

Service Opportunities

Announcements: Ted Wheeler
Usher: Delbert Leavens

RECORD

Attendance:

Contribution: \$

Weekly Budget: \$ 2820.00

Thought for The Day

"Give us clear vision that we may know where to stand and what to stand for, because unless we stand for something, we shall fall for anything."

PETER MARSHALL

Church of Christ of Venice

4301 SR 776
Venice, FL 34293

MORNING SERVICES

Opening Prayer: Mike Weber

Songs: Dale Schwartz

Sermon: Tim Simmons

Closing Prayer: Marvin DeMeester

EVENING SERVICES

Opening Prayer: Wayne Vowell

Songs: Dale Schwartz

Sermon: Song Service

Closing Prayer: Bill Burnside

COMMUNION

Dick Navarre Larry Jenson

Troy Wheeler Kaden Simmons

Church of Christ of Venice

"A friendly church, proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ"

February 25 2007

Volume 17, Number 08

Rejoice In The Lord

As God's people, we should be a happy (Psa. 35:9). Rejoicing is commanded (Phil. 3:1; 4:4; 1 Thess. 5:16). It is promised to God's people (Psa. 132:16). Let's make a study of "joy," "rejoicing," "happiness," and see if we can't a more joyful and happy people.

VARIOUS KINDS OF JOY

Consider the Joy Experienced by the Wicked. It is derived from foolish things (Pro. 15:21). For example, to obtain thrills from shoplifting, stealing or by driving a car down a road at 150 miles per hour is sheer folly. The wicked rejoice in these kind of quick thrills. Definitely, the joy of the wicked is short-lived (Job 20:5). One can enjoy the pleasures of sin only for a season (Heb. 11:24-26). Solomon impresses upon our minds the vainly of seeking happiness from earthly things (Ecc. 2: 10-11; 11:8). The joy of the wicked should be turned into mourning (James 4:8-9).

Consider the Joy Experienced by the Righteous. It is a joy inexpressible and full of glory (I Pet. 1:8-9). One must experience it to know of it. To describe to someone else the joy which we experience is very difficult. This joy is increased in the meek and lowly (Isa. 29: 19). This joy of the righteous is constant--not short lived (2 Cor. 6: 1 0). Trials, persecutions, or hardships do not lesson the joy the Christian has. As a matter of fact, they can increase their joy (Mat. 5:11-12; James 1:2;

Continued on page 2

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

Please fill out a blue visitor card so that we might have a record of your visit. If needed, there is a **nursery** available at the rear of the auditorium. **Bible classes** for all ages are available Sundays at 10:00 am and Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. We hope that you will join us for these studies. Please come and worship with us again soon.

Elders

Delbert Leavens
Wayne Vowell
Ted Wheeler

Minister

Ted Wheeler

Sunday Services

Bible Study-10:00 am
Worship-11:00 am
Evening Worship-6:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study-6:30 pm.

Church of Christ

4301 Highway 776
Venice, FL 34293
USA

Telephone:

941-493-2403

Email:

mail@venicechurchofchrist.com

Internet:

www.venicechurchofchrist.com

Outreach:



Heb. 10:34; Acts 5:41). The joy of the saints is made full by: Abiding in Christ (John 15: 10-11); The love that we have for our fellow Christians (2 Tim 1:4; Phil. 4:1); and Children who walk in truth (3 Jo. 4; Pro. 23:24) Any who are abiding in the faith, whether family or otherwise, bring happiness to all fellow Christians.

What Reasons Do I Have for Rejoicing? The reasons for the Christian to rejoice are many, but let's look at specific verses which state reasons for rejoicing. Because of temporal blessings (Joel 2:23-24). That our names are written in heaven (Lk. 10:20). For salvation (Psa. 21:1; 1 Pt. 1:5-6). For deliverance from bondage (Psa. 105:43; Jer. 31:10-13). For divine protection (Psa. 5:11-12; 16:8-9). For divine support (Psa. 28:7; 63:7) For the hope of glory (Ro. 5:2). For the success of the gospel (Acts 15:3).

What Can Make Me Happy? What is the source or power that brings happiness? God gives joy (Ecc. 2:26; Psa. 4:7-8). We rejoice in God through Christ (Ro. 5:11). Jesus Christ brings joy; it was part of the work of the Messiah (Isa. 61:3; Lk. 2: 10-11). We rejoice in the Lord (Phil. 3:3). Joy is a fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22). The Word of God brings joy (Neh. 8:12; Jer. 15:16; Jo. 17:13). To know and understand the Word of God brings great rejoicing in our hearts. This is a blessings, a great treasure, that we experience nearly every time we study the Word of God. The Word makes our hearts rejoice. The benefits of prayer brings joy (Jo. 16:24). Thus, through the Godhead, the Word of God, and prayer, we find happiness.

Exhortations to Rejoice! Let the righteous rejoice (Psa. 68:3; 32:11). Let us serve God with gladness (Psa. 100:2-5). Let us engage in all worship services with rejoicing (Ezra 6:22). Let us rejoice in all our undertakings (I Thess. 5:16-18). Let us express our joy in song (Jam 5:13). Let us promote joy in other people (2 Cor. 1:24; Phil. 1:25). Let us pray for joy in others (Rom. 15:13). Let us rejoice and be happy for we have received manifold spiritual blessings (Isa. 61:10).

There Is Coming the Great Eternal Joy. Saints shall be presented to God with exceeding joy (I Pt. 4:13; Jude 24). Entering the joy of the Lord will be the reward of saints at the judgment day (Mat. 25:21). Heaven is pictured as marvelous place of happiness and joy (Rev. 21:4; Psa. 16:11). Through faithfulness, we can finish our course on earth with joy (Acts 20:24).

Worldly people everywhere are looking for joy and happiness. They look for it in worldly pleasures and in material possessions. They look for it all kinds of activities: employment, sports, hobbies, etc. They look for it in friends, relatives, family, etc.

The Christian does not spurn any honorable worldly reward, but recognizes the greater value in the spiritual. We rejoice not in the things of this world, but in the Lord. As Nehemiah said, "11 ... The joy of the Lord is our strength" (Neh. 8: 10). And as David said, "My soul shall be joyful in the Lord; it shall rejoice in His salvation" (Psa. 35:9). And as Jesus said, "...Your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no one will take from you" (John 16:22).

The worldly do not remain happy long; they are never satisfied, but the Christians joy, our joy, is real, satisfying and lasting.

Mark Your Calendars

- ✓ Feb. 16-Mar 2: Ghana Trip
- ✓ Feb. 25: Song Service
- ✓ Mar 17: Teen Progressive Dinner. 5-9 pm
Theme: *"The Amazing Race"*. See Tim & Penny Simmons for more details.
- ✓ Jun 3-9: Bible Camp @ Weeki Wachee
- ✓ Jun 14-Jul 9: Ghana Campaign 2007

Sermons:

This Day is a Day of Good News
2 Kings 7:9
Song Service
6:00 pm



	AM: Bunkpurugu, Daniel preach at Gbetimong Ted > fly from Accra to Tamale then drive to Saboba
Sun – 25	Saboba Daniel > drive from Bunkpurugu to Saboba PM: Saboba COC
Mon – 26	Travel from Saboba to Mole, NR (7 hrs)
Tue – 27	Travel from Mole to Tema (11 hrs)
Wed – 28	Tema
Thu – 1	Depart Accra @ 11:00 pm (Accra > London)
Fri – 2	Arrive Tampa @ 5:00 pm (London > Miami > Tampa)

Remember in Prayer

LARRY JENSON
KERRY KEATHLEY
JANET WEBER
DORIS WHITE
CLARENCE RIGGENBACH
PATRICA SMITH
FRANK SMALL
IVA & LEM TURNER
PATRICIA FORD
JEANETTE THOMPSON



Note: Ted & Daniel will be preaching at a church or in a village every night from Feb 18th - 28th.