

Prepare to Meet God

By Heart to Heart—Kevin D. Smith

Why should one prepare? Because meeting God is inevitable: “We shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. For it is written, ‘As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall confess to God.’ So then each of us shall give account of himself to God” (Romans 14:10-12). Meeting God is just as certain as death (Hebrews 9:27).

And because heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people: “I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also” (John 14:2-3).

How should one prepare? We are not left to wonder what one must do to be prepared to meet God. God has “given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue” (II Peter 1:3). Preparing to meet God involves hearing (Acts 10:33); believing (Acts 16:31; Hebrews 11:6); repenting of sins (Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38); confessing faith in Christ as the Son of God (Matt. 10:32; Acts 8:37); being baptized (Mark 16:15-16); adding Christian graces (II Peter 1:5-8); and being faithful unto death (Matt. 10:22; Rev. 2:10).

When should one prepare? The time to prepare is now, in this life. “Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation: (II Cor. 6:2). Once the rich man in the parable died and was in torment, it was too late for him to prepare (Luke 16:19-31). Preparation must be made while one has the opportunity (Matt. 25:1-13).

Salvation does not just happen. One must prepare, and one must prepare according to the why, the how, and the when that God has put forth.



Prayers and Concerns

- ◆ Dorlene and Melinda are still experiencing a lot of pain after surgery.
- ◆ Sid Smith, Tiffany's father, had three stents put in last week.
- ◆ Tinker's brother Jerry still has lingering problems from a severe case of COVID a few years ago. Now his wife Lisa has breast cancer.
- ◆ Those recovering from surgery: Dorlene Butler, Melinda Abraham, Kevin Kastning, Kay Schneider, Melissa Rumenapp, Renee Schmucker, Winston Abraham.
- ◆ 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—Kay Schneider, Jack Moyers, Tiffany Pleasant, Amy Myers, Don Luna, Jim Kirkland, Wayman King, Donna Shipley, Elaine Hunter (Larry's sister), Dawn (Chris Lemburg's sister), Lionel Daugherty, Jana Crisp, Richard Blackburn, Jenny James, Debbie Eslinger, Sharon Fox, Bill Agee, Joy Cutbirth.
- ◆ GHCC: Virginia Hambelton, Bonnie Ebrite, Delphia Holmes. Clifford Lansdown at Hiram Shaddox; Jack Moyers, Sycamore Springs. Wilbern Uchtman, Brook Haven.

Blessings

- ◆ Aleta Collins has been working hard to get stronger, and she is able to walk a few steps with Bill's help.



The KINGDOM of God
is RIGHTEOUSNESS
and PEACE and JOY
in the HOLY SPIRIT
Romans 14:17

Birthdays		Anniversaries	
8-9	Paul Wade	8-29	Bill and Aleta Collins (65)
8-12	Gunner Hambelton	8-29	Chuck and Amy Myers
8-15	Marsha Jimenez	8-30	Corey and Hope Hillhouse
8-18	Marsha Crisp		
8-29	Charlotte Schneider (8)		

Ladies' Day
Mountain Home Church of Christ
Saturday, September 6, 8:30 a.m. (registration)
Speaker is Lori Ann Wood
See bulletin board for more information.

**Whose
voice are
you
listening
to
today
God's or
Satan's?**

<u>God's voice</u>		<u>Satan's voice</u>
• stills you	→	• rushes you
• leads you	→	• pushes you
• reassures you	→	• frightens you
• enlightens you	→	• confuses you
• encourages you	→	• discourages you
• comforts you	→	• worries you
• calms you	→	• obsesses you
• convicts you	→	• condemns you
God is never early and He's never late. He's always right on time and His plans for you are <u>good</u> .		
God is a God of love and order. If the voice you are hearing doesn't sound like those things, then they are not from Him.		

August Worship Assignments

Welcome & Shepherd's Prayer

8-17 Don Luna
8-24 John Abraham
8-31 Mark Lane

Communion & Closing Prayer

Mark Lane
Don Luna
R. J. Moyers

Song Leader: John Abraham
Greeters: Don and Barbara Luna

The Family News

August 17, 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 Kingdom***

Wednesday

7 p.m. Bible Classes for All Ages Downstairs

Sunday Worship Outline

Welcome and Shepherd's Prayer

Kids Singing up front

#163, *His Name Is Wonderful*; #166, *He's My King*

#334, *Tis Midnight, and on Olive's Brow*; Communion Service

#578, *We Will Glorify*

Sermon and Invitation

#940; *Only a Step*

#1018, *Joy to the World*; 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