

What do I have to do to become a Christian?

By House to House Heart to Heart

The most important question a person could ever ask is, “How do I become a Christian?” Though not asked in these exact words, the question is also found at least three times in the New Testament. In Acts 16:30, the Philippian jailer asked, “What must I do to be saved?” The Jews who heard the first gospel sermon on Pentecost of Acts 2 asked the same thing (2:37, and Saul of Tarsus asked the Lord that question (Acts 9:6).

In reading the context of these accounts, one can understand the means by which one becomes a Christian. The jailer was told to believe in the Lord Jesus (Acts 16:31). Those in Acts 2 who believed the preaching of Peter (2:37) were told to repent (2:38). In all three accounts, those who needed to be saved were baptized (Acts 2:41; 9:18; 16:33).

I might add, though it is not present in these three accounts, one must make a confession of faith in Jesus prior to being baptized. The eunuch made such a confession in Acts 8:37 prior to being baptized. Matthew 10:32 and Romans 10:9-10 also confirm the need to confess the Lord before men.

Baptism is an act of submission required for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38). It is the medium through which sins are washed away (Acts 22:16) by the blood of Jesus Christ (Revelation 1:5). Baptism secures salvation to the obedient believer (Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21), but not unconditionally. The Christian must live faithful to the Lord all of his or her life (Matthew 10:22; Revelation 2:10). John calls this “walking in the light” (1 John 1:7). Walking in the light keeps us in continuous contact with the cleansing blood of Jesus. We will commit sins while walking in the light, but repentance and confession of those sins brings forgiveness.

—Todd Clippard

Prayers and Concerns

- ◆ Barbara White will be going to Barnes Hospital for heart valve surgery when she gets the date determined.
- ◆ Elaine Hunter in Texas will be having additional surgery to correct her first surgery and to remove additional lymph nodes.
- ◆ Don Luna won't find out the results of his test until Oct. 17th.
- ◆ Leroy Collins of Dora has 100 percent blockage in an artery on the back of his neck. It can't be fixed at this point.
- ◆ Remember those with health issues—Barbara White, Wanda Beard, Faye Flaughers, Ruth Strain, Norma Jones, Steve Siebels, Aleta Collins, Rene Blackburn.
- ◆ All those battling cancer—Elaine Hunter (Larry's sister), Dawn (Chris Lemburg's sister), Lionel Daugherty, Jana Crisp, Richard Blackburn, Cindy Gibson, Leroy Collins, Fred Strain.
- ◆ Those in GHCC: Bonnie Ebrite, Delphia Holmes, Wilbern Uchtman. Bonnie Luna at Ava. Clifford Lansdown at River Lodge, Mtn. Home.



2023 Ozark County Christians Unite to Worship

“Unity of the Spirit”

October 24-27, 7 p.m. Nightly

Monday—Gainesville Church of Christ
Halbert Smith—“One Lord”

Tuesday—Frontier Baptist
Bruce DeWeese—“One Faith”

Thursday—Mammoth Assembly of God
Ron Felker—“One Baptism”

Friday—Lilly Ridge Baptist
Davin Friend—“One God”

Sermons followed by food and fellowship.

Birthdays		Anniversaries	
9-22	Rebecca Gosdin	9-26	Vernon & Barbara James
9-25	Stephane Bearden	10-19	Mark & Nichole Lane
10-1	Matthew Burton	10-19	Chris & Kelly Lemburg
10-4	Mary Ann Reynolds	10-26	Jason & Julie Schofield
10-7	Tristan Goodman	Birthdays	
10-7	Lee Bearden	10-15	Darren Crisp
10-13	Vernon James	10-16	John Abraham
10-14	Derek Lynne	10-19	Debra Lane

Tiffany is serving chicken pot pie, salad, and dessert for Wednesday night fellowship supper.

Date	Event	Details
Tuesday, Oct. 3	Fall Women's Retreat	Lost Woods Clubhouse, Theodosia Methodist
Wed., Oct. 4	Fellowship Supper at 6	Bible classes at 7
Oct. 14-18	Fall Lectureship	Thayer Church of Christ "Building a Spiritual House"
Sat., Oct. 21	Ladies Prayer Brunch	Lilly Ridge Baptist
Oct. 23-27, 7 p.m.	Unite to Worship	Community Services

October Worship Assignments

Welcome & Prayer

Communion

Shepherd's Prayer

10-1	Dana Crisp	R. J. Moyers	David Stevens
10-8	David Stevens	Larry Butler	Don Luna
10-15	Don Luna	Andrew Hambelton	John Abraham
10-22	Ryan Stevens	John Abraham	Mark Lane
10-29	Heath Maddox	Tinker Langston	David Stevens

Song Leader: Titus Smith

Greeters: Tinker & Karen Langston

The Family News

October 1, 2023

Gainesville Church of Christ

PO Box 7, 23550 US Hwy. 160, Gainesville, MO 65655

www.gainesvillechurchofchrist.org

A Place to Call Home

We welcome you and are so glad you could worship with us today.

Schedule of Services

Sunday

9:30 a.m. Bible Classes for All Ages

10:30 a.m. Worship Service Topic: ***Oneness in Christ***

Wednesday

6 p.m. Fellowship Supper

7 p.m. Bible Classes for All Ages

Sunday Worship Outline

Welcome and Prayer

#718, *We Shall Assemble*

#719, *Love One Another*; #278, *Victory Chant*

#361, *Nailed to the Cross*; Communion Service

Sermon and Invitation

#904, *Have You Been to Jesus?*

#989, *Soon and Very Soon*; Closing Prayer

Please place your offering in the baskets in the lobby

We are a community of redeemed sinners who are following Jesus Christ, proclaiming the gospel of grace, loving our Lord and one another.

Elders

Mark Lane	417-679-4835
Don Luna	417-712-1945
David Stevens	417-679-4700
John Abraham	870-421-5632

Deacons

Larry Butler	817-504-1604
Dana Crisp	417-331-5090
James Langston	870-315-4355
Preacher	
Halbert Smith	417-257-3880

Ministers: Every Member—Each One of Us