

THE GOSPEL TRUTH

Hiram Church of Christ

www.hiramchurchofChrist.com · 7660 Nebo Road, Hiram, GA 30141 · (770) 943-9977

LARGE ENOUGH TO SERVE YOU AND SMALL ENOUGH TO KNOW YOU

“Salute one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you.” **Romans 16:16**

FIRST CENTURY CHURCH IN THE 21ST CENTURY

MINISTER: MELVIN J. BRYANT II

Vol. 16 No. 33 - August 18, 2019

“If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.”

1 Peter 4:11

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements: Matt Johnson

Opening Prayer: Matt Johnson

Song Leader: Kwame Abdul

Second Prayer: Devin Bryant

Lord’s Table: Clarence Proctor
Melvin Bryant III

Message: Melvin J. Bryant II

Closing Prayer: Alex Johnson

Attendance

Morning Hour: TBA





Bible Class: TBA

Worship: TBA

Wednesday: TBA

Contribution: \$TBA

Weekly Service Times

	The Morning Hour	9:00am
	Bible Class	10:00am
	Morning Worship	11:00am
	Wed. Evening Bible Classes	7:30pm

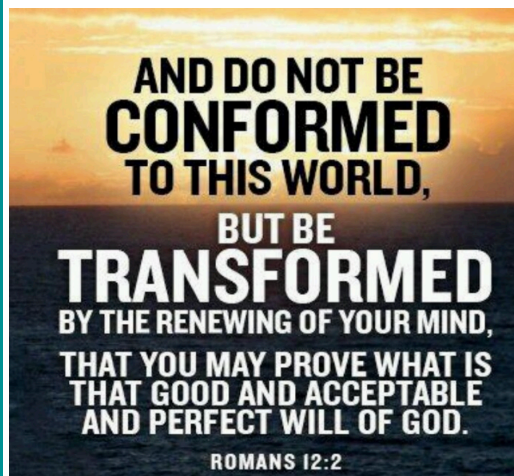
The Morning Hour

- Announcements
- Prayer
- Song
- 25 Minute Study - Rightly Dividing
- Card Writing/Mail Outs
- Prepare for 10:00am Bible Class

Missions: India & Childhaven

PLAN OF SALVATION

- ★ Taught by God - John 6:45
- ★ Believe - John 8:24
- ★ Repent - Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30
(Repentance entails counting the cost)
- ★ Confess - Matthew 10:32-33
- ★ Be Baptized - Matthew 28:18-20
- ★ Live a FAITHFUL life until death - Revelation 2:10



WHAT IF WE BEGAN TO TREAT OUR BIBLES THE WAY WE TREATED OUR CELL PHONES?

WHAT IF WE...

...carried it with us everywhere?

...turn back to get it if we forgot it?

...checked it for messages throughout the day?

...used it in case of emergencies?

...spend an hour or more each day using it?



What would our lives look like?

ONGOING HEALTH ISSUES

Lea Overton (Jeff's mother), Sebastian and Erica Suarez, Ron McCurry (shut in-visits requested), Amy Brown, Polly Tunstall (Amy's mother), Ann Phillips, Harold and Dean Reeves, Mary Brock's daughter Potts/Williams family, Kilwonia Chandler, Barbara Helton, Vera Patrick, Mary Troup, Joanie Saporito, Charlie Griffin, Patty Dale, Daniel Welker (kidney transplant), Al Gattis (COPD), Shirley Glosson (radiation), Ben Westbrooks (leukemia), Anita Berger husband Rich, Sis. Carolyn, Ashley (Sis. Erica's sister) and her family.

PRAYER REQUESTS

(JAMES 5:16)

- ▶ **Sis. Brock** is having complication with her stomach and is asking the church for prayers.
- ▶ **Kwame** is requesting for prayers for his citizenship. Let us pray that all goes well with it.
- ▶ **Becky's** mom's boyfriend, Randy had his surgery and is in need of our prayer for a healthy recovery.
- ▶ **Charlie** had surgery on his foot and has asked that we keep him in prayer that his health will improve.
- ▶ **The Webb's** daughter is in need of continual prayers for improved health results.
- ▶ **Carolyn** had hip replacement surgery and is in need of our continual prayer.
- ▶ **Ann Phillips** is still in need of prayer.
- ▶ **Ron McCurry** has requested continued prayers for his son in law.

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & NEWS

☑ August Birthdays

Dene Reeves - 8th
Mary Troup - 11th
Pudgy Parson - 18th
Harold Reeves - 31st

Sunday of each month. Please plan to stay.

☑ Anniversaries

Kwame & Deborah Abdul - 17th

☑ Local Church News

☑ World Church News

☑ Traveling

☑ Hiram Church of Christ News

Our water is fixed in the back and Fellowship dinner will resume the last

"YOU CAN CHANGE"

Romans 12:2

By

Melvin J. Bryant II

Have you ever heard someone say; "Once a SINNER ALWAYS A Sinner?" Or, "Once a Liar, you'll ALWAYS be a Liar!" Or, "Once a Drunkard, you'll ALWAYS be a Drunkard!" We have "SOME" people, and sadly, many family members, church members, close "so called" friends will RUN you in the ground and NOT believe that you can (or have) CHANGE from your miscreant behaviors!

I. YOU CAN BE TRANSFORMED

- A. You can "Transform" your mind, your behavior, your speech and the way you dress to conform to what is pleasing to God!
- According to our text, "Transforming" is a "Renewing of your Mind!"
 - *In other words*, what you THOUGHT (or think) is acceptable behavior is NOT! And, that's with any and everything in this life that pertains to salvation! Proverbs 14:12 and Proverbs 16:25 tells us, "There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death."
- B. What does the Bible mean when it says to Transform?
- BDAG tells us to "Transform" means, "to change INWARDLY in fundamental character or condition!" It is, "to CHANGE in a manner visible to others, to be transformed!" (pg. 639). The Greek Word, "*Metamorphoo*" is where we get our English word, "*Metamorphosis*" which means, "the process of transforming from an immature form to an adult form!"
 - "Metamorphoo" is found only FOUR times in the Bible, and is translated TWICE as "Transfigured" and TWICE as "Transform"! Matthew 17:2 and Mark 9:2 is where Jesus was "TRANSFIGURED" on the mount! The Good News Bible reads, "a CHANGE came over Jesus!" And, in our text, Romans 12:2 and 2 Corinthians 3:18 "*Metamorphoo*" is translated as, "TRANSFORMED!"

For instance:

- Women, If you're still trying to dress in attire to attract men, that's not renewing your mind from a Biblical standpoint!
 - If one is still using profanity, that's not renewing your mind!
 - If you still feel that the night club is the place to be, that's NOT renewing your mind!
- C. We need to First, "TRANSFORM" our Heart!
- Not the heart which is the muscular pump responsible for distributing blood throughout the body. We need to "Transform" our MINDS! (see Matthew 15:18-20).
 - "IF" we can "TRANSFORM" the INNER MAN, our HEART FIRST.... then a Defiles man can't be produced in you!

II. SOME PEOPLE WILL NOT BELIEVE THAT YOU'VE CHANGED

- A. When Saul was converted, (Transformed by the renewing of his mind) some brethren did NOT BELIEVE that he had changed! (see Acts 9:26)!
- Before Saul was converted, he TRULY Believed he was doing the will of God!
 - And, how many people today in the world of Christendom TRULY Believe they are doing the will of God and are not?!
 - A few things we can examine about Acts 9:26!
 - (1) Why were they afraid of him? Saul consented to the death of Stephen (Acts 8:1). He was known for his miscreant behavior (Acts 9:13-14)!

- Isn't it amazing that men can accept that they have changed from Sinner to Saint, Drunkard to Disciple, a child of the Devil to a Child of God but when it comes down to you, that can't happen!
- (2) The disciples did not believe that Saul had converted! *And interesting enough*, when Paul tried to join the disciples in Jerusalem, THREE years had passed (Galatians 1:18) after he had become a disciple of Christ! They didn't have Facebook, Instagram or any other social media platform so that everyone can SEE that Saul was baptized in the Lord by Ananias and had become a Christian! So, this is why they were afraid of him!
- *Nonetheless*, this showed a misdirected fear in man from the disciples!
- What did the Lord say in Luke 12:4-5 about how we ought not to fear man for killing the body?!
- Stephen was not afraid of dying because of his belief in Jesus, and Paul was not afraid of dying for his belief, and so shouldn't we! (see Acts 21:13-14)!

III. MOST OF US HAD A FORMER LIFE, A FORMER CONDUCT

- A. Paul mentioned a list of sins in 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 that brethren practiced BEFORE they were converted!
- Paul said, some of you WERE Fornicators: *That is*, having RELATIONS outside of the marriage bond! If she's NOT your wife, don't you TOUCH her until you put a RING on it! And, I'm using TOUCH in the same manner Paul used it in 1 Corinthians 7:1!
 - Paul said, some of you were, "Idolaters": *That is*, the worship of Idol (or image) worship! Paul cites an example of this in Exodus 32:4! Once converted, one must put off Idolatry!
 - Paul said, some of you were, "Adulterers": *That is*, having relations with someone who is NOT your husband or your wife! An example of this behavior is found in Acts 8:1-11!
 - Paul said, some of you were, "Homosexuals and Sodomites": *That is*, taking a liking to the same sex! An example of this lifestyle can be found in Genesis 19:1ff!
 - Paul said, some of you were, "Thieves": *That is*, to take by force that which belongs to someone else! If it does NOT belong to you, you CAN'T have it! An example of a thief is found in the man Ahab and his wife Jezebel in 1 Kings 21:1ff!
 - Paul said, some of you were, "Covetous": *That is*, one who desires to have more than is due, a GREEDY person! An example of a covetous person is found in the person of Achan (Joshua 7:20-21).
 - Paul said, some of you were, "Drunkards": *This is* a person who consumes ANY amount of alcohol for social purposes! An example of a drunkard is found in the person of Nabal in 1 Samuel 25:36, "...for Nabal heart was merry within him, for he was Very DRUNK!"
 - Paul said, some of you were, "Revilers": *This person is*, One who engages in slander! One who testifies FALSELY! An example of slander is found in 1 Kings 21:13 where there were two scoundrels who witnessed against Naboth in the presence of the people and said that he BLASPHEMED God and the king! As a result of their slander, he died!
 - Paul said, some of you were, "Extortioners": *This person is* one who carries off the possession of another by force! An example of an "Extortioner" is found in Luke 3:12-14 where John the Baptist told the tax collectors, "Collect NO MORE than what is appointed for you."
 - It does not matter what your State of Sin is, YOU CAN CHANGE by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that Good and Acceptable and Perfect will of God!
 - Be encouraged brethren, until the last Amen....