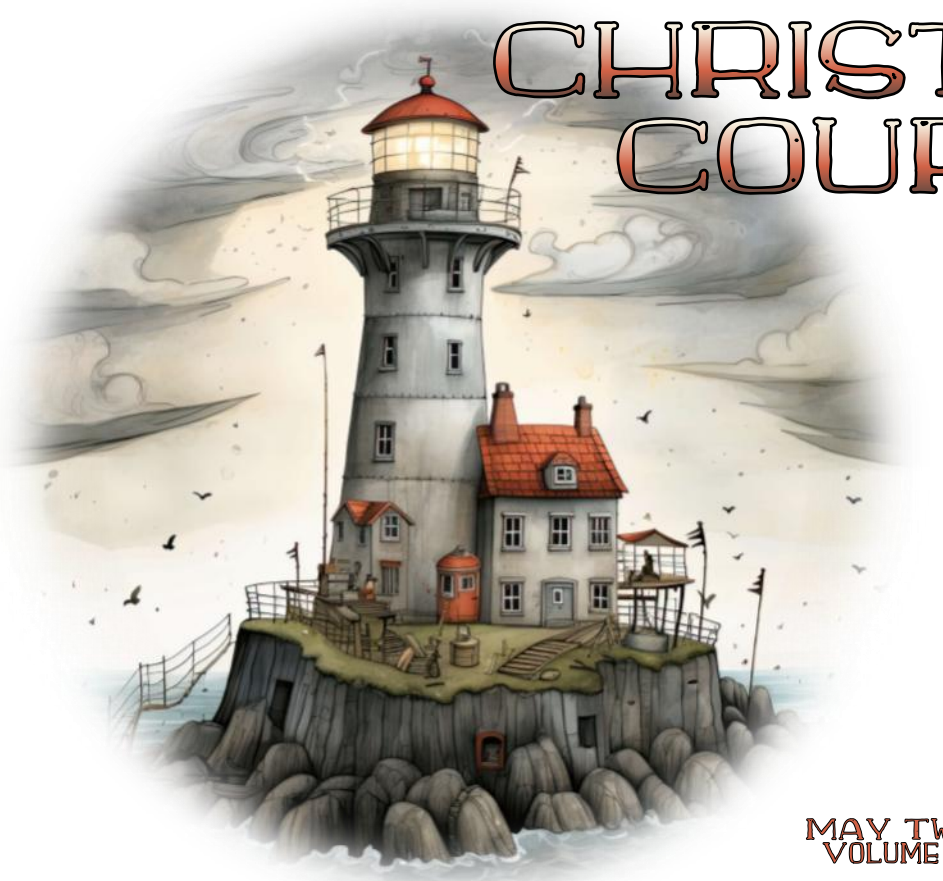
CHRISTIAN COURIER



MAY TWENTY-TWENTY-FIVE
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SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Part 2 of 2 — Bro. Troy Mooney

Knowing Yourself in Spiritual Warfare

It might sound strange, but if we don't know who we are—whether in relation to the devil or as a child of God—we will not be equipped to withstand the wiles of the devil.

Who am I? A child of God

1 John 2:13-14, "*I write unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I write unto you, young men, because ye have overcome the wicked one. I write unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father.* [14] *I have written unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.*"

He's addressing people at every stage of their Christian walk.

As a child of God, I have overcome the devil. Through Jesus Christ, we have won our personal victory against him.

This doesn't mean I cannot still be lost. Soldiers can be killed even after the war is over.

The same can be true of us if we allow it. We must know who we are to be able to withstand the enemy.

Know your weaknesses so you can grow

2 Corinthians 13:5, "*Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?*"

We have to know where our weaknesses lie, so we examine ourselves. When we find areas where we are weak, with study we can work on and grow in those areas. We grow spiritually in those areas when we study the Word of God.

James 4:7 "*Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*"

We must know both our weaknesses and our strengths. If we fail to understand our enemy, we may fall. If we don't know both our enemy and ourselves, we undoubtedly will fall.

Who am I? A child of God. Know your weaknesses. Grow. Know your strengths. Our strength is in the Lord.

We have free will to choose. We must understand both ourselves and our enemy.

Knowing God in Spiritual Warfare

We have an almighty God on our side. We must know our God.

Romans 8:31 "*What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?*"

God is greater than the devil and all his works. He is the Creator of all things, both spiritual and material—even the devil. Though the devil still has influence, God has already defeated him.

2 Peter 2:4 "*For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment.*"

We must know the Word of God. Without the knowledge of His Word, we will be destroyed.

Hosea 4:6, "*My people are*

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destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children."

We need to know His promises. He has promised us a way to escape temptation.

1 Corinthians 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.*"

Our way to escape temptation is through our free will. We cannot be overcome against our will.

He has promised deliverance and forgiveness of our sins when we stumble, if we repent.

1 John 1:9 "*If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*"

He has promised us victory.

1 Corinthians 15:57-58, "*But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.*"

He has promised that He will be with us to the end.

Matthew 28:20 "*Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.*"

He has promised us a crown of life and of righteousness.

Revelation 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.*"

2 Timothy 4:8, "*Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.*"

We need to know and remember His promises.

We are to know God and know that His strength is greater than the devil's.

Know How to Fight in Spiritual Warfare

We must be prepared spiritually. We must be engaged in the warfare. We must be engaged in the fight. We must know how to fight.

Remembering who or what the devil is, and that he has fatal limitations, will encourage us in the struggle.

Remembering who God is gives us a sense of purpose in our spiritual warfare. Remembering who God is will give us the strength, courage, and fortitude to carry the day.

We need to rely on God and His Word in order to protect us.

Ephesians 6:10-18 (Read)

Philippians 3:11, "*If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.*"

Romans 10:15, "*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 10:17, "*So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*"

Thessalonians 5:8, "*But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.*"

Hebrews 4:12, "*For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*"

Matthew 26:41 "*Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.*"

We are to take on the whole armor of God. Once armed, what are we to do?

James 4:7 "*Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*"

We are to submit ourselves to God, humbling ourselves before Him. We are to protect, keep, and guard our hearts.

I Timothy 6:11 "*But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.*"

We are to never quit; never let go. The art of spiritual warfare is knowing when and how to fight. We must rely upon God and His Word, and resist the devil, knowing that he will flee from us.

Conclusion

Remember who/what the devil is.

Rely upon God and His Word (the armor).

You can be an overcomer. You can overcome the devil by being obedient to God's will. He has promised eternal life to those who are faithful to Him. He has told us in His Word how to be saved. We believe that God is in His Son, Jesus Christ, and that He died for our sins. Based on that belief, we confess our faith, repent of our sins, and are baptized to be cleansed of our sins and to walk a new life.

Once we become Christians, we live a life of overcoming.

Bro. Troy Mooney

Broken Bow Church of Christ

Broken Bow, OK



Notes & Letters

Brothers and Sisters, Checking in to let everyone know how we are doing here in Yuma. Our 2025 March meeting has come and gone with great success. It is a pleasure to be able to hold these meetings and to visit with all of the brothers and sisters that were in attendance. We as a congregation want to thank each and everyone that came to this years get together. As is always the case we had some great lessons from the brothers. The singing was also wonderful to be a part of and to hear all of the voices blending together, God was surely pleased to hear the songs that we sang for Him. We have a few that are regulars now; my Granddaughter Jennifer her husband Keith and his Grand parents Jim and Connie Quinn, great people to be around. By the way Keith is doing very well helping with the teaching.

The congregation here are doing fairly well as far as health goes although our Brother Bruce Cuming has had some episodes concerning his heart and for now not exactly sure of the causes and my sister Diane Cuming is also having heart related issues, keep them in prayers. We all seem to have doctor's appointments for one thing or the other. I had carpal tunnel surgeries first on my right hand and about a month later on the left; in between the carpal surgeries I had a cancer removed from my right ear and the doctor did a masterful job on filling in the hole in the ear. To the Courier I need to have my wife, Bruce and Diane listed on the prayers list. She, Susie my wife, is in 3B Kidney disease which is just before the stage for dialysis. Right now she is holding her on and may have improved a bit, it's all in the numbers. So everyone please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

May God bless and keep you all healthy

Denny and Susie,
from the Yuma Congregation



To The Christian Courier,

The Church of Christ in Citrus City, AZ would like to donate towards the production and printing of The Christian Courier.

We really appreciate the work and love that is put into this.

Thank you & God bless
The Citrus City
Church of Christ

Thank you so much for the kind words - Ed

Guess Who???

The answer is below the Bulletin Board



Voices from the Past

The Christian Courier - August 1971

COMMENTS ON THE SECOND CHAPTER OF JUDE.

Many times we hear people of the world say, "I think this quotation is in the Bible." If you say, "Maybe it is about the second chapter of Jude," They will agree eagerly.

Let us examine the truth of some of these common sayings: "Cleanliness is next to Godliness," is a good one. Everyone knows it's good to be clean. Matt. 23:25 and in "-- hypocrites, for you clean the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. You blind Pharisees! You must first clean the inside of the cup and the dish, so that the outside may be clean too." 2Cor. 10:7 asks, "Do ye look on things after the outward appearance? If any man trust to himself that he is Christ's, even so are we Christ's." We could be so clean and well washed we sparkled but still not be Christians in thought and purpose.

Many worldly people wish to follow a "heartfelt religion" and "let your conscience be your guide." Six-hundred years before Christ, the prophet Jeremiah knew, "--- the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps." Jer. 10:23. If your conscience has been properly formed by Christian parents, it could be a good influence, but if you were not raised in a Christian home your conscience might be errant.

Worldly people insist, "it is wise to choose the lesser of two evils." In 1Thes. 5:22 we read, "Abstain from all appearance of evil." A Christian should not choose anything that even looks evil. "Money is the root of all evil" is an excellent example of many quotations. It is only a part of a Bible verse. 1Tim. 6:9-10 actually reads: "But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." It includes so many things besides the actual clink of slugs in my pocket.

No, Dear Christian Friends, there is No second chapter of Jude. Let us be CAREFUL we do not quote it!

Yours in Christ,
Horace Orendorff

News from Abroad

Dear brothers:

I greet you cordially in the name of the LORD.

I comment that during these days in the church of Hidalgo Pachuca the brothers had a baptism of a young person.

Also in the new church in San Benito Texas, during last week we had a baptism and possibly in the next days we have more baptisms.

I comment that I visit with some brothers this city (Padilla Mexico) and possibly in this place we have very soon some converted. (there exists much interest in the Gospel)

Also this week visit again Corpus Christi, Tx to continue studying with a family and maybe in next visit some obey the Gospel.



PLANS OF WORK

If The LORD permit me in very next dates we are making plans to meet with some brothers that preachers to study and to support in the knowledge of the scriptures. I consider these meetings very important to help in the preparation of the brothers that preach in different places. I am also preparing books with different doctrinal topics to give to each preacher and in that way they material to teach in the congregations.

Thank you in the name of The LORD for your interest and participation in the preaching of the Gospel...

Your brother in CHRIST

Otto and Mariela Alvarez

PO Box 532514
Harlingen, TX 78550

(Please see the back page for pictures...)

TANZANIA UPDATE

Brothers and Sisters,

We greet you all in the name of Savior. We would like to let you know that the congregations we visited in Tabora last January are now worshipping as we do.

A brother there continued with teaching after we left and according to him; Pentecostal groups decided to follow the Way.

Nonetheless, last April we reported the outcome of the meeting we had and the promises we were given by the Seventh-day Adventist on the arrangements of follow up. We indeed did the following up and three of their leaders have decided to change. There is progressions of teachings that they did not know or they knew but just ignored. According to them in 2014 some of them went to the airport without Visa believing that they will be allowed to travel freely because where they go they will meet Jesus. They were denied and some of them were arrested in Dar. They believe that Jesus will come to certain mountain of which the Bible doesn't mention.

Brother Edward, Deusi, Lazarus and I continue to teach them so that they may know the Bible and not walk by sight and thoughts of men. We had questions to them if they keep all steps of Sabbath? But they said they don't need all. We told they that if they fail to keep even a single one, then it's not complete. Sabbath had rules to keep and if you call yourselves a Seventh-day Adventist and you don't keep it then you have fail. The Israelites kept all but when Jesus came he commanded all to become Christians and so we should follow his foot-steps and do what he commands us to do. For these reasons and their weakness in knowing the scriptures; it is our prayers that we win all five Seventh-day congregations.


Alex Sadat

This is why we are commanded to go and teach them. Jesus knew that not all will follow him.

We continue to ask for your prayers for the great work in Africa. We know that Satan also looks for those we convert but he will not take them on his side. Satan has no part in this this why we win him always by the Word.

A report from Congo, says that last Sunday they had two baptisms at Baraka congregation. May God bless all the work in Africa and may he keep us all safe.

Your brother in Christ,
Sadat

Donations and requests for information may be sent to:

Church of Christ
Africa Mission
3814 64th Drive
Lubbock, TX 79413

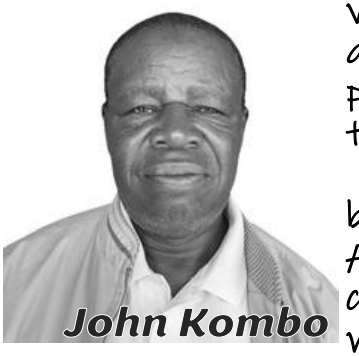
KENYA UPDATE

Dear Brethren,

I greet you in the name of our almighty Jesus Christ and Savior.

Congregations came to meet me in order to pray and have a fellowship to discuss matters concerning the church leadership as well as how the church of the Lord should be organized according to the Bible.

The Bible says, "*Therefore, when Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain others of them, should go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and elders concerning this question*" (Acts 15:2). "*And when they came to Jerusalem, they were received by the church and the apostles and elders. And they reported all things that God had done with them*" (verse 4). We can learn that When Paul and Barnabas arrived in Jerusalem, they were greeted by the apostles, elders and the church. They again reported on God's work in Asia Minor, as is one of the works of evangelists.



Below is the list of the names that attended:

1. Brother Benjamin Koskei
2. Brother Samuel Sambu
3. Sister Edna Bett
4. Sister Ursla Cheruiyot
5. Brother Erick Yegon
6. Sister Mary Bett
7. Brother Nahashon Korir
8. Brother Christopher Maritim
9. Sister Emily Ngetich
10. Sister Sarah Koskei
11. Sister Lilian Chpkwony
12. Brother Nicholas Mutai

We prayed together for the church in Kenya and other parts of the world. Attached are some pictures taken during this visitation. Also attached are the Bible lessons had prepared, which I taught them.

May God our Father bless the church in Kenya, America and other countries of the world, as we work together in the spirit of love to preach the gospel in order to save the world from the bondage of sin.

Your Brother and Servant of
Jesus Christ our Lord.
John Kombo Nandwa

(pictures are on the back page –Ed)



Milk of the Word

Number studies “1”

Recently, I have been fascinated with numbers and their meaning in the Bible. This is a meditation on the significance of the number "1" in Scripture. We may not always think of numbers as carrying deep spiritual meaning, but the Bible uses them to convey profound truths. Today, we will explore how the number "1" reveals important aspects of our faith: the oneness of God, Christ, the Church, and our salvation. Let us now turn to the Word of God to understand the significance of the number.

1. The Oneness of God: The number "1" first points us to the oneness of God. In **Deuteronomy 6:4** is the foundational truth of the Jewish faith, known as the Shema. There is only one God, and He is the Creator and Sustainer of all things. God is not divided or shared with any other; He is **one in essence and nature. Isaiah 45:5, Isaiah 46:9, 1 Timothy 2:5.** These verses reinforce the truth that God is the only God, and there is no other. His **oneness** is a central truth in both the Old and New Testaments. As Christians, we are called to worship Him alone, rejecting any form of idolatry.

2. The Oneness of the Church: The number "1" teaches us the oneness of the Church. As the Body of Christ, we are called to unity. **Ephesians 4:4-6** This passage emphasizes the unity that should characterize the Church. We are one body in Christ, unified in purpose, doctrine, and mission. The Church should reflect the oneness of God and Christ. **1 Corinthians 12:12-13, Romans 12:5, John 17:21.** (Jesus' prayer for the unity of believers) These verses emphasize that as the Church, we must be **united in Christ.** We are all part of the same body, and our unity in faith and practice reflects the unity between the Father and the Son.

3. The Oneness of Our Salvation: Finally, the number "1" underscores the **singularity** of our salvation. There is only one way to be saved, and that way is through Jesus Christ. **John 14:6**, This is the **exclusive claim** of Christ: He is the only way to the Father and to eternal life. There is no other Savior and no other path to salvation. **Acts 4:121, Timothy 2:5** (Only Christ can mediate between God and man,) **Ephesians 2:18** (Salvation is accessed through Christ, by the Spirit. These passages emphasize

that **salvation is found in Christ alone.** The number "1" reminds us that there is no other way to be reconciled to God except through Jesus Christ.

In conclusion, let us reflect on the profound significance of the number "1" in our faith: **The oneness of God**—There is **one God**, the Creator, and we are called to worship Him alone. **The oneness of the Church**—The Church is **one body**, united in Christ, and we must maintain that unity. **The oneness of our salvation**—There is **one way** to eternal life, and that way is through Jesus Christ. Let us live in harmony with these truths, reflecting the **oneness** of God in our lives and in our relationships with one another. May we be united in love, faith, and purpose, as the body of Christ, and may we always remember that **our salvation is found in no one else but Jesus Christ.**



Bro.
Jacob Fuson
Pleasant View
Church of Christ
Stilwell, OK



Thought for the Month

A quote found its way to me this morning, "**Everyone wants to change the world, but no one thinks to change themselves.**" Wow! Let's reflect on this and explore what insights God's Word has to offer on the subject.

Romans 12:2, "*And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*"

Ephesians 4:23, "*And be renewed in the spirit of your mind.*"

2 Corinthians 5:17, "*Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new*"

Colossians 3:10, "*And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him.*"

And yet, many overlook this simple — yet profound — reality:

We change the world by first transforming ourselves.



Love &
blessings

Bro.
Jesse Warford

Studying Revelation

A look at Revelation 2:12-13

Bro. Paul Warford

To the Church in Pergamum

Rev 2:12 ***And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges;***

And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write;

Again we notice that this letter was to the angel or messenger of the church of Pergamos.

These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges;

This, of course, is a reference to Christ as he is the one with the two-edged sword. This is confirmed in Rev. 1:16. We believe this sword to be the word of God because they are compared one to another in Heb 4:12

Heb 4:12 For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Rev 2:13 ***I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth.***

I know thy works,

The works of a Christian are always seen of God and accounted as good or bad. Like most congregations and individual people, Pergamos had good

We have acquired **Bro. Ellis Foresman's** Study of Revelation and have reproduced it in book form. Please let us know if you'd like one. We will be happy to mail you one! It is also on **1CupHistory.Church** as a PDF!

ChristianCourier1Cup@gmail.com

and bad.

and where thou dwellest, *even* where Satan's seat is

Here in Pergamos, the home of this congregation, Satan's influence was very strong, even to the point of being called the Seat of Satan. This very fact would make it extremely difficult to remain faithful to the Lord.

and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith,

This group of Christians was applauded by the Lord himself because they held to the name of Christ and had not left the faith.

Several commentators agree that Emperor worship was commanded by law and punishable by death in this city. This would explain why the Lord called this city the seat of Satan and also why the praises of their steadfastness was called to attention.

even in those days wherein Antipas *was* my faithful martyr, who was slain among you

Nowhere else in scripture is the name "Antipas" mentioned. It could be that he was a faithful Christian that was killed for Christ, but I could not find any other reference to him. Some commentators believe that the name "Antipas" along with the word "martyr" have a generic meaning and is a word to include all Christians.

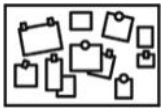
where Satan dwelleth.

Again the powerful influence of Satan in this city is mentioned. Although his influence is felt worldwide, it truly must have been great here.



In Christian Love
Bro. Paul Warford

DO YOU OR YOUR CONGREGATION HAVE SERMONS ON PAPER OR VIDEO YOU'D LIKE PRESENTED ON OUR CHURCH OF CHRIST HISTORY WEBSITE? JUST LET US KNOW BY EMAILING US AT CHRISTIANCOURIER1CUP@GMAIL,COM. YOUTUBE VIDEOS ARE BEST, AND ***PERMANENT*** FACEBOOK VIDEOS WILL WORK AS WELL. IN FACT, VIDEOS FROM ANY SOURCE ARE ACCEPTABLE IF THEY'RE NOT AUTO-DELETED AFTER A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF TIME.



Bulletin Board

Prayer List

John Kombo	Nakuru, Kenya	Diabetes, heart issues
Agrippina Silvester	Gaita, Tanzania	Severe back problems
Sandra Hughes	Broken Bow, OK	Cancer
Linda Camp	Broken Bow, OK	Cancer
Vicki Camp Perrin	Broken Bow, OK	Cancer treatments / Surgery
Rylan Perrin	Broken Bow, OK	Carney Complex - nerve tumors
Morgan McIntosh	Broken Bow, OK	Beginning cancer treatments
Debbie Wilkerson	Cedaredge, CO	Fighting cancer
Mike Schell	Montrose, CO	Cancer in both lungs
Louise Brister	Citrus City, AZ	Melanoma Cancer
Billy Martin	Citrus City, AZ	Fighting cancer
Pauline Holloway	Gleed, WA	Uterine & cervical cancer
Otto Alvarez	Harlingen, TX	Dangerous travels, 2 angioplasties
Mariela Alvarez	Harlingen, TX	Dangerous travels, thyroid issues
Jessica Chastain	Stilwell, OK	Health issues
Retha Morris	Stilwell, OK	Battling Parkinson's
Darletta Spencer	Stilwell, OK	Cancer
Bruce Cumming	Yuma, AZ	Heart Issues
Fred Cummings	Yuma, AZ	Congestive heart failure
Dennis Davis	Yuma, AZ	Back & leg issues
Susie Davis	Yuma, AZ	Kidney trouble
Suzie Warford	Port Orchard, WA	Cancer
Kathy Lamb	Gleed, WA	Cancer surgery
Lavonne Walk	Gleed, WA	Health Problems
Betty McKinney	Gleed, WA	Back surgery
K.T. Widel	Gleed, WA	Broken leg (slipped on ice)
Troy Solomon	Gleed, WA	Health Issues

Gospel Meetings

Gleed Gospel Meeting	Yakima, WA	Jun 28 - Jul 2, 2025	Kurt & Nate Harper
Family Camp Meeting	Cedaredge, CO	July 12-20, 2025	Guest Speakers
Weekend Meeting	Lorenzo, TX	Jul 23-27, 2025	Guest Speakers
Labor Day Meeting	Stilwell, OK	Aug 29 - Sep 1, 2025	Robert Davis

Baptisms

Madison Fouch	April 27, 2025	Georgetown, TX

Guess Who??? Answer: Jennie P. Mack (Grammy)

Central & South America Evangelism & Baptisms







AFRICA MISSION





