

The Christian Courier

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To Be a Part of God's Family

How can this be done?

Paul speaking to the Corinthians said, "*Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing...*". He then told them, "*...and I will receive you. And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty. The Lord will receive them and be a Father to them and that they would be sons and daughters.*" (2 Cor. 6:17-18).

To be children of God requires baptism.

In speaking to the Galatians (Gal. 3:26-27), Paul tells them that as many of them are baptized become children of God.

Nicodemus questions Jesus concerning rebirth.

When Nicodemus questions Jesus on the possibility of a second natural birth, Jesus explains that man must be born of water and of



the spirit. He tells him that which is born of the flesh is flesh and that which is born of the spirit is spirit (John 3:3-6).

This explains that the rebirth is spiritual.

Rom. 6:4, "*Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*"

The fleshly man is dead. The spiritual shall rise to walk in new life.

Rom 6:11, "*Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.*" God will be our Father and we his children.

Are Christians born fully-grown?

I Pet. 2:2, "*As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:*" Christians are first newborn and must be nourished by the sincere milk of the word, that they may grow.

Infancy is a very vulnerable time.

Gal. 2:20, "*I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.*" Even though we have been crucified with Christ or are dead to sin, we live in fleshly bodies.

Matt 13:18-23. In the parable of the sower Jesus warns that the wicked one is quick to take advantage of the weak or the ones that do not have depth to endure. Some are choked by the cares of this world.

One area the wicked one causes trouble is between brothers and sisters.

II Pet. 3:18, "*But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever.*" After receiving the sincere milk of the world, one must begin growing in the grace and knowledge of the word.

We must put away the fleshly ways of life, bitterness, wrath, anger, clamour, evil speaking, but instead be kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving (Eph. 4:30-32).

Being children of God means being followers of God. Eph. 5:1-8, "*Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour. But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks. For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. Be not ye therefore partakers with them. For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:*"

I'm not sure when or if ever some Christians become fully-grown. II Tim. 3:7, "*Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.*"

There are winners and losers when brothers and sisters let the wicked one influence them. The winner is Satan. The losers are the churches, and the brothers and sisters.

Harry Davis
Yuma, AZ



Put away bitterness, wrath, anger, etc.

Does "Cup" Mean Contents or Container?

A point is made by proponents of using more than one cup in the communion service that the cup is referred to as what is drunk, not the vessel drunk from. The extension from that is that it doesn't matter whether one cup is used, or many. Is this a valid point? Let's consider all the accounts of the communion, and see.

First of all, let's check the account that this point is made from.

I Cor. 11:23-27, "*For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come. Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.*"

So the point is made that the cup is what you drink, not what you drink from.

When we check the other references, we see that the cup is referred to as both the contents and the drinking vessel.

Matt. 26:26-28, "*And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.*"

Mark 14:22-24, "*And as they did eat, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and brake it, and gave to them, and said, Take, eat: this is my body. And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them: and they all drank of it. And he said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many.*"

Luke 22:17-20, "*And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, Take this, and divide it among yourselves: For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come. And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.*"

(No, Jesus did not use the cup both before and after the bread for the Communion. The first in verses 17-18 is during the Passover. The second, verse 20, is establishing the Communion.)

So what do we learn from all these verses? Yes, the cup is referred to as what we drink, the fruit of the vine. It is also what Jesus took, it is also what Jesus gave thanks for, it is also what Jesus gave to the disciples, and it is also what the disciples drank of. And in each reference it is singular.

The fact that the cup also refers to the drinking vessel is further borne out by reading just one verse more in this chapter, I Cor. 11:28: "*But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup.*"

It is not my intent to judge or criticize. Nothing would make me happier than for God on Judgment Day to say it didn't matter whether you used one cup or many. But I cannot take that chance with my soul. One cup is the example given in the scriptures.

In Christian love,

Bro. Terry Warford
22023 29th Avenue South
Des Moines, WA 98198



Cards and Letters

Cedaredge, CO

Hello to all from Cedaredge,

I'm sure someone has told you by now, but just in case you don't know, Bro. Chester Craig passed away about 3 weeks ago. He had been ill for 3-4 months. His demise was a blood clot that reached his lungs. He was a good Christian man in my opinion. Please remember his wife, Sis. Catherine, in your prayers.

I'm enclosing some help for the bulletin. I have been meaning to get it to you for sometime now. I apologize for my tardiness.

Please visit with us if you are in the area.

With Christian love,

George Cowger

Oakdale, CA

Hello to all.

Tammy and I wanted to give our dear friends an update on Steve's progress. At my last writing he was still undergoing chemotherapy treatments in San Francisco. He has since finished his treatments and is feeling much more like a normal kid. Since we home tutored him through his freshman year he was able to start this year as a sophomore with his friends. His hair is starting to grow back and hopefully won't have to wear a hat all the time before too long. His leg is getting stronger as the months go by. Still has a limp, but as his muscles strengthen, the limp decreases. We take him for his post treatment scans in early October. This will be the first scan since chemo ended. Its a little nerve wracking just "waiting to see" but we are totally trusting in God's grace...what else can we do??? All of us, no matter how healthy and happy or normal things seem to be, are at God's mercy. How we react to adversity determines how deep our faith was to begin with. Steve has suffered a great deal this past year but has come through with a solid foundation for the rest of his life. Through his ordeal, his faith only increased, his love for God and religion only deepened. He has been an inspiration to our family and those around him. We again want to thank all of you who have prayed for Steve. We can't begin to tell you how convinced we are that prayer is what made the difference in Steve's case. It's an inspiration to all of us to see how things just worked out for the best. We can really see God's hand in his healing. Thanks and please continue to pray for him as he still has a long road ahead of him with yet one more surgery to go.

We also want to thank everyone who have sent cards, made phone calls and sent financial help - all of you are true blessings and a great example of sharing God's love to others.

Your Christian friends,

Mark and Tammy Perigen

Sea-Tac, WA

Our dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We had an extremely good weekend meeting over Labor Day. We do apologize for not having everything set up quickly enough for

more people to make plans to join us. We do appreciate the visitors we had from the Glenwood, Yakima and Aloha congregations.

The brethren from Glenwood did an excellent job speaking for us. Bro. Greg Stacy spoke Friday night. His topic was "The Least of These", reminding us that how we treat others, especially in the church, is how we are treating Christ. Bro. Bill Taylor spoke Saturday evening about how the ways king Jeroboam changed the worship of God in the Old Testament are very similar to the ways modern denominations change the worship of God in the New Testament. This lesson inspired us all, especially Bro. JD Logan, who spoke Sunday morning on "Why I Am a Member of the Church of Christ". Bro. Chris Carter (age 15 1/2) wrapped it all up with a wonderful lesson on how we often need to go "Against the Flow" of the world. Each lesson was excellent and timely, and we really appreciate them, for all the families of our little congregation.

Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Shaya Flugence have now moved back to the Seattle area. We are excited to have them (and of course little Khiara) with us.

Sis. Tara Ross had an accident, and received burns, on a flight back to Seattle from New York. She then had an allergic reaction to either the burn or the medication. She was taken to the hospital when the plane landed, treated and released. She is recovering, and says she was more embarrassed than hurt.

Sis. Jeannean McSwane is facing another surgery in November, this time to repair her left ankle and replace her left hip. Sis. Jeanne Boroff continues to wait to be scheduled for her hip surgery. Please keep them in your prayers.

We thank all the brotherhood for your encouragement and support.

With love,

The congregation at Sea-Tac

Yuma, AZ

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

A few words to say hi, with prayers that all that are ill be doing better. We here are mostly doing well, but Sis. Ruth Duncan is still having chest pains. Her doctors don't relate it to her heart. Since last writing I've had quite an experience. I've had problems for a long time, but nothing was indicating heart problems. The doctor we use sent me for a stress test and I was flown to Phoenix for bypass surgery. I'm doing pretty well, the recovery takes awhile. I can't thank everyone enough for the visits, calls and cards. It surely does show the Christian love in the brotherhood.

This past first Sunday of the month Bro. Bill Martin, wife Karen and their whole family were with us. Bill gave the lesson and after services we had lunch and lots of visiting.

Bro. Denny Davis and wife Susie were here for a couple of weeks but returned to their summer home for awhile longer.

Our weather has been a bit more favorable and soon nice weather will return and give us some badly needed relief.

This is about all the news from here at this time.

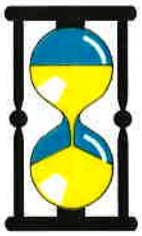
May God bless us all richly. Let us all be thankful and work hard in the faith.

In Christian Love,

The Yuma congregation

"As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country"
(Prov 25:25)

Precious Memories



***It Is Written*, October, 1954.** Bro. Howard Studer, Lorenzo, TX, reported on their meeting with guest speakers at their 5th Sunday meeting. There were three baptisms and one restoration. Bro. R. C. Clements, Broken Bow, OK, announced two recent baptisms.

***Gospel News Courier*, September, 1964.** Bro. J. C. Spurlin, Reydon, OK, wrote that some from that congregation planned to attend the Delta Camp Meeting. Bro. Lloyd Treat, Broken Bow, OK, announced they had one baptism and they also made plans for a 5th Sunday meeting in November. Bro. Paul Ferguson, La Habra, CA, wrote that he spent 2 months visiting various meetings around the country. He listed several at these meetings that were baptized: Furnish Canyon, CO: Nan Wiggins; Ringgold, TX: Linda & Virginia Pollan, Ellis & Mary Pollan, Thresa Taylor, La Don & Darlynn Lewis, and Zelpha Taylor. Also announced were the passings of Sis. Allie Bell Jones, Delta, CO, on July 22, 1964; and Sis. Margaret Emaline Davis, Somerton, AZ, on July 26, 1964.

***Gospel News Courier*, October, 1964.** Bro. Ken Baldwin, Cedaredge, CO, reported on the Delta Camp Meeting at which there were over 100 in attendance from various congregations. Bro. Paul Auslam, Bohannan Mt., AR, reported on their meeting with Bro. Paul Ferguson. Bro. J. O. Taylor, Comanche, OK, reported on their meeting with Bro. Paul Ferguson. Bro. Amos Beaver, San Pablo, CA, wrote that Bro. Roy Brown at Modesto, CA, had been pretty sick with the flu. Bro. L. E. Atchley, Westville, OK, announced their meeting in October with Bro. Jim Brown. Sis. Juanita Nelson, Somerton, AZ, announced the passing of Sis. Margaret Davis and listed a few who had been sick. Bro. Howard Studer, Lorenzo, TX, announced the baptism of Willie Howe. Sis. Laura Willis, Carlsbad, NM, listed a few recent visitors. Bro. Ken Baldwin, Cedaredge, CO, thanked all those who made the Delta Camp Meeting a success.

***The Christian Courier*, September, 1974.** Bro. Earl Atchley, Elk City, OK, wrote that he and his wife had visited a few other congregations. Bro. J. D. Logan, Modesto, CA, listed several recent visitors.

***The Christian Courier*, September, 1984.** Bro. Al Way, Bellflower, CA, wrote that Sis. Burdette Perigen was recovering from her surgery. He also reported on their meeting with Bro. Audley Barnes, and the baptism of Keith Bentz at Chico, CA. The Yuma, AZ, congregation announced the baptisms of Dorothy Williams and Becca Lyons. Bro. Audley Barnes, Loco, OK, reported on their trips to the Delta Camp Meeting and to Bellflower, CA. Bro. Dan Teague, Duncanville, TX, listed some recent visitors. Bro. Bill McCay, Yakima, WA, reported on their meeting with Bro. John Bedingfield.

***The Christian Courier*, October, 1984.** Bro. Homer Bryant, San Pablo, CA, announced the baptism of Lora Lindley. Bro. Robert Morris, Yuma, AZ, wrote that Bro. Al Jones had been hospitalized with heart trouble. The Cedaredge, CO, congregation reported on the Delta Camp Meeting. Bro. Paul Andrews, Goshen, AR, mentioned that Sis. Kathy Campbell had been hospitalized for a few days. Bro. Billy Richardson, Furnish Canyon, OK, reported on their meeting with Bro. Claud Perigen. Bro. Tom Broadway, Rogue River, OR, gave the address where they are currently meeting. The Waterford, CA, congregation reported that Sis. Mary McKinzie had undergone

hip surgery. They also reported on their meeting with Bro. Sammy Boen. Bro. J. W. Bedingfield, Deer Park, TX, reported on their travels to several congregations. Bro. Terry Warford, Baron, OK, announced the baptism of Michael Barrett. The Selah, WA, congregation listed a few recent visitors. Bro. L. E. Arnett, Waterford, CA, mentioned they had a couple of guest speakers the past month. Bro. Ken Harper, Indian Springs, CA, listed several visitors during the summer.

***The Christian Courier*, September, 1994.** The Cedaredge, CO, congregation thanked all for attending the Delta Camp Meeting. The also announced the baptism of Tina Woodrum. Bro. Don Lewis, Duncan, OK, reported on their meeting with Bro. Jerry Perigen. The Sea-Tac, WA, congregation reported on their meeting with Bro. Robert Davis and Bro. J. D. Logan.

***The Christian Courier*, October, 1994.** Sis. Verle Baldwin, Cedaredge, CO, submitted an obituary on Bro. Charles Baldwin Sr. Bro. Audley Barnes, Comanche, OK, reported on their meeting with Bro. Al Way. Bro. John Usrey, Sacramento, CA, thanked all for their prayers concerning his cancer operation. Bro. Homer Bryant, San Pablo, CA, announced the baptism of Andrew Florin. The Sea-Tac, WA, congregation mentioned that Bro. Howard & Sis. Nell McCay were in an accident that totaled their car, but they received only bumps and bruises.



Garden of Gethsemane in Israel today where Jesus prayed before His crucifixion.

Bulletin Board

Meetings

October 29-31, 2004	Van Buren, AR	Rex Mickey

Passings

Chester Craig	Cedaredge, CO	September, 2004

Prayer of Faith for those in need

Duane Bixler	Aztec, NM	Alzheimer's disease
Lectie Denny	Baron, OK	Not doing good
Floyd Camp	Broken Bow, OK	Heart attack
Ray Queen	Broken Bow, OK	Health problems
Stephen Perigen	Oakdale, CA	Fighting cancer
Jeanne Boroff	Sea-Tac, WA	Severe hip pain & weakness
Tara Ross	Sea-Tac, WA	Burns
Jeannean McSwane	Sea-Tac, WA	Ankle repair, hip replacement, & arthritis
Barbara Paseman	Springfield, OR	Fighting cancer
Shirley Severe	Springfield, OR	Health problems
Vivian Baker	Waterford, CA	Fighting cancer
Kaye Guyer	Waterford, CA	Not doing good
Harry Davis	Yuma, AZ	Recovering from heart surgery
Ruth Duncan	Yuma, AZ	Chest pain
Jean Orendorff	Yuma, AZ	Ill for some time
Iris Stewart	Yuma, AZ	Heart problems