY

to be held **JUNE 24**, 6pm at

Memorial Church of Christ

900 Echo Lane

Houston, TX 77024

The enthusiastic March 11 Campaign Rally at Garden Oaks featured Shelton Gibbs as the main speaker with 1250 in attendance.

Please join us as at Memorial Church of Christ for our second rally as we prepare for the August 4-8 Campaign for Christ.

www.houstonchurchesofchrist.org

Sharing & Serving



SPEAKER

KENT ALLEN

OKLAHOMA CHRISTIAN
UNIVERSITY

THE CHRISTIAN ARRAY

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Houston & Surrounding Area

CHURCHES

of

Christ

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Saving & Serving



George R Brown Convention Center
Houston, Texas

- Saving Souls!
- Encouraging the Saints!
- Helping the Needy!
- Unifying the Body!
- Bringing Glory to God!
- Letting Our Lights Shine

Aug. 4 - 8, 2012
Sat. - Wed.

**LIKE
NEVER
BEFORE!**

1001 Avenida De Las Americas
Houston, Texas 77010
www.houstonchurchesofchrist.org

IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVOLUTION—TOUCH

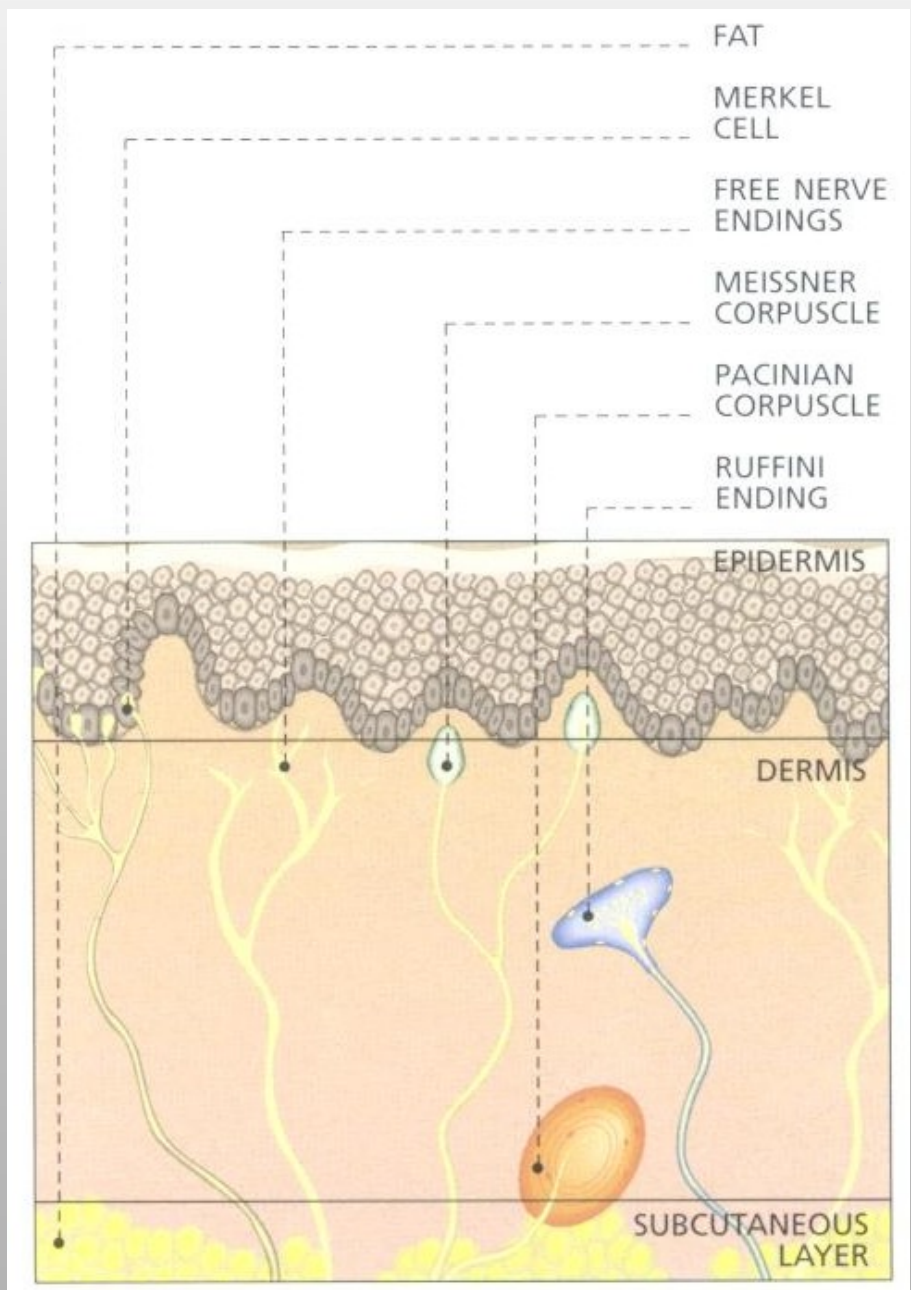
Touch is another sense we take for granted. If you no longer had the sense of touch or feeling you would no longer take it for granted. We might disagree with God on how much pain touch can give us, but clearly the wisdom of God can be seen in the sense of touch.

People without touch can put their hand in a fire and not feel any pain, so their hand will be destroyed. If you bite a slice of pizza hot enough to blister your mouth, the pain will tell you to stop. If you weren't warned to stop, you could blister your whole mouth.

The graphic shows that specialized nerves under the surface of the skin transmit the sensation of touch. Several sets of nerves, embedded at different levels, are associated with various modes of touch. Receptors near the surface, for example, detect slight pressure and moderate temperature changes, while deeper nerves sense vibration. Impulses (electrical) from these receptors travel to the brain along the branching pathways of the nervous system.

Temperature sensing cells, vibration sensing cells, and pressure sensing cells must generate small electric signals in response to external stimuli without knowing a reason why. Nerve cells must send the signals to the brain in an orderly fashion without knowing a reason why. The brain cells must interpret the signals as pressure, heat, or vibration and notify the person that heat, vibration, or pressure has been sensed. No one (except God of course) knows how the brain does this!!!!

After spending millions of your research dollars to try to figure out what God had done, scientists have no idea how it happens, but most still tell you that there is no God!



IF I KNEW THEN WHAT I KNOW NOW—ADVICE I'D GIVE MYSELF AT AGE 21

Ahhh...age 21, what a thought. I was so confident, competent and joyful. I had the world by the tail. During my 21st year I had been married about 18 months, had my first baby and graduated from the University of Texas. Here are some of the things I wish I had known early in life.

Don't let criticism defeat you. Don't be put down by a mere description of a problem. Take responsibility for changing what you can and leave the rest in God's hands. Keep working, learning, growing and defeat your critic.

Assume people like you. Don't waste a lot of time trying to get everyone to like you. Don't be a people pleaser. I read this piece of advice recently in Guideposts magazine, in an article written by Max Lucado. It really rings true – I wish I had known that fifty years ago!

Take time for friends – they are very important to a balanced life. You won't know yourself without seeing your reflection in the eyes of a friend.

Focus your talents. I always felt go generously blessed with multiple talents, gifts, opportunities and blessings that I hardly knew which way to turn. My mother insisted that I could do anything I set my mind to and sure enough...she was right. There is not enough time in this life to do everything so it would be better to focus on a half dozen things that you can truly master. I would do more writing, teaching and oil painting.

Don't settle. Settling rarely satisfies. Make an effort to know what you want and ask for it. This applies to houses, people, shoes, colors of paint...just don't settle! If you can't get something you love then do without until the right thing comes along.

Conquer the tongue. I never regretted the ugly things I didn't say. Once said there is no retrieving the words or damage.

Put the oxygen mask over your face first: This is commonly heard on the airplane before departure. It is incredibly good advice to take care of yourself first – lest you have nothing left to give others. Take care of your own spiritual, physical, emotional and intellectual growth.

It occurs to me that the list could be endless, different if written yesterday or a week from now. This little piece of advise sort of sums it up: "Live with intention, walk to the edge, listen hard, practice wellness, play with abandon, laugh, choose with no regret, continue to learn, do what you love, live as if this is all there is, PRAY."

Elizabeth Brown, Texarkana, Texas

Foster's Home For Children

2011 GOLF TOURNAMENT



BlackHorse Golf Club

12205 Fry Road (1.4 Miles South of 290, Cypress)

11:00 Registration

11:30 Blackhorse Deli Lunch

1:00 Shotgun Start

5:30 The Mixed Grill Dinner and Awards

Sponsor a team: \$500

Individual Players: \$125

May 22, 2012

Includes: green fee, cart, range balls, snacks, lunch, dinner, and prizes

Reservations can be made by e-mail to BFore@thearray.org. Payment can be made by e-mail to BFore@thearray.org using Visa or MasterCard. Indicate card number, name on card, expiration

Organizing Committee:

Benton Baugh (Memorial)

Philip Uhrhan, (Jersey Village)

Bo Cox, Foster's Home Board

Mark Lambert (Memorial)

Matt Miller (Memorial)

Glenn Wolfe (Cinco Ranch)

Bron Fore, Treasurer (Memorial)

For information: bbaugh@thearray.org

Foster's Home For Children is a 501c3 children's care facility located on 55 acres northwest of Stephenville, Texas which has provided for the needs of more than 2000 children since 1960. It is supported by more than 300 Churches of Christ and numerous individuals. For more information visit [www. Fostershome.org](http://www.Fostershome.org)



WHAT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS NOT

A local group of Christians who believe that the Bible can be updated by contemporary council decisions.

A church which receives the permission from an earthly headquarters to plant a new congregation.

A church which attempts to duplicate a 19th or 20th century pattern for a church.

A church which believes you can pick and choose what part of the Bible you want to believe and follow only those parts.

A church which believes that we should judge that we are all in a community of believers as long as we say we believe in Jesus, irrespective of what we do and preach. A church which should assure all others that they are saved.

A group who makes decisions based on popularity rather than scriptural basis.

A group which simply skips over Acts 2:38.

A group which finds more convenient ways to simulate baptism.

A group which votes on what it suits them to believe and preach or a group which believes that they are still getting direct revelations from God.

A group who believes we are here to entertain ourselves.

For those bound & determined to change the church of Christ to be the Christian Church, wouldn't it be easier to simply join the Christian Church.? Is the problem that your conscience won't allow you to join the Christian Church, but if you can reduce the church of Christ to being the Christian Church you will not offend your conscience?

WHAT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS

The church of Christ is a local group of Christians which try to speak where the Bible speaks and remain silent where the Bible is silent.

The church of Christ tries to reestablish the first century pattern and teaching of the New Testament era at each location.

The church of Christ tries to reestablish the scriptural organization of the church at each location.

The church of Christ has members who believe they are following the scriptural teachings as best they can.

Church of Christ members believe that we should not judge others' eternal reward, but that it is not reasonable to give comfort to others who follow their own preferences rather than teachings of the Bible.

A non-instrumental body as instruments were available in the first century and not used, and not used for several centuries.

A group who teaches Acts 2:38.

A group which teaches baptism by immersion for the remission of sins as that is what is taught in the Bible.

A group which believes all revelation was given in the first century.

A group which believes we are responsible to take the Gospel to the world.

MONEY PAGE

GUARANTEED CHURCH GROWTH

If your congregation does the following, BCE Publications guarantees that it will grow.

Poll your congregation three times at 6 months intervals with the following results:

- 50% of the members know who their elder is
- 50% of the members will say that a minister is their friend
- 50% of the members will say that they are uplifted by the song services
- 50% of the men will say that their input is considered before physical decisions are made
- 50% of the members will say they are an important part of the work
- 50% of the members will say they are aware of the goals of the congregation
- 50% of the members will say that they know what their part is in achieving your goals

GUARANTEE: For the first congregation which does this and does not grow by at least 10%, we will send \$1000 to the church related children's home of your choice in your name.

I have never met a person who said that if they did this their church would not grow. If your congregation is not growing, what have you got to lose? (Offer made since 2001)

IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVOLUTION?

We will offer \$100 to the first person who can explain how we could have violated the first law of thermodynamics and have come into existence without God.

We will offer \$100 to the first person who can explain how we could have violated the second law of thermodynamics and have existed forever without God. (Offer first posted 8/08)

IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVOLUTION!

This publication continues (since 1991) to make a standing offer of \$100 to the first person who can give any reason (1 or more) as to why atheistic evolution is a better explanation for the universe and/or life than creation by God, The Father of Adam, Abraham, and Jesus; as revealed in the Bible.

We will also give you \$100 if we cannot give you 12 reasons why atheistic evolution is impossible as an explanation for our existence.

We will discuss this any place, any time, and in any forum. (Offer posed since June, 1991)

RUN AT THE SPEED OF LIGHT:

We will offer \$100 to the first person who can refute the logic that a person can in fact run at the speed of light as presented in the September 2009 issue of this newsletter.

THE MONEY PAGE:

This page may seem odd, even irreverent to offer money for something like this. It is 3 simple statements on church growth, that we cannot be here without God, and evolution is not possible. The steadfastness of putting money on the line for this is to try to be of assistance against those who would discourage church growth, believe in atheism, or promote atheistic evolution.

The page is intended to be a continuing reinforcement.

AREA WIDE ACTIVITIES

May 22 Foster's Home for Children Golf Tournament, NW Houston

June 24 Rally for Campaign for Christ at Memorial Church of Christ, 900 Echo Lane, Houston, Texas 77024, 6:00 p.m.

**Aug 4-8 Area Wide Campaign for Christ
George R. Brown Convention Center**

**2nd Tues. Preacher's Luncheon at Golden Island Buffet, 901 N. Shepherd,
confirm with Dale Foster at dalefost@gmail.com**

December Annual Sacred Harp Singing

YAHOO GROUP

HoustonCofC is a Yahoo group hosted by Steve Sandifer [steve.sandifer@sbcglobal.net] for the purpose of communicating Houston area news among the brethren. It is open to any member of the church at no cost.

The Christian Array Newsletter

This newsletter will be sent to members of the church on a monthly basis as an attempt to promote area wide activities and church growth. If you do not want to receive this newsletter, send an e-mail to info@thearray.org and it will be stopped.

If you know of anyone who would like to receive this newsletter, send their e-mail addresses to info@thearray.org. All past copies of the newsletter can be found on the website "thearray.org".

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

A goal of this newsletter is to develop a mailing list of as many members of the church as possible and to communicate church related information to as many members as possible. In that light, we would appreciate:

1. Your forwarding the church member e-mail addresses which you have.
2. Sending the directory of the congregation you attend or any other directories which you might have.
3. Give us an idea of how to collect church member e-mail addresses.

The Christian Array is dedicated to support the sustained scriptural growth of the churches of Christ. It is published by BCE Publications, a 501(c)(3) organization with Benton F. Baugh, Ph.D., P.E. as editor. BCE is solely responsible for the content. Any announcements, requests for publication, or comments should be e-mailed to info@thearray.org.