

THINK ON THESE THINGS (Philippians 4:8)

## Can You Hear God's Voice?

AM Sermon - Daniel Schramm

### OUR FAMILY NEWS

**Pray:** Josiah, Helen Spicer, Bill & Peggy, Ralph & Terry, Justin

**Our new sister in Christ!** Shawn Marie was baptized July 14th. Keep her in your prayers.

**Traveling/Working:** Ben

**Radio Programs:** Listen to "Searching the Scriptures", our weekly radio program on KMBQ 99.7 Sunday mornings beginning at 9:00 AM.

**Today's Scripture: Matthew 7:24** "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:"

**Wisdom for Today: Ecclesiastes 12:13** "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."

PM Sermon: "All This I Have Proved By Wisdom" - Bill Beebe

Attendance Last Sunday: 78/81 Our Record: 107  
For more information, visit our website at  
[www.churchofchristwasilla.com](http://www.churchofchristwasilla.com)

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August 29, 2021 BULLETIN for the

# Church of Christ AT WASILLA

## God's Plan of Salvation

Hear .....Romans 10:17  
Believe .....Mark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6  
Repent ..... Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10  
Confess ..... Romans 10:9-10, Matthew 10:32-33  
Be Baptized ..... Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16  
Remain Faithful.....Matt 24:13; Rev 2:10; James 1:12

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

### CONTACT INFORMATION

#### MEETING TIMES

##### Sunday:

Bible Classes: 10AM  
AM Worship: 11AM  
PM Worship: 5PM

##### Wednesday:

Bible Study: 7PM

#### OFFICE HOURS

Tue./Thur. Call or Ck Web

#### COME JOIN US!

The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:

2061 N. Merciful Circle  
Wasilla, AK 99654  
(907) 373-5773

Visit our website at:

[www.churchofchristwasilla.com](http://www.churchofchristwasilla.com)

Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

## "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us

### Why Is Christianity Offensive?

The real reason so many people find Christianity offensive, and why they want nothing to do with it may not be what you think.

I'm convinced the one thing so many people find offensive about Christianity is "LOVE." Yes, "love."

You see, it's because of love that Christians must be willing to forgive (Matthew 18:21-22). But many people don't want to do that.

- It's because of love that Christians must bless and treat their enemies with kindness (Romans 12:20). But many people don't want to do that.
- It's because of love that Christians must rid their lives of racism and prejudice (James 2:1,9). But many people don't want to do that.
- It's because of love that Christians confront sin and sinners (Proverbs 27:6 ; Ephesians 5:11). But many people don't want to do that.
- It's because of love that Christians practice church discipline (1 Corinthians 5:4-5). But many people don't want to do that.
- It's because of love that Christians make great monetary sacrifices for the kingdom's sake (Acts 4:32-37). But many people don't want to do that.
- It's because of love that Christians give others the benefit of the doubt and don't judge their motives (1 Corinthians 13:4-7). But many people don't want to do that.
- It's because of love that Christians commit themselves to absolute allegiance and obedience to all that Jesus commands (John 14:15). But many people don't want to do that.

Do you see my point? It's not that Christianity is too harsh, too narrow, too judgmental, too irrelevant; it's because Christianity commands "LOVE" and love is hard to obey. That's why Christianity is so offensive to some people. It's because the two greatest commands of Christianity, which undergird all of it, are to love God and love our neighbors as ourselves...and many people just don't want to do that. Give it some thought.

Steve Higginbotham

## go into the house of the Lord." Psalm 122:1

### In The World But Not Of The World

Jesus said His disciples were "in the world" but "not of the world" (John 17:11, 16). We certainly are located in the world; but we are not to "be conformed to this world" (Romans 12:2). Being different from the world is neither popular nor easy. "If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you" (John 15:19).

How should you handle being different from the world? When those around you are using vulgar language, dressing immodestly, smoking, drinking, dancing, and otherwise behaving sinfully, what should you do? Compromise is not an option. "Go along and get along" might be pragmatic politics, but it is pathetic Christianity. Relative to the sinful world, disciples of Jesus are non-conformists. Rather, we are to "be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God" (Romans 12:2).

Sometimes you need to confront and rebuke sin boldly. In Athens (Acts 17) Paul told the philosophers plainly that their idolatry was contrary to truth and sound reasoning, and that they needed to repent. A few people listened; most turned away. When someone uses God's name disrespectfully, you have every right to express your displeasure. If the person respects you, perhaps he will clean up his language (at least when he is around you). If not, he may deliberately blaspheme just to irritate you. In the latter case, your continued objection is probably counterproductive. "Do not . . . cast your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you in pieces" (Matthew 7:6).

In some cases, you simply need to leave. When the people around you are telling dirty jokes, is there anything that says you must stay and listen? Removing yourself from the situation might embolden others to do the same. Example speaks volumes. In cases where you cannot leave (e.g. at work, or on an airplane), pray and endure.

In all cases, avoid being self-righteous. Acknowledge your own sins and shortcomings. Remember to love and pray for those whose behavior is worldly. Jesus died for them just as He did for you. "Hate the sin, love the sinner." That saying is worn out because it is so true! Don't just complain about bad behavior; show them the right way.

Christians are to be different from the world. Question: By observing you, can people tell the difference?

Joe Slater

### Calendar of Events

**Sept 29**

Wed night singing