

Words Of Life

By J. Elmer Greene, Missionary

hurches & Clay Counties CHURCH MEMBERSHIP What does it mean to "belong" to the church? What is, or should, a person's church membership mean? One of the greatest needs in time is for an understanding of what it means to be a member of a church.

The only reliable guide and authority for the true meaning of church membership is the Bible, Matthew 16:13-19 which sets forth the words and intention of Christ to establish His church. The Book of Acts records what He intended to do in the hearts and lives of His people. The apostles and Revelation presents a clear picture of the nature and purpose of Christ's church.

This New Testament content and plan of church membership involves and includes the relationship with Jesus Christ, Second, a relationship with other believers, Third, a relationship with a great church.

Church membership presupposes a proper relationship with Jesus Christ. This relationship is established when a person becomes a Christian. No one can be a good church member unless he has experienced the new birth.

This experience of saving grace must occur before church membership. A person does not join the church to be saved. He presents himself as a candidate for church membership after he is saved and an act of obedience to Jesus Christ, his Savior.

The public act of joining a church is one of the best ways a person can make an open profession of faith in Christ. Christians in the New Testament, as a rule, joined a church immediately after they were saved. The open profession of faith is not to be received into church membership. It is to be received in how a person lives a Christian life.

The second relationship involved and included in New Testament church membership is the relationship with other believers. If there were other believers, there would be no church to join. It is true because the Bible defines a church as being a body, or group of baptized believers united to carry out Christ's plan and purpose on earth. The first group of believers in the New Testament was a visible group which used a visible, public profession.

When a person unites with a church, he identifies himself with, and becomes a part of this body of believers. This means that he has fellowship with other Christians. He is to be in the joys and privileges, as well as the work and trials, of the group if this fellowship is to be complete and is to remain unbroken. The test of the sincerity of a person's religion is his ability to get along agreeably with low believers in day by day living.

The third relationship involved and included in church membership is the relationship with a great Task. This is the plan and purpose of Jesus Christ for advancing His Kingdom on earth. There are personal and collective aspects of this Task on the part of the believer. Each has his share of service in Kingdom work. Every one is included in the design of Christ for winning the world to Himself and establishing His Kingdom.

There is something desperately wrong with church membership that does not result in supreme loyalty to Christ and dedication to fruitful, faithful service to Him. New Testament church membership calls for discipleship, the highest type - a total complete surrender of time, talent, and resources to Jesus Christ. Instead of being merely members in the house of God, Christians should be workmen going out into the world in the work of witnessing and proclaiming the good news of the Gospel.

In conclusion, church membership means that a person who has come to know Jesus Christ as Savior, in obedience to Him, expresses outwardly what has happened to him inwardly and freely establishing an active, personal and dedicated and continuous relationship with other believers and actively engages in the resources and efforts of his command in the task of advancing the Kingdom of God on earth.

Area Church Services

Baptist

LIBERTY
Rev. J. H. Morgan, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

MT. CARMEL
Rev. J. W. Newman, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

MT. PLEASANT
Rev. Lee Hicks, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Presbyterian

ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN
Rev. Edward B. Whitson
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

MURPHY PRESBYTERIAN
Rev. R. A. Potter, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 7:30 p.m.

BETHAL
Unaka, N. C.
Student Minister - Jack W. Heinzelman.
Sunday Service at 3:00 p.m.

Baptist

ANDREWS FIRST BAPTIST
Rev. T. C. Christmas-Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Training Union 7:00 p.m.
Evening Worship 8:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Ser. 7:30 p.m.

MISSIONARY
Andrews, N.C.
Rev. James Truett, Pastor
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Ser. 7:30 p.m.

MARBLE SPRINGS
Marble, N. C.
Rev. Arvil Swafford, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 7:30 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Ser. 7:00 p.m.

MACEDONIA
Rev. A. R. Ballew, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 7:30 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Ser. 7:00 p.m.

BEAVERCREEK FREE WILL
Rev. Marcellus Absher-Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Ser. 7:00 p.m.
Sat. Night Service 7:00 p.m.

PLEASANT VALLEY
Rev. Jack Palmer, Pastor
Morning Worship 11:30 a.m.
Evening Service 7:30 p.m.

RANGER MISSIONARY
Rev. Cecil Rice, Pastor
Sunday Service 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 7:30 p.m.

BATES CREEK
Rev. Howard Killian, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

VALLEYTOWN
Andrews, N. C.
(No Pastor At Present.)
Rev. George Younce Serving
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Ser. 7:00 p.m.

PEACHTREE MEMORIAL
Rev. Robert Barker, Pastor
Sunday Service 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 8:00 p.m.

MALTBY
Rev. John Davis, Pastor
Sunday Service 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 8:00 p.m.

FAIRVIEW
Rev. Colvin Thompson, Pastor
Service 1st and 3rd Sundays at 11:00 a.m. Evening Service on 1st Sunday at 7:30 p.m.

HYATTS CREEK
Marble, N. C.
Rev. Homer Wilson, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.
Saturday Service 7:00 p.m.

MT. LIBERTY
(Rogers Chapel)
Rev. Earle Cable, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 2nd and 4th Sunday at 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship 3rd Sunday.

MT. MORIAH
Rev. N. B. Davis, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

MT. OLIVE
Rev. W. L. Cook, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 1st Sunday at 11:00 a.m.

OGREETA
Rev. Calvin Thompson, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship on 1st Sunday at 11:00 a.m.

PLEASANT HILL
Rev. Wm. Johnson, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

SHADY GROVE
Rev. W. T. Truett, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 2nd and 4th Sunday at 11:00 a.m.

SIMONDS CHAPEL
Rev. Floyd Davis, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 2nd and 4th Sunday at 11:00 a.m.

UNION
Rev. George Wilson, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 3rd Sunday at 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship on 3rd and 1st Sundays.

SHOAL CREEK
Rev. J. W. Ballew, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

VIOLET
Rev. Willard Graham, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

FRIENDSHIP
Rev. Arvel Crawford, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

OAK GROVE
Rev. Milford Garrett, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

HOPEWELL
Rev. Arthur Rucker, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Baptist

TOMOTLA
Rev. Marvin Hampton, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Ser. 7:00 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST
Murphy, N. C.
Rev. W. J. Thompson, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 7:30 p.m.
Wed. Service 7:30 p.m.

NOTLA
Rev. Fred Stiles, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:30 a.m.
on 2nd and 4th Sundays.

Catholic

ST. WILLIAMS CHAPEL
Father Raymond
Holy Mass 11:00 a.m.
Confession - Sat. 7:30 p.m.
Half hour before Mass

ANDREWS
Holy Mass 11:00 a.m.
Confession - Half hour before Mass.

Church Of God

HARRIS CHAPEL
Rev. Robert Bell, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 7:30 p.m.

MURPHY CHURCH OF GOD
443 Hiwassee St.
Rev. S. W. Leonard, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Evangelistic Service 6:30 p.m.

ANDREWS CHURCH OF GOD
Rev. H. C. Ledford, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evangelistic Service 7:00 p.m.
Young People's Endeavor Service on Friday at 7:00 p.m.

Episcopal

CHURCH OF MESSIAH
Rev. Alex Hanson, Pastor
Service - 11:00 a.m.
Holy Communion First and Fourth Sundays at 7:30 a.m.

Free Methodist

MURPHY FREE METHODIST
Rev. G. K. A. Haase, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Services 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 7:30 p.m.

Attend The Church Of Your Choice



ASK - SEEK KNOCK

Everyone knows that success comes not to those who merely desire it, but to those who achieve it through long, hard work.

It is odd then, that in the spiritual area of life some people should expect blessings to come for the asking.

Those who really understand PRAYER know that it's more than mere asking. It is seeking. It is the hungry search for truth and moral enlightenment... digging for spiritual gold in the hills of life.

But PRAYER is something more even than seeking. It is knocking... meeting life's obstacles bravely... waiting with patient determination until closed doors open... entering portals that the more timid pass by.

We wouldn't really need churches if spiritual growth came for the asking. But we do need churches to help us seek the treasures of God. And through our churches, with the united strength of millions of Christians, we knock on the portals of the more abundant life—and there find it.

THE CHURCH FOR ALL... ALL FOR THE CHURCH

The Church is the greatest factor on earth for the building of character and good citizenship. It is a storehouse of spiritual values. Without a strong Church, neither democracy nor civilization can survive. There are four sound reasons why every person should attend services regularly and support the Church. They are: (1) For his own sake. (2) For his children's sake. (3) For the sake of his community and nation. (4) For the sake of the Church itself, which needs his moral and material support. Plan to go to church regularly and read your Bible daily.

Day	Book	Chapter	Verse
Sunday	Matthew	7	7-12
Monday	Luke	12	25-49
Tuesday	John	20	24-29
Wednesday	Isiah	55	6-11
Thursday	Psalms	34	1-10
Friday	John	14	12-16
Saturday	Revelation	3	19-22

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Bealtown Revival

Rev. William J. Thompson, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Murphy, is conducting a revival at the Bealtown Baptist Church. Services will be held each night at 7:30, through Saturday, March 4. C. E. Hyde is song leader and special music will be presented each night.

Mission Study

Andrews - A mission study book, "The Dreamer Cometh" was taught by Mrs. Edgar Wood, Monday night, February 27, at 6:30 p.m., at the First Baptist Church.

Members of the Anna Whitaker Circle, Ruth Bagwell Circle, Ada Mae Pruett Circle and Marjorie Hicks Ayers Circle attended.

A potluck supper preceded the mission study.

Methodist Men To Host Lutherans

Andrews - The Methodist Men's Fellowship will have the men of the Lutheran Church as guests at their meeting, Thursday, (tonight), at 6:30 p.m. in the Methodist Fellowship Hall. All men are urged to be present for this evening of Christian fellowship.

Methodist Meetings

Andrews - The Wesleyan Service Guild of the First Methodist Church will meet on Monday, March 6, at 7:30 p.m., at the home of Mrs. W. H. Fuller.

WCS will meet on Tuesday, March 7, at 3 p.m., at the home of Mrs. Dorris Smotherman. Circle II of the WCS will meet Tuesday, March 7, at 7:30 p.m., at the home of Mrs. Jack Ledford.

GA's Hold Meeting

Andrews - The Intermediate GA's of the First Baptist Church met Tuesday night at the home of Margaret Ann Holland with Kay Leming serving as co-hostess.

Mary Ann Pullum, president, presided over business session. "Frontier of Hope" was presented by members as the program.

Members attending were: Elizabeth Thompson, Brenda Hicks, Diane Pullum, Margaret Ann Holland, Peggy Curtis, Kay Leming, Mary Ann Pullum, Mrs. T. C. Christmas, and Mrs. Floyd Gibson, Counselors. Guest included Tommy Holland, Mrs. Charles Holland, Jimmy Christmas and Mrs. Winnie Holland.

Methodist Circles

CIRCLE NO. 4 MEETS

Circle No. Four of First Methodist Church met on Thursday morning, Feb. 23, at the home of Mrs. Ben Scott. Mrs. Olen McDonald gave the devotional.

Mrs. Harold Wells, chairman, presided over the business, after which the meeting was turned over to Mrs. George Size, who showed a film on "Assignment in Unity."

Refreshments were served to the following: Mrs. Olen McDonald, Mrs. George Size, Mrs. Harold Wells, Mrs. Merle Davis, Mrs. Vance Wilson, Mrs. Roy Fuller, and Miss Mary Akin, and one new member, Mrs. Margie Hobbs.

Revival Services

Andrews - Revival services will begin March 14 at the First Baptist Church. Dr. Ralph Norton, pastor of Redneck Baptist Church, Chattanooga, Tenn., will be visiting evangelist. The public is invited to attend these services.

Today's pioneers are building tomorrow's progress.

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