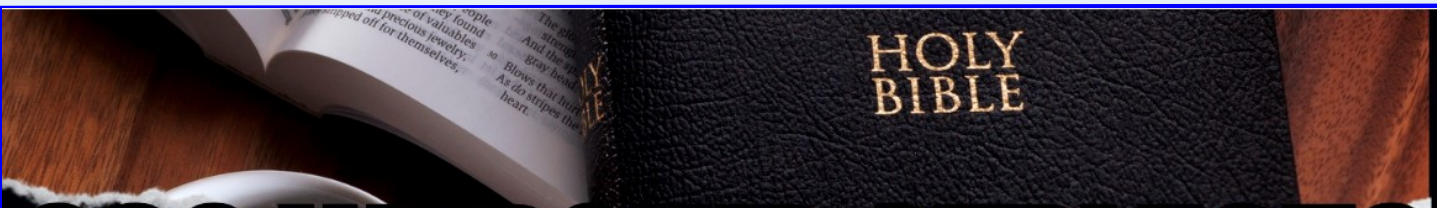


# COC WORSHIP SERVICES

NUMBER 191

September 2024

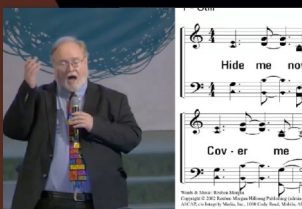


# COC WORSHIP SERVICES

COMPLETE FREE ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICES FROM A STARTING GREETING TO THE INVITATION SONG.

**INCLUDES:**

- GREETING
- SINGING
- PRAYERS
- SCRIPTURE
- COMMUNION
- SERMON



PREPARATION OF A SERMON, SONG LEADING, AND PRAYERS ARE FREQUENTLY A SERIOUS WORKLOAD FOR MANY OF OUR SMALLER CONGREGATIONS. COC WORSHIP SERVICES CAN ASSIST IN THIS BY PROVIDING QUALITY ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICES, FREEING THE CONGREGATION TO APPLY THEIR AVAILABLE RESOURCES TO FOCUS ON PERSONAL EVANGELISM.

**EBIBLESTUDY.ORG/RESOURCES**

PROVIDED BY OKLAHOMA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

On Sunday, September 1 a new program called COC WORSHIP SERVICES began.

The worship services are located at [www.ebiblestudy.edu](http://www.ebiblestudy.edu) under the RESOURCES tab (An Oklahoma Christian Website). It is a work in progress, so the selection of available worship services will increase as time passes. There are plenty of services already posted for all of this year, and we are expanding from there.

It is an endowed program provided by Oklahoma Christian University free of charge. It is intended primarily to assist smaller congregations with their worship services.

Continued on page 2

**IN THIS ISSUE:**

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## COC WORSHIP SERVICES, P2

Continued from page 1

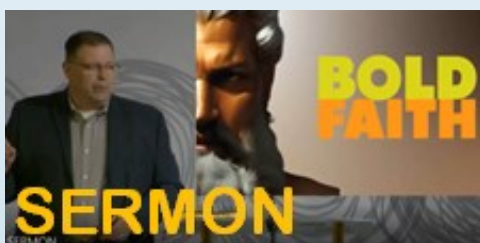
It is a conservative Bible based program, as Oklahoma Christian University is.

Many of our smaller congregations have few men available to conduct the services, and the work of putting on the services frequently consumes all their available time. Frequently actual shepherding and personal evangelism are neglected.

COC WORSHIP SERVICES provides complete worship services for Sunday AM and Sunday PM. They come from Church of Christ congregations which record their services. They are edited to remove references to the originating congregation and to be in a standard format. To the greatest extent possible, the services are tailored to give the feeling that they are focused on your local congregation.

They are characteristically built with a welcome, 2 songs, a prayer, 1 or 2 songs, communion, a song, a scripture reading, a sermon, and invitation song, a **pause**, a closing song, and a closing prayer. During the pause, the local congregation will take over to handle responses, do local announcements and their collection.

The timing of the services presumes the congregation uses the prepackaged com-



munion sets and will show the presenter taking communion. If the local congregation distributes multi-cup trays, the video will be paused after the bread and wine prayers and then restarted to provide time for distribution of the trays.

To the greatest extent possible, the videos try to always show the music and the song leader and provide well-known songs.

This program is not intended to allow non-involvement of members in various congregations, but rather to allow the available time to be used more creatively, i.e. personal evangelism.

### YOUTH MINISTER

A key factor in sustainability is having youth attend. Resources which might have been spent on a mature preacher can be spent on a youth minister. A youth minister can have a substantial impact on the nature of classes, VBS, youth trips, and other activities which can help bring other youth (and their families) to your congregation.

Continued on page 3



## COC WORSHIP SERVICES, P3

Continued from page 2

### OTHER USES OF THE PROGRAM

As we said before, this program is intended primarily to assist smaller congregations with their worship services. That being said, there are other potential uses of this service:

As a temporary resource when you are between preachers.

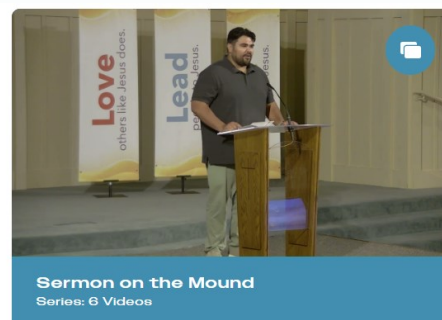
If your regular preacher is sick or goes on vacation, it can be a filling preacher or service. The worship services are posted as entire services and sermons only to give

you a choice.

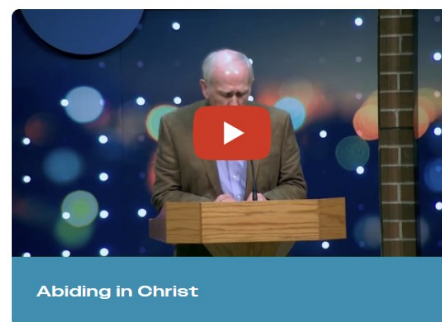
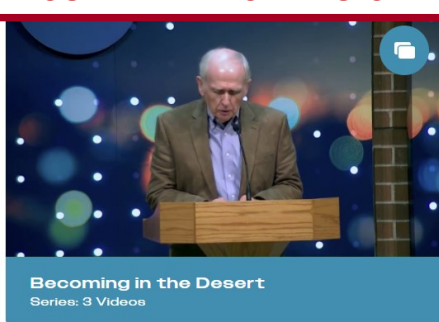
If you are homebound, you will have a large selection of services to watch.

What it is not intended for is to discourage church attendance. We are instructed to meet together when possible and the fellowship of meeting together is invaluable. Hebrews 10:25: "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another and all the more as you see the Day approaching".

Continued on page 4



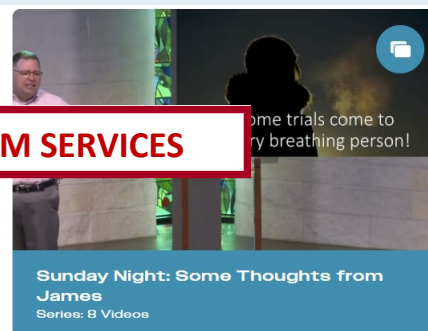
### SUNDAY AM SERVICES



- All Videos
- Lesson Series
- Standalone Lessons
- DROP DOWN BOX**
- Evening Services
- Sermons Only: Lesson Series
- Sermons Only: Standalone Lessons



### SUNDAY PM SERVICES



## COC WORSHIP SERVICES, P4

Continued from page 3

### FUTURE EXPANSION

Available time is being spent to adapt existing services to fit the format of this program. In the future, we will try to capture Bible Class lessons also. We anticipate that either Bible Class lessons or Sunday night format services can be used for Wednesday nights.

### YOU CAN HELP

This program is just starting with a few services which will build to a large reservoir of services over time. If you record your services let us know and you may be able to help us grow.

**THERE ARE SUNDAY MORNING  
AND SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES  
POSTED FOR ALL OF 2024!**

Sermons, welcomes, and prayers are most easily integrated into the services. Songs need to show the song leader and words most of the time and be reasonably traditional songs. Communion preferably shows the leader taking communion. If you take the time to distribute multi-cup trays, the time will be edited out as if everyone uses the small, packaged communion sets.

For more information or questions contact either Charles Lockett at [charles.lockett@oc.edu](mailto:charles.lockett@oc.edu) or Benton Baugh at [bbaugh@occg.institute](mailto:bbaugh@occg.institute).

**YOUTH MINISTER OR INTERN  
NEEDED IN SOUTHERN ILLINOIS**  
**CONGREGATION WITH AGING MEMBERSHIP  
LOOKING TO HIRE A YOUTH  
MINISTER TO BUILD FOR THE FUTURE.**

**Primary role will be to provide a welcoming and educational environment for young families and coordinate youth activities, classrooms, and VBS.**

**Some preaching may be required but the COC WORSHIP SERVICES PROGRAM will be used for the bulk of the preaching.**

**A degree from a brotherhood university would be good, but is not required.**

**CONTACT: Send resume to and/or contact [info@occg.institute](mailto:info@occg.institute) for more information.**



**5 ants rented an  
apartment with  
another 5 ants.**

**Now they're tenants.**



## HOUSE CHURCHES, P1

**“Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am in the midst of them,” Matthew 18:20**

### WHAT IS A HOUSE CHURCH?

A house church describes a group of Christians who regularly gather for worship in their private homes. It may be part of a larger church body or an independent group.

### WERE HOUSE CHURCHES COMMON IN THE FIRST CENTURY?

Yes. In the early church, fellowship, prayer, and worship took place mainly in private homes. This continued for 300 years until Constantine became the Roman emperor.

### DOES THE BIBLE SPEAK OF HOUSE CHURCHES?

Yes. Five times the Bible mentioned churches that met in homes.

Acts 1:13 Jesus’ disciples met in the “upper room” of a house.

1 Corinthians 16:19; Romans 16:3-5 In the house of Priscilla and Aquila mentioned two times. “The churches of Asia greet you, especially Priscilla and Aquilla greet you much in the Lord, along with the church that meets in their house.

Colossians 4:15 “Greet the brethren in Laodicea, and Nymphas, and the church that is in their house.”

Philemon 1:2 “To Philemon our dear friend and fellow worker - Also to Apphia our sister and Arcgippus our fellow soldier - and to the church that meets in their home.”

### WHAT A HOUSE CHURCH IS NOT?

1. A NEW CONCEPT. It was common in the first three hundred years of the church and is

common throughout the world today.

2. A new denomination. The lord’s church is undenominational. The Bible is our only guide and rule of faith.
3. Meant to exclude or replace traditional churches. Both are needed.
4. A church without biblical leadership. As the church grows it appoints Shepherds and deacons. Each House Church is self governing.
5. A means for families to isolate themselves from other believers. Developing deeper fellowship with other believers is one of the strengths of House Churches.

### REASONS FOR HOUSE CHURCHES TODAY

1. It is proven effective for evangelism. Many people would not go to a church building but would meet in a home.
2. Many are looking for a close, loving church free of the restraints of meeting in a church building. As in Acts 2:46 the early church was “Breaking bread from house to house. They ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart.”
3. House churches allow each member to contribute to the worship and Bible study. The Apostle Paul admonished the Corinthian church “whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, a teaching” I Cor14:36.
4. House churches often are able to give 100% of their contribution to the needy and evangelism instead of the average traditional church giving most for the building and staff.
5. It is a very effective atmosphere for growing in discipleship of every member.



## HOUSE CHURCHES, P2

### **DO HOUSE CHURCHES NETWORK AND COOPERATE WITH OTHER HOUSE CHURCHES AND TRADITIONAL CHURCHES?**

Absolutely. We are brothers and sisters in Christ and work together to further the cause of Christ. Sometimes several churches can work together to accomplish what we could not do on our own

### **DO HOUSE CHURCHES HAVE PAID EMPLOYEES?**

Generally speaking “no”. Due to the size and mission of House churches paying someone to do all the speaking is not considered best. However, part time or full time employees may be hired to help with the mission of the church in discipleship, evangelism and works of service.

### **DIES A HIRED MINISTER DELIVER ALL THE SERMONS?**

With the advent of the internet and video (e.g. COC Worship Services), a church can have the most gifted speakers in the world speak to the church at little expense. If the church pays an employee we would have them work directly on one-on-one discipling, works of service, and evangelism.

### **DOES NOT THE HOUSE CHURCH MOVEMENT MAKE THE TRADITIONAL CHURCH DECLINE PROBLEM WORSE?**

There are many reasons why church attendance is declining causing churches to close. Some of these problems causing the decline is solved by house churches.

Multitudes want a simpler, more biblical church with deeper fellowship, more outreach to the needy and lost, without the usual baggage that many traditional churches have. Traditional

churches generally resist the changes necessary to solve their declining number problems.

### **WHAT HAPPENS IF A HOUSE CHURCH GROWS BEYOND WHAT CAN BE ACCOMMODATED IN A HOUSE?**

It is the goal of house churches to obey Jesus' instruction to make disciples of all nations. When the church grows to the point it cannot be accommodated in a house (usually about 20-25), a new house church planting is sponsored in another part of town or a surrounding town. The starting of new churches has shown to be a very effective way to lead others to Christ.

### **WHAT IS YOUR WORSHIP SERVICE LIKE?**

As is taught in the New Testament, the worship service consists of singing, scripture reading, individual sharing (“a psalm or a teaching”), Bible study, prayers, a sermon, the Lord's supper, contribution, and fellowship. Participation of every member is encouraged.

### **IS THE HOUSE CHURCH FOR EVERYONE?”?**

No. House churches are not for everyone. In many parts of the world where the church is persecuted, it is the only choice. We can be thankful living in America we still have the freedom to choose our place of worship.

There are advantages to the traditional church structure and to the house church as mentioned in this article. We are all part of the body of Christ and can be united in a common cause for making disciples of all nations.

Don and Nancy Selvidge, Mattoon, IL.

## FAMILY LIFE GROUPS

God is praised and glorified when we function as a loving family. As always, Scripture says it best.

**LOVE one another:** *“We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>And he has given us this command: Anyone who **loves** God must also **love** their brother and sister.”* (I John 4:19-21 NIV)

**INVOLVE one another:** *“Offer **hospitality** to one another without grumbling. <sup>10</sup>Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as **faithful stewards** of God’s grace in its various forms. <sup>11</sup>If anyone **speaks**, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone **serves**, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things **God may be praised** through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.”* (I Peter 4:9-11 NIV)

**FELLOWSHIP one another:** *“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have **fellowship** with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.”* (I John 1:7 NIV)

**ENCOURAGE one another:** *“Therefore **encourage** one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.”* (I Thes. 5:11 NIV)

Elizabeth Brown, Texarkana, TX

## An Old Friend

Whenever I wake up feeling down,  
an old Friend comes around,  
smiles at me and says “Look up,  
look around, what do you see?  
come walk with Me!”

Even in the middle of the night  
He is a sight for tired old eyes and  
ears closed to the noise and pain  
from heart weary world of woe.

But as He takes me by His hand,  
I feel the comfort of my Friend,  
regain the strength to stand.  
Fresh joy wells up within my Heart.  
New visions fill my mind and a  
flood of gratitude flows from my soul.

He reawakens forgotten memories  
of those He brought alongside me  
to lighten my load over many years.  
My despair disappears like morning  
fog lifted by the sun. I praise God as  
I see the wonders of His Creation  
unfold before my eyes. My mind  
is renewed for another day.

I beg Him to stay, but He says  
“Never fear; I am near always.  
My Spirit lives within you forever.  
Now dry your tears, and go –  
telling others what you have seen.  
Explain the smile that shows you know Me.  
As it is now, it shall be for all who come to me.  
I love them as I love you.”  
Remember friend, brother, sister too,  
all like me and you are to love one another.”

Larry S. Grubbs, Harrison, Ohio

## IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVOLUTION #147: SEX: DIVING BELL SPIDERS

If a spider gets into the water, it drowns. They are air breathers.

Imagine first a spider developing millions of rough water repellent hairs all around its abdomen, each with a waxy coating. When it sticks its abdomen into the air it traps a layer of air called a plastron. See the figure to the right.

Spiders have a Book Lung in their lower abdomen making it convenient to breathe from the plastron. That would let the spider survive underwater for a period of time, based on what is their personal tank of air.

Next imagine that a spider can build a silk underwater house or cave which allows the spider to make several trips to the surface to collect plastrons of air and then release the air into the cave to fill it. See lower figure.

The spider constructs the underwater cave in such a way that when the oxygen gets low inside, some oxygen will cross the boundary from the water and CO2 will exit just like a human lung.

The spider would have the additional ability to detect when the oxygen in the underwater cave is getting low and can take the stale air to the surface and release it and bring fresh air back down.

Turns out such a spider exists. The diving bell spider or water spider (*Argyroneta aquatica*) is the only species of spider known to live almost entirely under water. It is the only member of the genus *Argyroneta*. When out of the water, the spider ranges in color from mid to dark brown, although the hairs on the abdomen give it a dark grey, velvet-like appearance.

*A. aquatica* is the only known species of spider that spends almost all its life underwater, including resting, catching and eating prey, mating, egg laying, and overwintering. It only briefly surfaces to replenish its oxygen supply and occasionally will bring prey to the surface.

*A. aquatica* is found in clean freshwater habitats with aquatic vegetation, such as lakes, ponds, canals, marshes

and slow-moving streams. It ranges through much of mainland Europe, the British Isles and central to northern Asia ranging as far south as Iran and as far north as Siberia.

The spiders prey on aquatic insects and crustaceans such as mosquito larvae and water fleas. The spiders themselves fall prey to frogs and fish.



The question is whether a spider can develop specialty hairs on its abdomen to make a plastron, know how to build an underwater silk cave, and then maintain the air quality inside it, or is this another proof of an intelligent designer giving a species new capabilities.

We would suggest this is a proof of God.

For a really good movie about the spider, see:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1rlt9yAhqTw>

Benton F. Baugh, Ph.D., P.E





*"The challenges ahead of you can only be measured by the ability inside of you."*

**Zone Leader: 7 Tactics for Leading in the Zones** is a field-guide designed to help you navigate change. Resistance and conflict occur anytime change is introduced, and leaders must have the tools and resources necessary to avoid the pitfalls that hinder real success. No matter where you find yourself in the four zones, the tactics discussed in Zone Leader will enhance your ability to lead through each zone. "The challenges ahead of you can only be measured by the ability inside of you. The more you put into developing your leadership, the greater your ability to deal with the challenges you face."

"To get where you're going, you need more than just a destination; you need to know where you are now, and you need a map. To assist you on your journey, this thought-provoking book provides you with all three."

Sheila Heen, Harvard Law Professor and co-author of *Difficult Conversations: How to Discuss What Matters Most*.

"I wish this book could have been available when I was in both undergraduate and graduate studies. I was struck with how readability and depth worked in concert to clearly address leadership. The zones resonated with my thought processes and lay a logical format for understanding."

Gerry Taylor, Executive Vice President, Prosperity Bank



Bob directs the Sunset Academy of Leadership Training. He is a coach, consultant, and full-time speaker, conducting workshops in leadership development. He is dedicated to helping leaders implement positive, transformational change and creating a vision to prepare the next generation of leaders. He lives in Virginia Beach, VA and holds a Doctorate in Intercultural Studies with an emphasis in adult leadership development from the Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, CA.



ZONE LEADER: 7 Tactics for Leading in the Zones

TURNER



**ZONE LEADER**  
7 Tactics for Leading in the Zones

**Dr. Bob Turner**

Author of  
*Essential: Building Blocks 4 Life and Leadership*

Foreword by best-selling author, Jeremie Kubicek, co-founder of GIANT Worldwide

An excellent book to read. Available on Amazon.

## House Church

**Defined:** Group that meets for worship in private homes.  
**Biblical;** 5 times mentioned in Bible. (Acts 1:13; I Cor. 16:9; Rom. 16:3; Col. 4:15; Phil 1:2)

**Advantages:**

- Deeper fellowship. A close loving church.
- Allows participation by each member.
- No overhead. The contribution goes to the needy and other outreach.
- Effective for discipleship growth.
- Accepting- Udenominational.

Visit us Sundays at 5 PM for church, and 6 PM for a meal at 608 Broadway, Mattoon.



### How can we help you?

**Dr. Don Selvidge, minister, retired Chiropractor**  
dslvdg@aol.com, 217-962-1764, 217-317-9654  
**Dr. Nancy Selvidge, homemaker, grandmother**  
608 Broadway, Mattoon, Il. 61938

- Crisis/ problem counseling
- "Hand Up" ministry
- Christian Movie Night -Bible Study
- Natural Health and Healing

**No Charge for any services**

Your invitation to

## Mission House Church

608 Broadway Ave., Mattoon, IL 61938

"Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am in the midst of them."  
Matthew 18:20

Call or message 217-962-1764 for questions or assistance.  
To receive a free Mission Newsletter email a request to dslvdg@aol.com

**WELCOME!**

If sad gets bad,  
let us help.



**Memorial  
Christian**  
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(832) 649-3652

memorialchristiancounseling.com

*You can't heal what's hidden.*

For 24/7, anytime help call  
or text 988 for free, confidential,  
mental health support.

**988** SUICIDE & CRISIS  
LIFELINE

**SERVING THE GREATER HOUSTON AREA**



Church of Christ Matrimony  
An online matrimony website exclusively  
for Church of Christ members  
[www.churchofchristmatrimony.com](http://www.churchofchristmatrimony.com)  
**FREE REGISTRATION**

**Lance Decker**

Certified Grief Recovery Specialist

Tomball, TX  
+1 (832) 534-0730

[lance@lancedecker.com](mailto:lance@lancedecker.com)  
[www.lancedecker.com](http://www.lancedecker.com)



Grief Support/Recovery Groups  
meet at Spring Creek Church of Christ in Tomball, TX at  
no cost.

Individual programs available for a fee.

Check out our planned  
giving resources

[fostershome.giftlegacy.com](http://fostershome.giftlegacy.com)



**Foster's  
Home for Children**

1779 N Graham St  
Stephenville, TX  
(254)968-2143

**Spots available for new residents, apply to the SOAR Program now!**

[www.fostershome.org/soar](http://www.fostershome.org/soar)



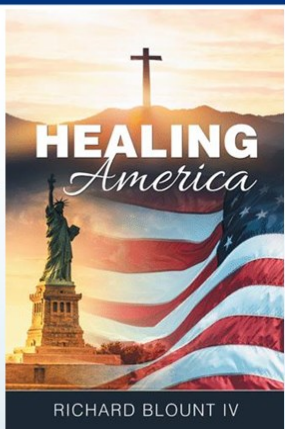
Safety | Ownership | Advancement | Responsibility

The SOAR program at Foster's Home for Children aims to provide young adults ages 18-22, who have aged out of foster care, a longer runway to successful independence. Our goal is to provide a base of support beneath them as they transition to life on their own.



## HEALING AMERICA

A timely new book by Richard Blount IV exploring the problems, causes, solutions, and benefits of being an American.



He provides an intentional approach for the country's healing process and aims at healthy relationships and spiritual maturity as the ultimate goal.

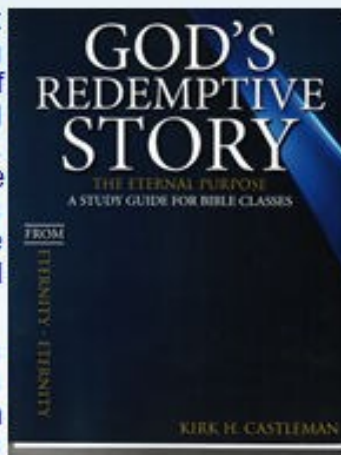
This book can be purchased for \$19.95 at: Amazon, Barnes & Nobles, and Westbow Publishing

### BULLETIN BLOOPERS! 🤪

1. Please welcome Pastor Don, a caring individual who loves hurting people.
2. A new loudspeaker system has been installed in the church. It was given by one of our members in honor of his wife.
3. Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

*From Ray Scott*

A 13 lesson book written by a long time Church of Christ minister and servant of Jesus. Intended for Bible Class studies, this book can also be used for personal evangelism.



Most Bible class study books on this subject begin with Genesis 3. This study however, lays the foundation by beginning with a basic study-outline of Biblical History, which is sorely lacking among many Christians today. Then after laying this foundation, it seeks to present a "Synthesis of Scripture" by asserting that the theme of all the Bible is Jesus, His Death, Burial, and Resurrection! The Eternal Purpose of God for Redemption is then presented with an in-depth study of Ephesians 1, and other New Testament passages which describe God's redemptive plan.

It is not until the fourth lesson that God's Eternal Purpose in Genesis 3 is presented. Then other Promises, Pictures, Prophecy, and Prep-

**"AN EXCITING STUDY OF GOD'S POWER AND REVELATION IN HUMAN HISTORY"**

aration, are fully described. This study includes a description of the Davidic Covenant, as well as a helpful approach to Old Testament Prophecy.

This guide is helpful for all Christians, but especially new Christians who need an understanding of God's eternal desire for all the world!

This book can be bought on Amazon for \$10.





NORTH FORT BEND  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

Meeting at Tom Wilson Elementary  
5200 Falcon Landing Blvd.  
Katy Texas, 77494.

Bible class at 9:00 am  
Worship at 10:00 am.

Please plan to attend and tell your friends and neighbors. Most importantly, please pray for this mission effort.

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

For more information, contact:  
[info@nfbcoc.org](mailto:info@nfbcoc.org)



**Jerry Heiderich: Director**  
Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist

311A East Calhoun Street, El Campo, TX 77437  
Clinic 979-578-9091, Cell 214-862-8964

[jerry@gulfcoastchristiancounseling.com](mailto:jerry@gulfcoastchristiancounseling.com)



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Email: [jeremy@mentalhealthresponse.com](mailto:jeremy@mentalhealthresponse.com)



## WINGS OF EAGLES VIDEO SERIES

Three new 20-minute videos which can be used to assist in personal evangelism.  
Available as a free download.

LESSON TOPICS ARE:

- (1) **IF GOD?** Atheistic evolution vs the reality of a god.
- (2) **WHICH GOD?** The various offerings to be the god.
- (3) **WHICH GROUP?** A brief history of the world and of Christianity leading to a discussion of how to find Christ's church.

Located at [occg.institute](http://occg.institute), TOPICAL LESSONS , 02 WINGS OF EAGLES

## GUARANTEED CHURCH GROWTH!

If we provide a **REFOCUS WEEKEND**, we will guarantee that if your congregation does not grow 5% in 2 years we will donate \$5,000 to the Church of Christ related children's home of your choice in your name.

**A REFOCUS WEEKEND IS:**

- (1) Friday night: Area-wide youth rally at your facility; we provide the pizza & cokes
- (1) Saturday 8:00 - 2:00: Church growth consultation
- (2) Saturday or Sunday afternoon: Dream Session
- (3) Sunday Bible Class: A church growth lesson
- (4) Sunday morning worship: A church growth sermon

See <https://occg.institute/services/refocus/> for more specific information.

For more information, contact:  
[info@occg.institute](mailto:info@occg.institute)



**SOMETIMES YOU WIN,  
SOMETIMES YOU LEARN**

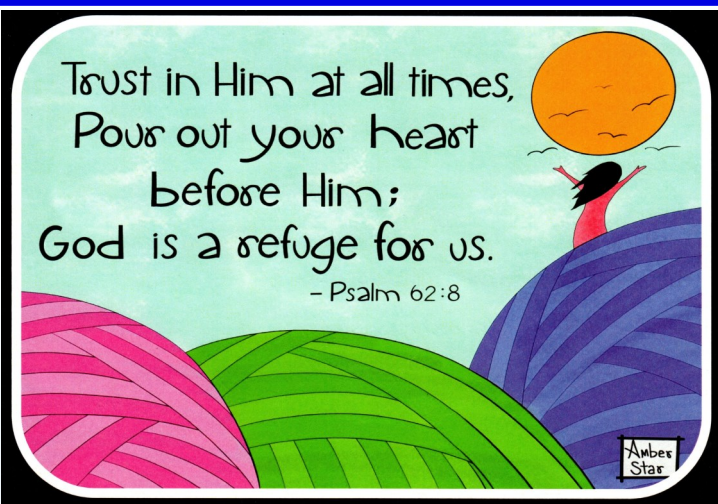


*Lucy: Sam, do you know the worst thing about getting old?*  
*Sam: No, what's that?*  
*Lucy: What's what?*  
**Barry & Ace**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

September 1 Beginning of Online Virtual Worship Services for smaller congregations. For more information contact [bbaugh@occg.institute](mailto:bbaugh@occg.institute).

To post your event: [info@occg.institute](mailto:info@occg.institute)



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