



Morning Worship: TBA  
Evening Worship: TBA

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FOR THE RECORD

Sunday Bible Study	17
Sunday AM Worship	31
Sunday PM Worship	18
Wed. Bible Study	21
Offering	\$1448



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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!**

**"STRATEGY FOR VICTORY"**  
*Thomas B. Warren*

The only "*strategy for victory*" entails a *proper balance* between *truth* and *love*. We are taught to speak the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15; Matthew 22:34-40; cf. Jude 3; 1 Timothy 6:12).

There can be no spiritual victory without Christ's truth. It is by truth that men are made free from sin (John 8:32; 1 Peter 1:22-25; Romans 6:1-17; et al.). Christ's truth must be *loved* (2 Thessalonians 2:10-12). Christ's truth must be *sought* (John 6:44,45). Truth must be *learned* (John 6:45). Truth must be obeyed (1 Peter 1:22). And, truth must be faithfully *preached* and *contended* for (Galatians 1:6-9; Jude 3; 1 Timothy 6:12). If any one embarks on the journey of life while rejecting any of these matters in regard of truth, he thus launches himself into espousing a "*strategy of defeat*." Thus, no one can be spiritually victorious without being right about *truth*!

Similarly, there can be no spiritual victory without being a *loving* person. No one can be saved without loving the Lord (1 Corinthians 16:22). While it is possible for others to be saved by the preaching of the truth by one who preaches out of envy and strife (wrangling for the

*Continued Inside*

**Ephesians 5:23 and the  
"Singularity" of the Church**

For **the husband** is the head of **the wife**, even  
as **Christ** is the head of the **church**: and  
he is the **saviour** of the body.

*My Question-*

How many husbands..?  
How many wives..?  
How many Christs..?  
How many saviors..?  
How many churches..?

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sake of wrangling) (Philippians 1:15-18), the man who thus preaches will be lost if he does not repent of that lack of love (Galatians 5:19-21). Men ought to love other men – especially their brethren in Christ – even though they strongly disagree with them from the standpoint of doctrine.

But, may it be also strongly emphasized, the obligation to *love all* men does *not* entail the obligation to *compromise truth* with whatever error may be espoused and taught by those whom one loves. Obligations which are set out by truth must never be compromised. Just as the truth without love will not avail, so love without the truth will not avail.

Christ demands that we love the Lord (1 Corinthians 16:22; Matthew 22:34-40), our brethren in Christ (1 John 4:20), our families (Ephesians 5,6), our friends and neighbors (Matthew 22:34-40), and even our enemies (Romans 12:20,21). No one is following a "*strategy for victory*" if he does not *truly love*! We preach not only by what we *say* (teach, preach), but also by what we *do* (2 Corinthians 3:1ff; Matthew 5:6; Philippians 2:15,16; 1 Peter 3:1,2). No one can be saved without both *knowing* and *obeying* the truth. But being *correct in doctrine*, while *necessary* to salvation, is *not* – without love – *sufficient*.

Likewise, while love is necessary to salvation, it is *not* sufficient (for salvation) without both *knowing* and *obeying* the truth (sound doctrine).

We must not allow anyone to so *misuse* what the Bible teaches about *love* as to mislead us into accepting the *sinful* position of conceding that the truth (doctrine) of Christ is not crucial. On the other hand, we must not allow anyone to mislead us into accepting the false position which holds that as long as one *believes* the *right doctrine*, love is not important. All of us ought to speak the truth in love.

To hold to truth without love or to love without truth, is to espouse a strategy – *not of victory* – but of *defeat*. The only strategy of victory is a proper balance between love and truth (sound doctrine).

Surely God not only *intends*, but *demand*s, that we speak the truth in love. We must NOT allow ourselves either (1) to become soft on doctrine, or (2) to fail to truly love even our enemies (Romans 12:20,21).

Finally, may each and every one of us be very careful not to charge someone with not caring about truth unless the evidence to that effect is conclusive. And, may each person be careful in charging someone with not loving sufficiently. Let us all

treat each other as we ourselves would like to be treated (Matthew 7:12). This is a vital part of the strategy for victory. To fail here puts one in the role of espousing a strategy for defeat – it is to attempt to fight the good fight of the faith (1 Timothy 6:12) "with one hand tied behind one's back."

May each one hate every false way, but love every person, even one's enemies (Romans 12:20,21). The following is a very interesting and valuable quotation from the late R.L. Whiteside:

Much is said about preaching the truth in love, and so it should be preached. But in love of what? The preacher should so love the truth that he will not sacrifice any of it, nor pervert it, and he should so love people that he will not withhold from them even one unpleasant truth. He that does either of these things loves neither the truth nor the people. We frequently fool ourselves; we think we do thus, and so to spare the feelings of others, when it is our own feelings that prompt us. (quoted from *The Getwell Reminder*)

.....  
"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!" (Romans 10:9-15).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- June 6 – Men's Business Meeting & Ladies' Bible Class after Evening Worship
- June 13 – Preach-N-Eat & 1:30 Worship Service (Song Service)
- June 27 – Prayer Service after Evening Worship
- Please give support money for Chinese orphans to Minnie Kennell