



WE'RE HERE FOR YOU... God, Family, Worship

Terry L. Clayton, Senior Pastor
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Breads.....Breads

Well, it is hard to believe that fall is here. The leaves are falling, and the air is a little cooler. And before you know it, Thanksgiving and Christmas will be here. Another year will be history. This year has been one of change for our Church. We have started a new beginning in the life of this family. Jesus said in John 6:48-50 **"I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness and are dead. This is the bread which comes down from heaven that one may eat of it and not die."** Our calling as The Gathering Place Church of God is to make people hungry for Jesus. So many people find it difficult to make sense out of life because we know that sometimes life can be a rat race. We feel like a squirrel in a cage running with all of our might but getting nowhere. We get so busy in the routine of life that we don't even stop to consider how chaotic our lives are. We begin to ask ourselves, "Is this all that life is about? Getting up and going to work to make money so that I can buy food to eat so that I have strength to get up and go to work tomorrow?" Life can be frustrating. We can only take so much of the squirrel in the cage syndrome. Most of us because of the lifestyles we have don't really know how to rest and relax. Even the people who retire still have so much to do that they never really get to enjoy life. In verse

49 Jesus pointed out that perishable food for their bodies lasted for only a day. Then He said, **"I am the Bread of Life."** Therefore real life is not the pursuit of bread that will mold. Real life is life spent consuming Christ, bringing Him totally into ourselves, making Him a part of us in the same way that food becomes a part of us. So what kind of bread have you been working for? Do we spend days and weeks working for the bread that money can buy? The tangible bread of things that rust, break apart, need paint and burn oil? Is your life centered in the bread of compliments or is it centered in the bread of power? The text reminds us that chasing the bread provided for us in the world is the rat race of life; it is getting us nowhere. When we consume Christ and absorb his teachings, his ways, his character, and his mind, only then will He become a part of us. He truly is the Bread of Life. So as we continue to be The Gathering Place Church of God may we slow down long enough to enjoy the true Bread of Life. May we tell others what Jesus means in our lives.

Don't forget to invite someone to church, and remember to use the outreach cards.

Enjoy The Journey,
Pastor

**Sermon and Service Outline
October 2009**

**The Truth Project
Starting Sunday Evening Oct. 11 at
5:00 PM
Fellowship Hall**

October 4

AM Service "What Is Truth?"

**John 18:37 Pastor Clayton
Children's Hand Bells**

PM Service

**Message from Milton Grannum on Missions
New Covenant Church in Philadelphia, Pen.
From the North American Convention of
Church of God**

The Video will start at 5:00 PM

October 11

AM Service "Feeding The Multitude!"

**John 6:1-15 Pastor Clayton
Children's Moments**

PM Service

The Truth Project starting at 5:00 PM

October 18

AM Service "The Secret to Life!"

**Mark 10:17-30 Pastor Clayton
Youth Skit**

PM Service

The Truth Project starting at 5:00 PM

October 25

**AM Service Shaun Floyd will be Preaching
Baptism Service: Pastor Clayton**

PM Service

The Truth Project starting at 5:00 PM

Given the widespread moral downfall in our world today, it is more important than ever that Christians understand and are committed to absolute truth. This study from *Focus on the Family* is designed to equip believers with a comprehensive biblical worldview. We will discuss in detail God's design for living out the Christian worldview in daily life. You don't want to miss this very important series.

October Youth Calendar

- Sin Assassins Youth Meeting--Sunday evenings from 5:45 to 7:15
- So. Illinois District Youth Rally at Camp Hope on Oct 9-10.
- Youth Drama Practice--Wednesdays at 7:00pm
- Youth Family Fishing and Chili Cook-off at the Niemeyer's--Sat. Oct 17th at 4:00pm
- Angel Food delivery Day--Sat Oct 24th

Christmas Card Fundraiser for the Youth Group

The youth group will be selling boxed Christmas Cards after services on Sunday, Oct 4 and 11. These cards are from Dayspring and the original prices were \$5-10. We will be selling these cards for half price. Be sure to check us out!

Qualities of the Christian Steward (Part 2)

A Christian steward is loving--Christian stewards know that the Lord requires justice and kindness and humility, and they follow the two greatest commandments. (Mark 12:28-31, 1 Cor. 13:3 1 Cor. 16:13-14, 2 Tim. 1:7, 1 Peter 4:8-11)

{The scribe asked Jesus} Of all the commandments, which is the most important? The most important one, answered Jesus, is this: Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this, Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.--Mark 12:28-31.

A Christian steward is loyal--Christian stewards serve God faithfully, remembering who they are, whose they are, and why they are here on earth. (Matt. 6:19-21, 24; Luke 14:25-33)

No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. you cannot serve both go and Money.--Matthew 6:24

A Christian steward is obedient--Christian stewards obey God by setting aside a part of all their income for others. (Deut.26:1-18;

Micah 3:6-12; Luke 18:18-30; 1 Cor. 16:1-2)

{Jesus replied to the ruler}: You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give it to the poor, and you will have treasurer in heaven. Then come, follow me.--Luke 18:22-23

A Christian steward is prayerful--Christian stewards acknowledge the greatness and goodness of God through prayer, fellowship, study, worship, and reflection. (Isaiah 40:28-31; Psalm 145; Jeremiah 29:11-14; Romans 12:1-21)

Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart--Jeremiah 29:12-13

Amazing Grace,

The story of John Newton, author of America's favorite hymn

John Newton was born in 1725 in [Wapping](#), London, [England](#). Despite the powerful message of "Amazing Grace," Newton's religious beliefs initially lacked conviction; his youth was marked by religious confusion and a lack of moral self-control and

After a brief time in the [Royal Navy](#), Newton began his career in [slave trading](#). The turning point in Newton's spiritual life was a violent storm that occurred one night while at sea. Moments after he left the deck, the crewman who had taken his place was swept overboard. Although he manned the vessel for the remainder of the tempest, he later commented that, throughout the tumult, he realized his helplessness and concluded that only the grace of God could save him. Prodded by what he had read in [Thomas à Kempis' Imitation of](#)

Christ, Newton took the first step toward accepting faith.^[1]

These incidents and his 1750 marriage to Mary Catlett changed Newton significantly. On his slave voyages, he encouraged the sailors under his charge to pray. He also began to ensure that every member of his crew treated their human cargo with gentleness and concern. Nevertheless, it would be another 40 years until Newton openly challenged the trafficking of slaves.^[1]

Some three years after his marriage, Newton suffered a [stroke](#) that prevented him from returning to sea; in time, he interpreted this as another step in his spiritual voyage.

Newton's lyrics have become a favourite for [Christians](#), largely because the hymn vividly and briefly sums up the doctrine of [divine grace](#). The lyrics are based on [1 Chronicles 17:16-17](#), a prayer of [King David](#) in which he marvels at God's choosing him and his house. Newton apparently wrote this for use in a sermon he preached on this passage on New Year's Day 1773, and for which he left his sermon notes, which correspond to the flow of

the lyrics.^[2] (He entitled the piece "Faith's review and expectation.")

The song has also become known as a favorite with supporters of freedom and [human rights](#), both Christian and non-Christian, in part because many assume it to be Newton's testimony about his slave trading past.

The hymn was quite popular on both sides in the [American Civil War](#).

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me,
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come.

'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.
