The Christian COURIER

Post Office Box 1342
Modesto, California 95353
Published Monthly, by Brethren of the Church of Christ

NOVEMBER 1974

A CHRISTIAN

Acknowledge-Prov. 3:6,"In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil."

Humbleness-Phil. 2:8,"And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."

Luke 14:11,"For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted."

There are so many things that are contained in being a Christian, we are just touching the surface really, but maybe it will give us a few things as starters and build from these.

We'll go on to Col. 3:13-14,"Forbearing one another, and forgivng one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on Charity, which is the bond of perfectness."

Matt.5:44,"But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;"

Heb. 3:13-14,"But exhort one another daily, while it is called to day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end;"

Rom. 14:13,"Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother's way."

1Thess. 4:11,"And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you;"

Rom. 12:13,"Distributing to the necessity of saints;

given to hospitality."

Rev. 22:19,"And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the the things which are written in this book."

Rev. 2:10,"Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."

1Cor. 10:13,"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

I pray this will help someone. It has me during my time of studying.

Yours In Christ,
George B. Morris
Baron, Oklahoma.

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FOLLOWING THE LORD

We read in 1Pet. 2:21,"For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:"Why should we follow him? Because if we are Christians we know His voice. John 10:4,"And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice." If we don't know a voice we should not follow it,there are many voices in the world today, and too many people are going astray because of them.

Then we have an example and who could give us a better one? 1Pet: 2:21. Then we should follow him so we would have light to see where to go. John 8:12 tells us, "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." We have the light of life and the darkness of death or separation. Which should we walk in?

Then we should follow him, to be worth of him,Matt. 10:38 tells us,"And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worth of me." If we don't do the things he has asked us to do, we are rejecting him and he will then reject us. Then if we follow him we will be honored of God. John 12:26,"If any man serve me let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour." We can not be his disciples if we don't follow him. Lu.14:27,"And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple." A disciple is a follower.

One of the greatest reasons for following him is found in John 10:27-28,"My sheep hear my voice; and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand." We follow him to be with him. John 12:26,"If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be:..." In John 13:36 Jesus speaking to Peter told him,"Whither I go, thou canst not follow me now; but thou shalt follow me afterwards." We will follow the same as Peter, if we do his will while here.

How do we follow him. First we have to hear him. If we did not hear him we would not know how to follow, or the direction to go. John 10:27,"My sheep hear my voice; and I know them, and they follow me."

We follow him by self-denial. Mark 8:34,"Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me."

We are to serve him. John 12:26,"If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be:..."

We follow the Lord by bearing our cross. Lu.14:27, "And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple." He also tells us that our cross wont be something we can't bear.

We have to follow him whole-heartedly. Josh. 14:9, "...Surely the land whereon thy feet have trodden shall be thine inheritance, and thy children's for ever, because thou hast wholly followed the Lord my God." also the 14th verse, Caleb was given an inheritance because that "he wholly followed the Lord God of Israel." Luke 9:59-60,"And he said unto another, follow me. But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father. Jesus said unto him, let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach the kingdom of God." Then we are to follow him individually. John 21:22, Jesus saith unto him,"...If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me."

Where are we to follow him? Whereever he leads us. Matt. 8:19,"And a certain scrive came, and said unto him, Master, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest."also in the 14th chapter of Rev. and in the 4th verse,"..... These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth..."

When are we to follow him? We are to follow him FIRST.

We go back to Matt. 8:21-22,"And another of his disciples said unto him, Lord, suffer me First to go and bury my father. But Jesus said unto him, Follow me; and let the dead bury their dead." Then in Lu.5:11 we read,"And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all, and followed him." They put NOTHING ELSE FIRST but followed Jesus from then on. We are told to follow him daily. Lu. 9:23,"And he said to them all, if any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me."

And last, we are to follow him ALWAYS. Lu.9:61-62, "And another said, Lord, I will follow thee; but let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home in my house, and Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

Can we afford not to follow our Lord,when we read of all the promises he has given us, IF we do follow him?

Written in love of the truth.

Your Brother in Christ,
Robert E. McCay
22 A Creek View Drive.
Port Orchard,Wash.98366

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CHURCH NEWS

BARON,OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren;

Just a note to say hello and may you have peace in Christ. We should always be watching, praying and looking forward to the coming of Jesus Christ. He will come without warning. So we are the ones that are to be ready.

The brethren here at Baron are doing as well as can be expected, so we have something to be thankful for.

The weather was dry for awhile but we have been blessed with rain lately.

Anyone passing through is more than welcome to stop and worship with us, the time is 10:30 A.M.

Baron Church of Christ
Marion G. Warford
Gen. Del.
Westville,Oklahoma 74965

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STILWELL,OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren.

Everyone here is doing just fine. Our attendance

is holding up very well. Sister Zella Brown has come back into the Church after a long absence. We are all very happy for this and know that all the other Brothers and Sisters are too.

With Christian Love,
Brother Gerald Buckner
Route 2
Stilwell,Oklahoma 74960

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HUNTSVILLE,ARKANSAS

Dear Brethren;

Well here I am to let you know how all is on Bohanon Mountain. All is still able to attend church most of the time. Little Jimmie Laney can hardly walk now, and slowly grows worse, the doctors don't seems to be able to help any.

The church here is few in number, but is growing some. We haven't had any protracted meetings yet.

We receive the little paper, always glad to hear from the Brothers and Sisters in Christ. I would to God, we would be willing to speak where the Bible speaks and be silent where it is silent and get behind the little paper and make it the Best Paper yet; then and only then would Christ's prayer become a reality. John 17, I would to God, we all turn and study with a open mind, and remember verse 21, Christ's last prayer was, that we all be ONE. This can be brought about IF we will love Christ enough to KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS: He said if ye love me you will keep my Commandments. We find in Rev. 22:14, A blessing is to those that keep his commandments,ONLY in verse 18-19, no man can add to, neither can he take from God's Word.

I will close. I remain with Christian Love,
Bro.George Vanderpool
Route 1
Huntsville,Arkansas 72740

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YAKIMA, WASHINGTON

Brethren,

I hope this finds all well and in good spirits.

A lot has been happening ther in the Yakima congregation these past few months.

We just recently completed our meeting with Brother Harry Dye. It was very uplifting, as usual, to meet with fellow brothers and sisters in Christs body. He brought

some very fine lessons each service and this writer, for one, was very inspired by them.

My borther Bill & I had a very successful and rewarding meeting in Springfield, Oregon, June 9-16. Besides being a very enjoyable and personally encouraging experience, it was also a very beneficial meeting in terms of the fight for Christ. Sister Betty Bryant asked for strengthening through our prayers on Sunday morning June 16 and that evening Donna Ball was baptized into Christs body. We bothe certainly feel very lucky and proud to be able to take up the fight for Christ and do our part, with the talents we have been given, to fulfil his commandments given to us. We would also like to thank the congregation at Springfield for allowing us to hold this meeting and for the support each service and especially for their Christian hospitality.

At our last business meeting it was decided to hold a meeting the week of November 24 - December 1st. We are not going to have any one guest speaker, but rather, we are invitng any and all who can, to come and be with us. Lacking any guest speakers, we are going to give some of the younger brothers in our congregation a chance to speak in a meeting enviroment. If any of you can possibly come and meet with us and would like for us to arrange a service for you to speak please let us know.

It was also suggested that any of the brethren who would like to be considered for meetings write to the paper and let us know. This would help all congregations in knowing who is available and when. We are already considering our meeting for next spring or summer and it would help if we knew who possibly would or could come this way. I feel Bill and I were lucky to have been chosen to hold a meeting and hopefully enough good was done to establish ourselves as true soldiers in the fight for truth. I will also take this opportunity to say that Bill and I are both, pretty well free between June and September if we know enough in advance to set upon vacations.

We have had three new family units added to our congregation recently. Sister Carol Lamb, daughter of Brother & Sister Bob Lamb was married to Brother John Bauer. Brother Perry Jared son of Brother & Sister J.L. Jared married Christen Staab. Sister Teri McCay, daughter of Brother & Sister Bill McCay Sr. was married to Brother Bob Lamb, son of Brother & Sister Bob Lamb Sr. Also Brother & Sister Richard Johnston now have a new daughter, Jessica Ruth. We are all very happy to see this growth in our midst.

I will close saying we are all generally in good

health and spirits here in Yakima. Many have been traveling around this summer to different congregations and trying to catch parts or all of meetings. Once again, every report that came back was of the hospitality and Christian love shown to each one of us.

May God bless and strengthen each and everyone of you.

For the Yakima Congregation,
Mike McCay
903 E. Viola St.
Yakima, Wash. 98901

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CHICO,CALIFORNIA

Dear Brethren,

We at Chico had a good meeting with Brother Claud Perigen doing the speaking. He brought a series of fine lessons, upbuilding to all who heard.

We appreciate the wonderful support shown to us. We especially want to thank our visitors who came so far, Bellflower, Yakima, Grants Pass, Port Orchard, Indian Springs, and Modesto.

We invite all who would to come and worship with us at anytime.

Sincerely,
Clif Brockman
P.O. Box 66
Nelson, Calif. 95958

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BELLFLOWER,CALIFORNIA

Dear Christian Friends;

We here at Bellflower congregation wish to thank each and every one of our visitors for helping by their attendance, to make our recent meeting a real success. Brother Bill McCay Sr. brought some wonderful lessons. Just wish everyone could have been here.

Sister Nell Fulkerson is doing very well with her surgery. Sister Kate Lewis is with us again after her bout with the flu. Sister Myrtle Lee Clouse home from the hospital after her surgery doing well. Sister Betty Perigen broke her goot while they were at Mammoth,Calif. vacationing. They are all home safe, but was sorry they were unable to attend Chico meeting after having car trouble.

We are all saddened to lose Brother George Meadows. He passed away July 26,1974. He will be missed by all who

knew him, from the children to the old ones. Our sincere sympath goes to the whole family.

Congratualtions to Brother & Sister Bill Ditch for their tiny daughter, Her name is Melinda Michelle. They also have two little sons.

Tami and Tayne Way have been visiting Grand-parents and other relatives in California and Oregon. We missed them. Glad they have returned safely home in time for school.

Anyone passing our way feel free to stop in for services and visit in our homes.

In Christian Love
Claud Perigen for the Church
of Christ 9914 Arkansas Ave.
Bellflower, California

In memory of Brother George Meadows who passed from this life July 26,1974 in Lucerne Valley after a long illness. He was born on March 15,1903 in Baxter,Missouri In the early 30's he moved to New Mexico and on to Calif. in the 50's. He was a carpenter by trade and retired in 1971. He was a member of the church here at Bellflower. Brother Meadows leaves his widow, Litha, three daughters, four grand-children & two great-grand-children all residing in southern California. He has three sister residing in Missouri. Brother Meadows was laid to rest July 30th at 9:00 A.M. Brother Claud Perigen,minister. Interment Rose Hills Memorial Park. (Our deepest sympathy to all.Ed)

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MODESTO, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brethren,

The congregation here at Modesto has been blessed with many visitors the past months, always happy to have them with us. Also many of our own members have traveled extensively this summer attending meetings, visiting with congregations and attending weddings; now all safely home, settled back to our normal routines of daily life. The Lord has richly blessed us and we are very thankful.

Our elderly in the convalscent hospitals are in our prayers, hoping their future will brighten some,also the shut-ins at home.

Brother Dean Guyer is improving with his back problem. Sister Corine Perry has been down with her back unable to attend worship last Lord's Day. Brother Delbert Baxley is recovering very nicely from his surgery and is able to be up and around again. Sister Jo Williams is home recovering from her surgery. We pray they will all

soon be well again.

We are happy to have Sister Sandi Logan now living in Modesto, attending school and meeting with us. Also Sister Ellen Jean McCay is visiting with us at this time. The congregation always needs more people and especially the young ones.

We were saddened very deeply September 25th at the death of Gary Francis Logan. Gary was killed in a timber accident near his home at Hayfork,California. Gary was born May 24,1952 in Visalia,California. He was the son of Elbert & Melva Logan of Hayfork. Brother of Sandi Logan, Shirley Thomas, Harmie Logan, & Barbara Wilson-Grandson of Sister Minnie Willingham of Fontana,Calif.-Nephew of Bro.& Sis. J.D.Logan Services were held Sept. 30,1974, 11:00 A.M. in Weaverville,Calif., Brother Dean Guyer, minister. Interment Weaverville Cemetery. Deepest sympathy to all.

Remember our meeting times are 10:30 A.M. and 6:30 P.M. each Lord's Day. Corner of Glenn & Dallas Streets, Modesto, California. Come and be with us.

With Christian Love, the Modesto Congregation of the Church of Christ.

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DELTA, COLORADO

Dear Brethren;

First I would like to announce that we plan to have a Camp Meeting starting August 3,1975. It will be at the camp grounds north of Cedaredge where we have had it for several years. Dormitories will be available,also campers will be welcome. As soon as we get the prices, and the camp ground rules and regulations we will mail them to each congregation. Also send them to the Courier.

We have good news to share with every one, Debbie Wilkerson, Brother Terry's wife, and daughter-in-law of Brother & Sister Bud Wilkerson was baptized Sept.5th. All of us here at Happy Hollow Church are all fine. Bro. & Sis. Toodler Goodwin of Seymour, Texas congregation, visited with us here for a week. We enjoyed having them and their fellowship very much. Bro.& Sis. Earl Broadway from Yuma, Arizona Congregation also visited here this summer, we too enjoyed their visit and fellowship. We welcome any one coming our way to stop and stay a while with us.

I would like to say that Brother and Sister Chester Gehrett at Coeur D'Alene, Idaho, Route 4 Box 289-P16 are meeting there each Sunday in their home. We stayed and visited with them for a couple of days, they took us boat riding on the beautiful Coeur D'Alene Lake, we had worship

with them on Sunday. They welcome any one coming their way and any one that can go help them. They are from the Happy Hollow Congregation at Cedaredge, Colorado.

I would like to say thanks for a good meeting at Port Orchard, Washington, with Brother and Sister Robert McCay and all the Brothers and Sisters there, for their wonderful fellowship and hospitality, also thanks a million to all the Brothers and Sisters, and children that come from far and near to help make my meeting there a good one.

Hope all can come to Cedaredge & Delata, Colorado for the camp meeting, August 1975. Happy Hollow Church. For information write Brother Ken Baldwin or Brother Bud Wilkerson, and watch the Courier for further information. This is your meeting as well as ours, so any ideas or suggestions are welcome and your help is needed to make it a success. So let us all pitch in and make it the best one yet. One congregation can't do it all. Anyone wishing to know more about our country here or thinking of making a move please keep us in mind and will send you information you want about either one and help you all we can. We want and need you.

Let us hear form you. Ken Baldwin P.O.Box 188,Delta, Colorado 81416 Phone 303-874-4581: Bud Wilkerson, Route 1 Cedaredge, Colorado, 81413 Phone 303-856-3703:

In Christian Love,
Ken Baldwin for the
Happy Hollow Church of Christ.

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(Ed. Note: Sister Verlie Baldwin is finally off her crutches, as of a few weeks ago, still weak, but better.)

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ELK CITY,OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren;

Just wanted to let you know that we just closed a weeks meeting last Sunday night, here at Elk City. We were happy to have Brother Paul Andrews of Hindsville, Arkansas to conduct the meeting. Brother Andrews worships at the Goshen Church of Christ. He is a young man,twenty years old. He has been a member about four years. From the way he preaches you would thing much longer.I would recommend him to any one who might be thinking of a gospel meeting, and would want to help a young preacher in his efforts to proclaim the gospel as it is written.

We had no converts but heard some good sermons and I'm sure the Church was strengthened. We had good attendance. Several from the other two Churches of Christ here in town attended most of the meeting. Also we had real

good co-operation from the near by churches and from one not so near by. Brother and Sister Alvin Rennels, Brother Wade Rennels, Sister Blanche Rennels, Brother and Sister Glen Peterson, all from the Colter Congregation.

Brother and Sister Bill Goldstrap, from the Lugart Congregation. Brother and Sister Joe Taylor, from the Loco Congregation, Brother and Sister Larry Spurlin, from Reydon Congregation, Brother J.C.(John) Spurlin had planed to attend but a few days before the meeting began he entered the hospital in Oklahoma City for surgery. Last report he was doing well. Let us all pray for a speedy recovery for this great soldier.

Brother and Sister Sammmy Boen and son Keith were here form Fort Smith,Arkansas, they meet at the Stilwell Congregation. They were the ones who were not so near.

Written for the Elk City Church
by L.E.(Earl) Atchley
921 West 2nd St.
Elk City, Oklahoma 73644

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SOCIAL DRINK

There is a great evil in the world today, which is causing some of the body of Christ to sin, even influencing some who seem to be pillars of the Church. I am speaking of Social Drinking. It is EVIL because of the great damage it does. According to the American Medical Association, Alcohol is the No.1 drug problem in theU.S. today.

In 60%of the highway fatalities alcohol was a facto to say nothing of crimes of beatings, robbery, broken homes,etc., which are attributed to alcohol. 90% of the thousands of alcoholics in the U.S. started as Social Drinkers.

It is truly an evil and 1Thess.5:22, tells us to "Abstain from all appearance of evil." This in itself should condemn Social Drinking, but let us go a little farther. When we speak of Social Drinking immediately Brethren say,"Beware you are infringing upon a Liberty and unless specificaly mentioned in the Bible you are infringing on the rights of an individual. They quote 1Tim. 5:23,"Drink no longer water but use a little wine for thy stomache sake and thine often infirmities." Now it does not mention if this was just grape juice or if it was wine as we know it today, an alcohol, but no matter, it was to be used as a medicine and not for Social Drinking. I cannot see Brethren,or others, inviting some friends or neighbors, or family over for a shot of Epson Salts, Pepto Bismo, Castor Oil, or any other medincine

prescribed by a doctor, making a social affair out of it.

Now we are to let our lights shine before others to the Glory of God. Matt.5:16. How can we influence people to come to Christ when they look at our lives and see us doing that which they believe wrong, and a number of the denominational churches do teach that Social Drinking is wrong. They would rightly refer to us as it says in Titus 1:16,they profess that they know God but in works they DENY Him.

What kind of influence would Social Drinking church members have on those people? What kind of influence on Brethren? It is said by some,"I am NOT my brothers keeper," "It is NOT my FAULT if he is led to drunkeness by my Social Drinking." "I CAN handle it and it he can not it is NOT my fault." But what does the Bible say? Prov. 20:1,Wine is a mocker, strong drink is rageing and whosoever is deceived thereby IS NOT WISE." Isa. 28:7, "They have also erred through Wine and Strong Drink out of the way." 1Cor.Chapter 8 deals with our responsibility to our Brother and applies not just to meats but anything that causes our Brother to offend. Rom. 14:21,"It is good neither to EAT FLESH nor to DRINK WINE nor ANYTHING whereby thy Brother stumbleth or is offended or is made weak."

Social Drinking is nothing more than a LUST of the FLESH which is condemned in Gal.5:16 also 1Jno. 2:16.

If these are not enough scriptures, write to me and we will discuss it farther. Space does not allow for more at this writing. I realize that this article will not make me POPULAR with some and may cause me to lose some speaking engagements, but I believe it is time for Christians to stand up and be counted as Christians, not JUST CHURCH MEMBERS.

Brethren let us CONDEMN SIN: Fight the GOOD FIGHT and not stand IDLY BY.

Written in Love of the Body of Christ,
Howard McCay
810 So. 15th Ave.
Yakima,Washington 98902

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WE ARE VERY SORRY THIS PAPER IS SO LATE GOING TO PRINT. REASON IS THAT WE KEPT HOPING THAT ENOUGH LETTERS WOULD REACH US, TO FILL THIS ISSUE. NEXT ISSUE WILL BE CUT DOWN IN SIZE,BECAUSE DUE TO MEETING DATES THE PAPER NEEDS TO GO OUT ON TIME. THE PAST FEW MONTHS ARTICLES AND NEWS HAS BEEN VERY SLOW COMING IN. WE REALIZE THAT MANY WERE ON VACATIONS AND ATTENDING MEETINGS, BUT WHY NOT WRITE MANY ARTICLES AND SEND THEM IN ALL AT ONCE SO WE WILL HAVE SOME TO USE WHEN THESE TIMES COME.(EDITOR)