

# Who We Are

## Christians

Not some brand of Christians.

Not Christians plus something else.

We've no denominational affiliation, no governing association. We wear only the name of Jesus Christ, glorify Him alone in our name, acknowledge Him alone as our governing head.

*Colossians 3:17 ; Galatians 6:14 ; I Peter 4:14-16*

# What We Believe

## The Bible

Not part of the Bible—all of it.

And the Bible alone.

We've no creed, no catechism. We preach, we teach, we read, we recommend, we seek to know and live just the words God gave—all of them.

*2 Timothy 3:16-17 ; 2 John 9 ; Revelation 22:18-19*

# What We Offer

## Spirituality

**Preaching** that convicts, exhorts, instructs and encourages.

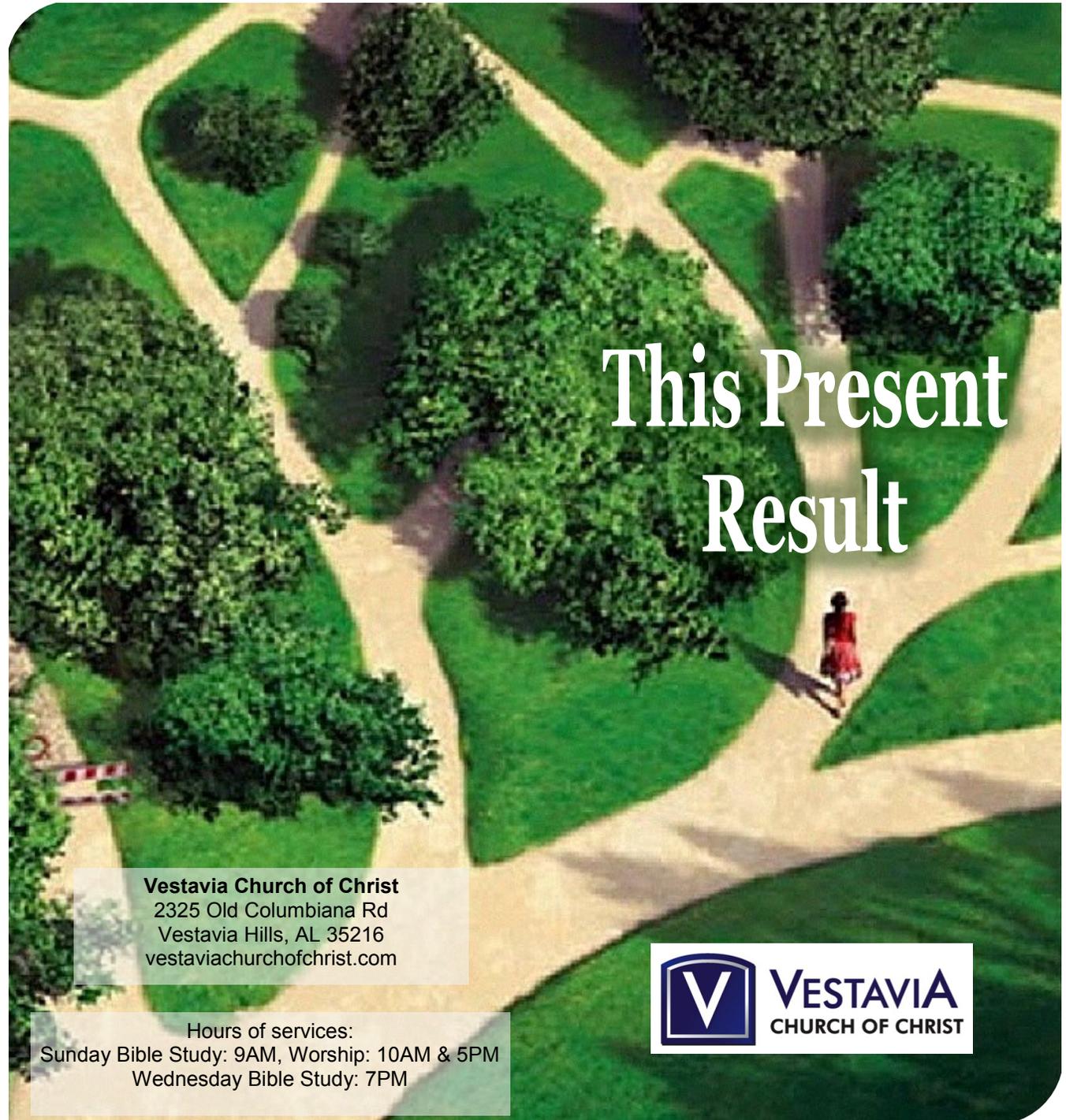
**Bible classes** that are practical, informative and stimulating for all ages.

**An atmosphere** for building better character and nurturing better homes.

**Worship** that is spirited, reverent, God-centered.

**A spiritual family** committed to God, to each other, to evangelism, to a heavenly hope.

*2 Timothy 4:2 ; I Peter 4:11 ; Romans 12:9-13*



# This Present Result

**Vestavia Church of Christ**  
2325 Old Columbiana Rd  
Vestavia Hills, AL 35216  
[vestaviachurchofchrist.com](http://vestaviachurchofchrist.com)

Hours of services:  
Sunday Bible Study: 9AM, Worship: 10AM & 5PM  
Wednesday Bible Study: 7PM



# This Present Result

By Doy Moyer

We are all, in some significant ways, products of many circumstances, people, and events. The types of people we have become have been greatly affected and influenced by what we have each personally been through, where we have been both physically and mentally, and the people who have been around us since we entered this world. It can boggle the mind to stop and reflect upon the series of events in our lives that have brought us to where we are now. Probably very few of us wind up exactly where we thought we would be or doing exactly what we thought we would do with our lives back when we were younger. Some may say that “fate” has a way of doing this to people. No, it’s not fate. The God who is in control oversees the process. This, we typically call God’s providence. However we think about it, the fact remains that if we are flexible, willing to yield to the will of God, then our lives will be pliable to the events and places that cultivate our characters in exactly the ways that will glorify Him.

“Willing,” here, is purposeful. While God remains in control even when we are not willing, the sad reality is that we may often fight God tooth and nail so that we can get our own way. God is not willing that any should perish (2 Peter 3:9), but people will, in fact, perish because they have been unwilling to yield to God’s expressed will. God does not override our free will to force us into salvation. He will, however, provide us with the opportunities to repent. He is longsuffering, to be sure, but we must not think that we can tempt God. Sometimes these opportunities

to yield to God’s will come through great hardships. We may at times find ourselves in the place of that prodigal son who eats with the swine (Luke 15). If that’s what it takes to get us to listen, then that’s where we need to be.

If, on the other hand, we willingly yield to God and seek His will in all areas of our lives, then we may find our lives taking turns that we had never expected. The point here is that what makes all the difference is our attitude toward 1) the expressed will of God in Scripture, and 2) the events and people that surround and shape us. Counting it all joy when we encounter various trials (Jas 1:2-4) is a far cry from the bitterness that can well up inside of a person who continually fights God.

Joseph is a perfect example of what we are talking about. When confronted by his brothers with their sins against him, he held no grudge. He desired no revenge. He wanted no further action taken against them. He simply said, “Do not be afraid, for am I in God’s place? As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive” (Gen 50:19-20).

We cannot presume to know what all God may have in store for each of our lives. Joseph maintained an attitude that was open to the plans and purposes of God, regardless of what that may have meant for his personal situation. He maintained his integrity throughout every ordeal he faced, and much of what he faced was not pretty. Yet it brought about a “present result” that was exactly what God wanted.

Saul of Tarsus had to deal with something very similar, and it was his attitude that made all the difference. Did he know what all he was going to face or where he was going to be going? Likely not. Jesus said of Saul that he would “bear My name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel; for I will show him how much he must suffer for My name’s sake” (Acts 9:15-16). That wasn’t what Saul initially had in mind. Saul could have continued to fight against God, to kick against the goads (as Jesus put it). Instead, he willingly yielded to the Lord and the results of his attitude glorified God.

How did you become the person you are? Have there been hardships and difficulties? Have people sometimes mistreated you? Has life always been “fair” to you? Just remember that what the world might mean for evil, God can turn into something good for “this present result.” Let us always seek God’s expressed will and maintain a proper attitude toward all of life’s events and circumstances. Let’s also remember this promise:

“And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.”

Romans 8:28