

## What Is So Great About Following Jesus

Following Jesus puts us in association with the best people in the world. In God's church, we are His house or family (1 Timothy 3:15). The relationship with each other is that of brothers and sisters (Galatians 3:26–27).

My brothers and sisters understand what I go through as a Christian. They are pulling with me and for me. Who would not enjoy a family like that! Our fellowship is with saved people, the children of light (Ephesians 5:8).

Though none is perfect, so many of my brethren set a wonderful example for me to imitate (1 Timothy 4:12). You cannot put a price tag on that type of positive influence. So many saints of God do great works and labors of love (Hebrews 6:10). They are ready to sacrifice for His cause, like Aquila and Priscilla did (Romans 16:3–5).

How wonderful it is to have sisters and brothers who really care, desiring that all make it to heaven. We are blessed to have special brothers who serve as our shepherds and watch over our souls (Hebrews 13:17). You just cannot top the delightful association and comradeship that Christians have in serving God together.  
—Anonymous

### A Blessing or a Lesson

*By Harry Goff, House to House, Heart to Heart*

I saw a sign yesterday that read, "Friends can be a blessing or a lesson."

There is a lot of truth to that statement. Proverbs 18:24 reads, "A man who has friends must himself be friendly, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother." Solomon added, "The righteous should choose his friends carefully, for the way of the wicked leads them astray" (Proverbs 12:26).

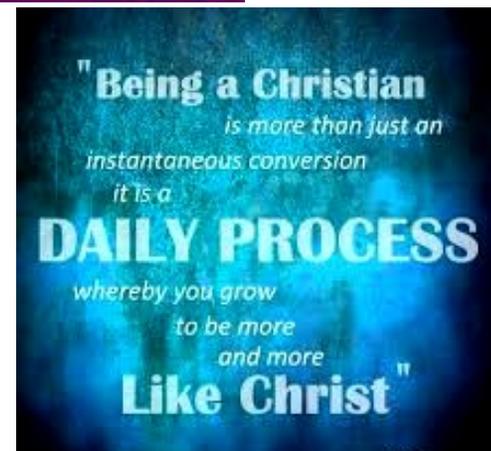
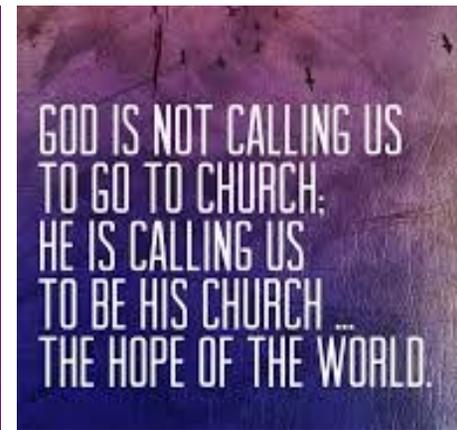
A true friend is indeed a blessing, and we all need true friends. These friends will be there for you in good times and bad. They know just what to say and when to say it, or what to do and when to do it. We all have many acquaintances, but how many true friends do we have?

Some people that we call friends may be a lesson instead. Paul wrote, "Do not be deceived: 'Evil company corrupts good habits'" (1 Corinthians 15:33). Perhaps the person who falls into this realm is not a friend at all.

Choose friends wisely.

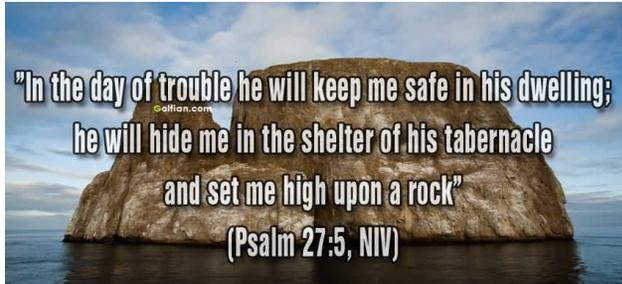
## Prayers and Concerns

- ◆ Mark Lane wasn't able to have the laser procedure to crush his kidney stone, but he will find out this week if the stents worked so he can reschedule.
- ◆ Don Luna will have cataract surgery on the 13th and 27th.
- ◆ Amy Stevens' parents, John and Bonnie Peter, are still recovering from their head-on accident last week.
- ◆ Remember those with health issues—Dale Strong, Aleta Collins, Ruth Strain, Bob Robbins, Coe Hamm.
- ◆ All those battling cancer—Ricky Langston, Lisa Langston, 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 Hamblen, Delphia Holmes. Clifford Lansdown at Hiram Shaddox; Wilbern Uchtman at Brook Haven.



Birthdays		Anniversaries	
1-4	Aleta Collins	1-10	Matt and Rose Burton
1-7	Bill Collins	Birthdays	
1-10	Marty Jones	1-25	Melinda Walrath
1-11	Rose Burton	1-28	Sangchun Moyers
1-19	Brooke Hamblen	1-29	Sarah Hossman
1-19	Laramie Pleasant	1-30	Waylon Strong
1-24	Frances McGinnis		

Tiffany Pleasant will be serving biscuits and gravy, sausage, eggs, and dessert for our Wednesday night fellowship supper before classes. **Resolve** to attend on Wednesday nights. We are studying Genesis.



**“Be still, and know that I am God” – Psalm 46:10.**

The original Hebrew root of Be still doesn't mean “be quiet;” it means “let go.” That's very different, don't you think? Let go and know that I am God! Let go of trying to control your spouse. Let go of your worry about your finances. Let go of your unforgiveness. Let go of your past. Let go of what you can't control—and rest in the knowledge that God is in control!

**January Worship Assignments**

**Welcome & Shepherd's Prayer**

**Communion & Closing Prayer**

1-18 David Stevens  
1-25 Don Luna

Paul Wade  
Don Reynolds

**Song Leader: John Abraham**  
**Greeters: Josh and Melinda Abraham**

*The Family News*

January 11, 2026

**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: ***The People of God***

**Wednesday**

6 p.m. Fellowship Supper

7 p.m. Bible Classes for all ages

**Sunday Worship Outline**

Welcome and Shepherd's Prayer

Kids Singing up front

#549, *There Is Sunshine in My Soul*; #76, *How Great Thou Art*

#364, *Come Share the Lord*; Communion Service

#968, *Oh, They Tell Me of a Home*

Sermon and Invitation

#945, *Kneel at the Cross*

#577, *We Bow Down*; 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