

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Lancelot Watson- Evangelist

Worship Opportunities

Sundays

Worship 10:30 a.m.

Bible Classes 9:30 a.m.

Mid-Week

Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Patchogue Church of Christ Patchogue, NY 11772

A multi-racial community of believers with a purpose and vision to live holy lives, fulfill the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ by serving each other and our community with compassion, love and the powerful gospel of Jesus Christ.

Records you Made:	2/22/15	2/15/15
Bible Classes	15	16
Worship Service	56	52
Contribution	\$1340.00	\$1360.00
Wed Bible Class	32	30
Baptisms/Placing membership	-	-

Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ send greetings. Ro 16:16

Youth Corner

By
Jamal Colson



Many Troubles

Young people, do you find yourself enduring many troubles? Do you sometimes find yourself wishing you were little again? Maybe you have a younger sibling and you look at their homework and think how easy it is to complete. Perhaps you look at your work and think at how hard and confusing it is to complete.

Take courage and know you are not alone. Look at the following verses: Psalm 34:17-19- "The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. The righteous person may have many troubles, but the Lord delivers him from them all."

In conclusion, always remember, the Righteous cry out and the Lord hears them. Young people, when was the last time you cried out to the Lord? If we cry out, the Lord will deliver us from all our troubles. The Lord is close to us as we struggle through life relying on Him. In this life we ARE going to encounter many troubles! If we seek His kingdom first, and His righteousness (Matt 6:33), then we will be delivered from them all. Amen!

YBIC

THE GOSPEL TRUTH

Patchogue Church of Christ
295 Sunrise Service Road N.
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Maintaining our spiritual fire

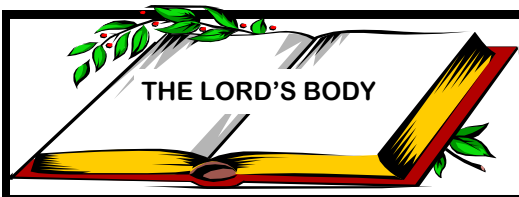
Some cold winter ago there was a video on the news of a man stepping outside with a boiling pot of water, tossing the water into the air and its instantaneous change into ice. He was near the top of Mount Washington in New Hampshire and it was thirty-five degrees below zero. My first reaction was, "Hey, that's kind of cool." Then I thought, "Wow, that's really cold." And finally, "That guy's crazy going outside in that kind of weather." Consider that water boils at 212 degrees Fahrenheit, and freezes at 32 degrees Fahrenheit. That's so cold that the water cooled down 180+ degrees in less than a second! Why did the water freeze? The water froze because of a failure to maintain its fire. *What can we do to maintain our spiritual fire?*

Lesson #1: Much energy was needed to warm the water; but very little was needed to cool it. In order to boil water one must have a significant energy source. It takes 398 BTUs to change frozen water to boiling water. Energy is required! To the contrary, however, to cool water down takes practically no energy at all. A flick of the wrist and the boiling water was frozen. This reminds me of Paul's words to the church in Ephesus to endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Ephesians 4:3). Paul also said to the Galatians (5:6) that what avails is faith working (the Greek word ENERGEIO – energy!) through love. Even spiritually speaking, energy/effort/work are required in order to stay warm; but what is required to freeze? Just do nothing (James 4:17; Rev. 3:16). *Work, that is, the input of energy and effort, are important to maintain our spiritual fire.*

Lesson #2: Together as one unit, the

water was warm; separated, it became cold. Those trillions of water molecules in that boiling pot stayed warm so long as they were in close proximity, united to each other; they kept warm off each other's heat. However, once they dispersed they quickly cooled not having the company of their "brethren" to keep them warm. Ecclesiastes 4:11 says, "Again, if two lie together, they will keep warm. But how can one be warm alone?" The story is told of the preacher who visited the un-attending member and, without a word, while sitting in front of the fireplace, merely pulled a coal out of the fire to watch it slowly die. Yet, putting it back in, the coal warmed to a soft red glow again. We need to exhort one another daily and not forsake our assembling together! (Hebrews 3:13, 10:25) *Together, oneness, unity, are important for maintaining our spiritual fire.*

Lesson #3: Someone "stirred" the pot. That water didn't become ice without someone agitating the pot! If the pot had been left on the fire it would have stayed warm, but it was moved, stirred, agitated. This resulted in the decrease of heat and the increase of cold. Agitation in the church often has the same results. Paul told the church at Philippi, "Do all things without murmurings and disputings" (Philippians 2:14). He said in Colossians 3:13 "Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man has a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye." Instead of murmuring and quarrelling let us practice forgiveness and so keep ourselves warm and lively. *Forgiveness is important to maintain our spiritual fire.* Let's keep our spiritual fire burning.



The family by John Stallworth

Privileged to Serve 03/01/2015

Morning Service

Song leader	Greg Watkins
Welcome/Prayer	John Stallworth
Song #	851
Scripture – Rev. 3:14-22	Jason Holfman
Songs #	567
Song #	23
Second Prayer	Tom Meehan
Song #	176
Lord's table and Collection:	
Lead	Derek Peterson
Assistant	Ryan Costello
Assistant	James Guiffre
Assistant	Anthony Soto
Song - Kids to class	
Song #	315
Scripture -Lk. 24:28-33	Jamal Colson
Sermon -	Lancelot Watson
Invitation #	123
Responses & prayer:	
Mike Salimbene	
Derek Peterson	
Announcements &	
Closing Prayer	John Stallworth
Closing Song #	703

The Gospel Truth

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"I don't wanna ... be patient"

Gal. 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience ... Against such things there is no law.
Patience, patience, patience. Even sounds exhausting and frustrating saying it. We can already begin to list the things and people that try our patience.
We still ask: if these are "fruit of the spirit", how are non-Christians able to do these things. Do you know what patience means? Pause and think. Of all these fruits, I'd argue 'patience' is the one many of us claim we need to work on more than our joy or kindness or goodness. However, too often when we explain patience we typically explain it in context of what is frustrating us. Goes like this: "I really need to work on my patience with my kids. They got this morning calling over and over MOMMY, MOMMY ... Driving me crazy. I told them...don't you know another word. Like DADDY..." We go on ranting about what they are doing. We do this with people in our lives as well. We rant and rave about how they frustrate us. Consider for a minute: only we in collaboration with the Holy Spirit can grow our patience. If someone changes what they do to be more of what we want, that does NOT grow patience. If the kids obey our every command, that does not grow our patience. The situation may have change, the person may have grown, husband may be better at putting away his laundry etc. ... **Our patience only grows as we learn to endure through the lack of change of the situation and/or person.**
The Bible word for 'patience' literally mean long suffering. I hate even saying it. This is the one from the spirit.
Col. 1:11 being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully...
Do you know what the Spirit is calling us to do? Just do it!
Stay blessed. Eph. 4:2 - Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.



*LIVING IT OUT—
PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY
BY
BENJAMIN FIELD*

Money, Taxes, and Food for Thought

This one goes out to anyone who gets a tax return. If you are like many, this is the time of year when you expect that after having filed with Uncle Sam you will receive money back. For some it is a modest amount, and for others it is thousands of dollars. That money is used for purchases, debt payment, and well-needed vacations. There is nothing wrong with this, but there are two things that are important to remember; 1- *that this money is after tax income, just like money in your regular checks, and 2- we should recognize that as Christians we should not earmark funds that are deliberately purposed for selfish consumption without consideration for expressing gratitude to God.*

Acts 5:1-11 reminds us of the spiritual gravity of giving; **"Didn't it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn't the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied just to human beings but to God."**

If we get a refund, it means we gave our income to the government in an interest free loan and received it back in lump sum *rather than receive it in our check throughout the year.* It is now in our power to use. If we then do not make a point to deliberately give to God a portion from that money or based on our total income it means we are effectively acting as if to tell God there is a portion of our salary, which He has given us, which He does not have a right to have access to. I suspect many of us do not think this way, and would be mortified to think we might fit in that category, but if we do not give throughout the year with this in mind (give more during year because of refund), and simultaneously cut a 5K check to pay for that sweet vacation this is what we are effectively doing in practice. Pretty uncomfortable to realize right? Reality is that both the Jew, and ancient Christian would almost undoubtedly see income in this holistic way since all income was considered in their giving.

So what to do? If you are just considering this for the first time, don't worry or beat yourself up with guilt. Just express to God in prayer your realization and new intent, and earmark a portion of your refund for free-will giving. Decide on an amount and give. It should be traditional giving – a brother/sister in Christ/family member/or friend in dire need, the church contribution, or a Christian charity/mission – generally in that order of priority. **Deut. 15:10, 16:17; 1Chron. 29:9; Prov. 21:26; 22:9; 28:27**



ladies' Corner
By
Julia Bettencourt
Adapted

Let it Go!

"And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." Luke 9:62

Letting Go of the Past.

I know some Christians have a hard time letting go of their past. God has forgiven it so grab hold of the future and press on because carrying around your past will slow you down every time. Look what Paul says in Philippians 3. *"Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."* **Philippians 3:13, 14**

Letting Go of Relationships.

It is really sad when you have to let go of relationships, but sometimes we have to do it. When we are Christians we can't do and associate with the things of the world. Sometimes that means letting a friendship go. Ask yourself this question. *How do my friends influence me?*

"Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away." Proverbs 4:14, 15

Letting Go of Bitterness.

Bitterness is a hard thing. It can cause your walk with the Lord to stagnate. Look at Ephesians 4:31. It tells us to let it go - to *"put away from you"*. Not only does it mention bitterness in this verse but look at the other things along with it.

"Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice." Ephesians 4:31

Letting Go of the Flesh.

If we are going to live for Christ, we have to die to self. We have to die daily to it and constantly let the flesh go. It should be dead to us.

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." Galatians 2:20