

THINK ON THESE THINGS (Philippians 4:8)

# Honesty

## OUR FAMILY NEWS

**Pray:** Danesa’s mother (Jean) pray for both of them, Josiah, Wayne and Cathy, Helen Spicer, Peggy . All health care providers

**Traveling/Working:** Slope workers. Ben, Carla and family are in TN for a couple of months.

**Friday Evening Class:** The class will begin at 6:00 PM and will be at the building. Tom will continue teaching out of the workbooks that were handed out.

**Radio Programs:** Listen to “Searching the Scriptures”, our weekly radio program and our “One Minute for God” series which airs three times a day six days a week on KMBQ 99.7.

**Today’s Scripture:** “Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.”

**Romans 13:13 (KJV)**

**Wisdom for Today:** “There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil.” **Job 1:1 (KJV)**

Attendance Last Sunday 62/49: Our Record: 107

*For more detail, please go to the web site.*

### ELDERS:

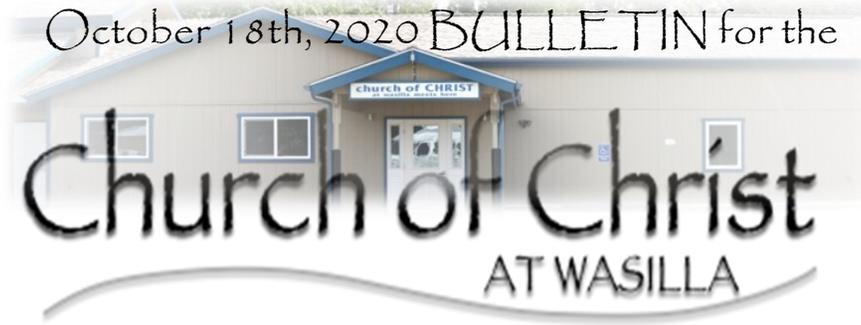
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**God’s Plan of Salvation**

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  
 Arise & Walk in Newness of Life ..... Romans 6:4

“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:

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 Wasilla, AK 99654  
 (907) 373-5773

Visit our website at:  
[www.churchofchristwasilla.com](http://www.churchofchristwasilla.com)

*Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected*

## Honesty

There is a lot of disinformation being spread right now and sadly most of it is due to dishonesty. This dishonest handling of information can lead to confusion. We have an election taking place this year where ads are being ran that aren't always being truthful. We are also still fighting this virus where the information given at times is not always sincere. Most concerning is that in the "religious world" most won't be open to the truth. One of the main reasons why there seems to be so much confusion right now is because of one word dishonesty.

While the word dishonesty in the KJV comes up only 3 times. A similar word "deceived" comes up in the New Testament according to the Strong's Concordance 51 times in 37 verses.



Doesn't it then seem fair to say that God wants us to pay careful attention to things that could cause us confusion or things that could deceive us, and avoid them at all cost? **1 Corinthians 15: 33-34 NKJV** "Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits." Awake to righteousness, and do not sin; for some

do not have the knowledge of God. I speak this to your shame." In order to not be deceived we must first be HONEST. Doesn't that seem like a word that is missing from today's society, from today's discourse and most concerning from the religious world?

If Paul tells the church in Corinth do not be deceived, what does that tell us? First we obviously can be deceived but also the text suggests that we can be honest. We can be honest with text, with ourselves and with the Almighty God. The word honest according to the Strong's Concordance means to be properly beautiful but chiefly good that is valuable or virtuous. **Luke 8:15 KJV** "But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience." According to Luke's account of how Jesus explained the parable of the sower and the seed, Jesus tells us the good ground will have an honest heart. Isn't that a fitting and beautiful truth.

Good and honest are closely linked to each other. To be good is to be honest and to be bad is to be dishonest. **2 Corinthians 4:1-2 KJV** "Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not; But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty (shame NKJV), not walking in craftiness, nor

Sermon by: Joe Murdock; Article by: Joe Murdock

handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God." Paul being moved by the Holy Spirit found it necessary to remind the church in Corinth that we have a responsibility too honestly and sincerely handle the word of God. While also renouncing the dishonest motives of those who would like nothing more than to secretly teach or act shamefully. We must honestly search the scripture daily just as those in Berea with a prayerful and readiness of mind.

We also need to be honest with ourselves. This is crucial when patterning ourselves after Christ. After all we are Christians and cannot imagine Christ ever being dishonest. **1 Peter 3:10-12 NKJV** For "He who would love life And see good days, Let him refrain his tongue from evil, And his lips from speaking deceit. Let him turn away from evil and do good; Let him seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their prayers; But the face of the LORD is against those who do evil."

Peter is taking this from Psalms specifically 34 verses 12-16.

We can easily think about David and Psalms in general, when it comes to being honest with ourselves. David beautifully and unapologetically told of his faults and his shortcomings. But most importantly recognizing his

need to be totally dependent on God first. We must be honest with ourselves and refrain from allowing our tongue to spread deceit. **Matthew 15: 18-20** "But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. These are the things which defile a man, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a man." In order to be honest with God we are to be honest with His word and with ourselves.

During this time when dishonesty and deceit appears to reign supreme we as the church must be a light. As this light we are to be honest and good. This is what God expects from us and what we should expect from ourselves. Let us strive to be faithful, good and honest for this is Christ.

