

Bulletin of the CHURCH OF CHRIST which meets at:
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24 February 2008

Why Can't Everyone Be JUST A Christian?

In a world that is nearly 20 centuries removed from the time when Christ walked the earth, a lot has changed. Among other things, the world's fundamental concept about being a believer and follower of Christ has changed. When one declares himself to be a Christian today, the next question he is usually asked is, "What kind?" How can one answer this question? What would you think about one of the following responses?

"Oh, I'm a Blue Darterist, because we believe in getting to the blue heaven in a hurry!"

"Well, I'm a Green Peacerist, because we believe in promoting peace on God's green earth, even if we have to fight for it!"

"I'm proud to say that I'm a Red Seaterian, because we believe in the literal parting of the Red Sea by Moses, even if it **was** actually just a little stream feeding the Red Sea."

"I'm glad you asked. I'm a Yellow Philosopher, because we believe God has given us wisdom through the Eastern arts of meditation and the spiritual consciousness of one's inner self. We also believe in the martial arts as a purely spiritual enlightenment form, even when we have to use it to kill an infidel."

"Well, that's a very insightful question. You see, I'm a Gray Opinion Church Goer, because we believe 1) that there is no black and white truth, 2) that all we have to do to go to heaven is go to church, 3) that the Bible is a collection of mostly obsolete opinions, and 4) that nobody has the right to have a different opinion because that would be judging us. Those are our doctrines in a nutshell, but that's just our opinion, which you have no right to argue or judge."

"Sir, I'm happy to tell you that I'm a Black Naming New Christian Apologist of Africa. Our Founder discovered, through a revelation from the Angel of the Jungles, Tree Swingereth, that Adam was black. That is why he named the animals. You see, we believe that there are still more wild and fearsome animals in Africa than anywhere on God's earth. So, we have to explain (apologize, that is) that the rivers named in the Genesis account were not the actual rivers of the garden, but that they were actually deep in the African jungle where the vegetation still most closely resembles that of the Garden. This vegetation will be restored worldwide once the New Christian Age is initiated by the Rapture and the Battle of Armageddon."

ASSEMBLY TIMES

Sunday Morning

9:00

Bible Study and
Sunday School

Sunday Morning

10:00

Worship Assembly

Sunday Evening

18:30

Worship Assembly

Wednesday Morning

10:00

Ladies Class

Wednesday Evening

19:00

Bible Study

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Mike Baisley

Cell: 083 500 7271

Braam Le Roux

Cell: 072 195 6104

Hugh Granger

Cell: 082 290 1223

Adriaan Le Roux

Cell: 082 651 7776

EVANGELIST AND BIBLE TEACHER

Bill Elliott

Cell: 084 727 8853

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Bill@ElliottEnterprises.com

That's why the Creation account in Genesis was "moved" to the Middle East, because God wanted to hide the true location of the Garden of Eden from Satan and evil governments until the time when His latter day followers could receive the whole truth and reveal it to previously ignorant and uneducated man. If you would like, I can provide you with lots of literature on both this subject and why you cannot trust the Bible."

Did you notice how the answers I invented got longer and longer, and the explanations got farther and farther away from "the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ?" **2Corinthians 11:3** Over the centuries, this is exactly what has actually happened to "the truth of the gospel." **Colossians 1:5** Still, I advise you to be careful how you respond when someone asks you, "Yes, but what KIND of a Christian are you?" Most any truthful answer you give will either confuse or anger them.

Perhaps we should answer the question the way they did in the Bible. Oh... Wait... That question is never asked in the Bible, is it? That's because there is only **ONE** kind of Christian in the Bible, those belonging to "**the Way.**" **Acts 9:2** In fact, "Christian" is a name that seems to have been given to disciples of Christ by the world, not by themselves. **Acts 11:26** So, if you suffer persecution for using **that** name, **and that name only**, remember this: "but if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not feel ashamed, but in that name let him glorify God." **1Peter 4:16**

We are just Christians, without any additional denominational names and practices. We believe the Bible is the inspired word of God and we try to follow it as our only authority in religion. Since we find no denominational names in the Bible, we wear no such names. We have no human creeds to set forth doctrine, because the Bible contains all the Christian is to believe and practice. **2Timothy 3:16-17** We are the church of Christ, the one he promised to build (**Matthew 16:18**), the one He purchased with His own blood (**Acts 20:28**). So, why can't everyone be **just a Christian?**

Sincerely, from one lacking a modern day description,

Bill Elliott

Please Note:

Anyone who would like to have a private conversation or study with me must just let me know. If you know someone else who would like to ask questions about God and the Bible, please help me arrange this also. Teaching the word of God both "publicly and from house to house" (**Acts 20:20**) is what I am here to do. Thanks, **Bill Elliott**

WEEKLY CALENDAR & SERVING DUTIES

TODAY

09:00 – 09:15 – PUPPETS in the Fellowship hall every Sunday.
Kids to give Benevolence Items to Hungry Harry during the puppet show.

TEA after the AM Assembly – Please join us for a cup of tea or coffee and a time of fellowship.

LADIES MEETING after the AM Assembly - a short discussion on the upcoming Ladies Day, for which we need to set a date.

Monday, 25th Feb, 19:00 – “Equipping Christians For Service” Class.

Tuesday, 26th Feb, 19:00 – **SINGING** At **Adriaan & Gaby le Roux’s** home, 15 Princess Road, Vincent. All welcome.

Wednesday, 27th Feb

10:00 - LADIES BIBLE CLASS by Pam Share. Tea by **Petro & Gwen**.

19:00 – MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY CLASSES;

6-9 Year Olds - Gill du Preez

10 -12 Year Olds - Pam Share

Teenage - "Girl Talk" Class - Gill B - In the Lounge

Young Men Training – “Timothy” Class – Chris - In ECBC Class

Marriage Enrichment – Johan - In the Fellowship Hall

Book of Galatians – Bill - In the Auditorium

Thursday, 28th Feb, 07:00 MEN’S WEEKLY PRAYER MEETING – At the building. All men welcome.

Friday, 29th Feb

19:00 - YOUTH – To be announced.

19:00 - YOUNG ADULTS – No meeting this week.

Sunday, 2nd Mar,

17:45 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – The whole congregation encouraged to attend. If you have any agenda item please put it on the notice provided on the notice board (**with your name PLEASE**).

TEA after the PM Assembly. **All welcome.**

All ladies of the church to please bring the usual plates of eats.

Ladies on duty: Pam S, Vanessa, Erika and Myra.

Sermon Topic & Scripture Reading Today

AM: To be advised

PM: “Truth – With Shrewdness”

Matthew 10:16-18

PRIVILEGED TO SERVE

TODAY 24/02/2008		
SONG LEADER	<h1 style="margin: 0;">YOUTH SERVICE</h1>	
OPENING PRAYER		
LORD’S TABLE		
SCRIPTURE READING		
PREACHING		
CLOSING PRAYER		
FLOWERS		
NEXT WEEK 02/03/2008		
SONG LEADER	AM – R. Share	PM – R. Share
OPENING PRAYER	AM – A. le Roux	PM – B. Elliott
LORD’S TABLE	AM – N. Lentz	PM – T. Thomas
SCRIPTURE READING	AM – R. le Roux	PM – R. Schult
PREACHING	AM – Bill Elliott	PM – Bill Elliott
CLOSING PRAYER	AM – M. Baisley	PM – H. Granger
FLOWERS	Pamela Granger	

ATTENDANCE, BENEVOLENCE, PRAYERS, BIRTHDAYS, KOMBI DRIVER, ETC.

Last Sunday

AM Assembly

116

PM Assembly

56

Last Wednesday

Bible Study

55

BENEVOLENCE

For next week please provide:

Rice (500g)

Samp (1kg)

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please consider the following in your prayers;

Health: Basil Baisley, Milly Crossley, Gwen Taylor, Emily Nyemba, Vanessa Herman, Rodney Share, Lee-Ann Emmerson’s father, Annelene Thomas’s mother, Jan & Adele’s brother (Bokkie), Anna Calder (in CT), Chris Savides (has cancer) and Erika Robert’s niece (has cancer).

Expecting parents: Brendan & Bianca Fismer.

Congratulations: Ordene & Leigh Engelbrecht on the birth of their son, Joshua.

BIRTHDAYS

Taneel Baisley

27 Feb

Happy Birthday! Enjoy your day!

ANNIVERSARIES

Bruce and Celeste Gordon

28 Feb

Congratulations!

FEBRUARY KOMBI DRIVER – Justin le Roux

(cell: 072 277 3069). Please contact him

directly if you need a lift and if, for any reason, you do not need to be picked up.

VISITORS

All visitors are special to God and to us - we thank you for being here today. We offer private Bible classes at your convenience and invite you to avail yourself for this opportunity.

Please fill in a **Visitation Slip** on the pews – **if you request a visit please put your contact details (address & telephone number).**

Banquet Photos

These are up on the notice board – please ask Cecile for selected prints or a DVD of them all.

BULLETIN CONTRIBUTIONS

All news items for the bulletin may be sent to

Pamela Granger (cell: 082 898 8083 or

e-mail: hpls.granger@absamail.co.za)

by 16:00 every Friday.