



**Today's Sermons**  
 Morning: The Father God Desires  
 Evening: Song Service

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FOR THE RECORD

Sunday Bible Study	30
Sunday AM Worship	54
Sunday PM Worship	27
Wed. Bible Study	35
Offering	\$1696



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**West Jefferson Church of Christ**  
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**Times of Services:**  
Sunday  
 Bible Study:... 10:00am  
 AM Worship:...11:00am  
 PM Worship:...6:00pm  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday:.....1:30pm

Wednesday  
 Bible Study:.....7:00pm

Radio Program  
 Sunday:.....7:30am  
 "Back to the Bible"  
 AM 580 WSKS  
 93.5 FM

**We Extend A  
 Warm & Cordial  
 Welcome  
 To All Our  
 Visitors!**

What Should The Church Be Doing?  
 By: Gary L. Hutchens

Jesus told the apostles, "and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it" (Matthew 16:18). He would establish His church, and nothing would prevent its being established. The establishment of the church was of paramount importance in the Lord's mission to this earth.

The church is repeatedly identified as the "body of Christ" (Romans 12:4-5; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17; 12:12-13, 27; Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:14-16; 3:6; 4:4, 12, 16; 5:23, 30; Colossians 1:18, 24; 3:15). It should not be surprising, then, that Christ is designated as the "head of the church" (Ephesians 1:22-23; 5:23; Colossians 1:18). He is also identified as "the Savior" of the church (Ephesians 5:23). His personal identity with the church is further seen in that "Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her" (Ephesians 5:25). Such profoundly personal association of the church with Christ should impress us with the obvious importance of the church in God's scheme of things for mankind.

So, just what should the church be doing? Polling people at large could leave a person awfully confused. Some believe the church should be a political entity. Never, ever is the church portrayed in scripture as having a political identity. Through teaching the principles of the gospel, the church can have an influence on the morals of society. But, that effect is indirect, the result of teaching the gospel, not of taking a political posture.

*Continued Inside*

Many seem to view the role of the church (their understanding of the church) as being largely social. They see the church as being responsible for feeding the hungry, housing the homeless, clothing and even subsidizing the needy. Certainly, the church has work to do in the area of benevolence. The scriptures offer many accounts of benevolent acts undertaken by Jesus and the apostles. The Lord gave a lengthy treatise on the importance of ministering to the hungry, the stranger, the naked, and those in prison (Matthew 25:31-46).

But, benevolence is certainly not the primary focus of the church. After Jesus fed the 5000, and they tried to make Him their king (John 6:15), He rebuffed them (vss. 26-60), emphasizing that His primary mission was to give them spiritual food (teaching), not physical food. When John's disciples came to see if Jesus was truly the Messiah, He told them to "Go and tell John the things you have seen and heard...the poor have the gospel preached to them" (Luke 7:19-22). Jesus stated, in effect, that there will always be poor people (Matthew 26:11; Mark 14:7). His mission, though, was "to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10).

The church is "the pillar and ground of the truth" (1 Timothy 3:15). It is "the truth" that will set people free from the condemnation of their sins (John 8:31-32). It is the teaching of the gospel message that holds "the power of God to salvation" (Romans 1:16). God's "eternal purpose" for the church is to proclaim that gospel message throughout the world (Ephesians 3:8-11; Mark 16:15-16). The church can, and should, do good where appropriate as we go about teaching the gospel. But, feeding somebody, building them a house, giving them money will not save them! Only by teaching them the gospel can we help people have their most pressing need met, their eternal salvation! As the church, may we stay focused and always be about our primary work of teaching God's word...

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## My Dad!

-Jim Galloway

When I was just a little boy,  
No more than just a lad,  
I met a lot of special men,  
But none quite like my Dad.

Though other men would often hear  
The things I'd have to say,  
None could listen with their heart  
In Dad's very special way.

I love to think of all the things  
He used to think and do,  
And how I felt down in my heart,  
"I want to be like you."

If I could be just half the man  
My father was to me,  
What a great example I would be  
For all the world to see.

The world would see a man who tried  
To never fail the test,  
Who never faltered in his quest  
To always do his best.

They'd see a man who loved his God,  
Through times both good and bad;  
What a man I'd be if I could live  
My life just like my Dad.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- June 19 – Evening Song Service
- July 3 – Men's Business Meeting & Ladies' Bible Class
- July 17 – Preach & Eat – 1:30 afternoon service.
- July 17-22 – Old-Fashioned Gospel Tent Meeting @ Greenfields w/ John Brown
- Please give support money for Chinese orphans to Minnie Kennell