

## The Restoration Plea

The Restoration Plea has been taught in our land for two centuries now, yet many in this generation have not heard it. It says: Let us speak where the Bible speaks and be silent where the Bible is silent. Let us call Bible things by Bible names and do Bible things in Bible ways. Let's restore the church as it was in the days of the apostles. When one speaks of a restoration plea, four things are implied.

### 1. THE RESTORATION PLEA IMPLIES THAT GOD HAD A PLAN FOR THE CHURCH.

In the basement of America's largest home, the Biltmore mansion in Asheville, North Carolina, there is a model of the structure. The model was completed first as a guide to build the home. In Barcelona, Spain, you can visit the still unfinished Sagrada Familia Church. Construction began in 1882, so they have been working on it for over 100 years. They have a model of what the building will look like when it is finished.

The restoration plea implies that God had a plan for the church, which He revealed to man (Isaiah 2:2-4; Daniel 2:44; Ephesians 3:10-11). God has always had a pattern.

#### **GOD HAS ALWAYS HAD A PATTERN.**

- ✦ Noah's ark (Genesis 6:22; Genesis 7:5);
- ✦ Tabernacle (Exodus 25:8-9);
- ✦ Temple (1 Chronicles 28:11-19);
- ✦ Jericho's walls (Joshua 6; Hebrews 11:30);
- ✦ Naaman's cleansing (2 Kings 5:1-14).

Isaiah prophesied of the coming kingdom, showing that God was already making plans for the church seven centuries before it came to be (Isaiah 2:2-4). Isaiah said God would "teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths." Jesus sent out the apostles to teach those paths (Mark 16:15-16). Since the early church "continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine" (Acts 2:42; Acts 4:32), we know God's messengers got His plan for the church delivered to the early Christians. Just as the fullness of God is in Christ (Colossians 1:19; Colossians 2:9) and God has no plans for salvation for the world outside of Christ (John 14:6; Acts 4:12), so the church is the fullness of Christ, and Christ has no plans for the world outside of His church (Ephesians 3:21).

### 2. THE RESTORATION PLEA IMPLIES THAT GOD EXPECTS US TO CONTINUE TO FOLLOW HIS PLAN.

The restoration plea implies that God expects us to continue to follow His plan in each succeeding generation. Paul wrote, "The things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also" (2 Timothy 2:2). God wanted His pattern followed century after century.

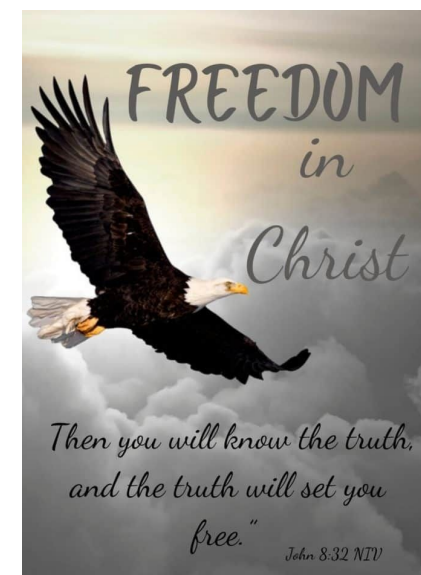
In constructing the tabernacle, Moses was warned by God that he must "make all things according to the pattern" (Exodus 25:40; Hebrews 8:5). Paul spoke of the "pattern of sound words" (2 Timothy 1:13) which early Christians were taught  
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## Prayers and Concerns

- ◆ Steve Siebels is in a wheelchair now. He and Diana need prayers.
- ◆ Randy Johnson had successful back surgery Thursday. He's having therapy in the hospital for a few days.
- ◆ Kevin Kastning has a heart blockage. Waiting on date for surgery.
- ◆ John's Dad, Winston, will have heart valve replacement Wednesday
- ◆ Melissa Rumenapp is recovering from back surgery.
- ◆ Harold Wallace had a heart attack and angioplasty to fix arteries.
- ◆ Renee Schmucker continues to improve after her double lung transplant. She is walking now.
- ◆ Scarlett Hall still needs prayers for no brain damage.
- ◆ Remember those with health issues—D. E. Pleasant, Dorlene and Larry Butler, Aleta Collins, Vernon James, Mary Morrison, Ruth Strain, Steve and Diane Siebels, Bob Robbins.
- ◆ All those battling cancer—Wayman King, Kay Schneider, Jack Moyers, Tiffany Pleasant, Amy Myers, Don Luna, Harold Reynolds, Jim Kirkland, Donna Shipley, Elaine Hunter (Larry's sister), Dawn (Chris Lemburg's sister), Lionel Daugherty, Jana Crisp, Richard Blackburn, Nikki Smith, Jenny James, Bill McFarland, Debbie Eslinger, Sharon Fox, Bill Agee, Joy Cutbirth.
- ◆ Those in nursing homes and/or homebound. GHCC: Virginia Hambelton, Bonnie Ebrite, Delphia Holmes. Clifford Lansdown at Hiram Shaddox; Jack Moyers, Sycamore Springs. Wilbern Uchtman, Brook Haven.



Happy Independence Day!



Birthdays		Anniversaries	
7-3	Ronnie Hambelton	7-1	Larry and Dorlene Butler
7-4	R. J. Moyers	7-4	David and Barbara Stevens
7-8	Emma McGinnis	7-10	Dale and Brenda Strong (60)
7-9	Bryce Hambelton	7-15	Titus and Jessica Smith
7-13	Oakley Goodman (4)	Birthdays	
7-15	Jack Moyers (95)	7-27	Mary Piepergerdes (90)
7-22	Chance Strong	7-28	Myles Smith (4)
7-23	Diana Moyers Siebels	7-30	Esther Strong
7-25	Vance Hambelton		

**Send a card to Jack for his 95th birthday!**

Jack Moyers, Room 111  
Sycamore Springs Senior Living  
165 Jerry Baker Ln.  
Mtn. Home, AR 72653

**Send a card to Mary for her 90th birthday!**

Mary Piepergerdes  
PO Box 5  
Gainesville, MO 65655

and in which they were to abide (2 Timothy 3:14). These Christians obeyed a “form” of doctrine (Romans 6:17-18) and “marked” (were on the lookout for) those who departed from that pattern (Romans 16:17). When it came to the doctrine of the New Testament, they earnestly contended for the faith (Jude 3), were warned about falling away from the faith (cf. 2 Thessalonians 2:3; 1 Timothy 4:1-3; 2 Timothy 4:1-4), and not to go “beyond the things which are written” (1 Corinthians 4:6 asv). Each generation was charged not to teach a “different doctrine” (1 Timothy 1:3 ASV).

(continued next week)

**July Worship Assignments**

**Welcome & Shepherd's Prayer**

**Communion & Closing Prayer**

7-6 Mark Lane  
7-13 David Stevens  
7-20 Don Luna  
7-27 John Abraham

Don Reynolds  
Paul Wade  
Titus Smith  
Tinker Langston

**Song Leader: John Abraham**  
**Greeters: Kay Young and Mary Lou Snelson**

**The Family News**

**July 6, 2025**

**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: ***Relationship through Freedom***

**Wednesday**

7 p.m. Bible Classes for All Ages Downstairs

**Sunday Worship Outline**

Welcome and Shepherd's Prayer

Kids Singing up front—Thanks, Waylon, for leading!

#567, *Restore My Soul*; #712, *Jesus Is Coming Soon*

*How Deep the Father's Love*; Communion Service

#133, *The Love of God*

Sermon and Invitation

#943; *Do You Know My Jesus?*

#386, *He Loves Me*; Closing Prayer

Offering baskets are located at the back.

*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