

**Elders:**

Rufus Barfield \* Donnie McDaniel

**Deacons:**Paul Byas \* Chris Gorham \* Antoine Holloway  
Michael Myrick \* Sheldon Smith**Evangelist:**

Antoine Holloway

**Worship Times:**Sunday Bible Study/9:30AM      Sunday Morning Worship/10:30AM  
Sunday Evening Worship/6:00PM      Wednesday Bible Study/7:30PM**Meetings:****Monday Sermon Recap**August 29<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00pm**Saturday Discipleship Class**September 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 9:00am**Elders/Deacons Meeting**September 4<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00pm**Women's Thursday Bible Study**September 15<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00pm**2011 Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Mark Russell of Valparaiso, Indiana**October 6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>, 2011**2012 Spring Gospel Meeting w/ Albert Dickson of Cincinnati, Ohio**April 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, 2012**2012 Vacation Bible School**June 18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012**Prayer Requests (Continuing Health Problems)**

Virginia Fowler \* Andrew Madison \* Isaac Parker \* Ann Wise \* Lewis Wise

**Prayer Request (Unable To Attend Services Here)**

Anne Harrison \* Steven Chung \* John Okonkwo

**Prayer Request (Traveling)**

Tyrone Williams (The Philippines)

**Prayer Requests****Additional Announcements**

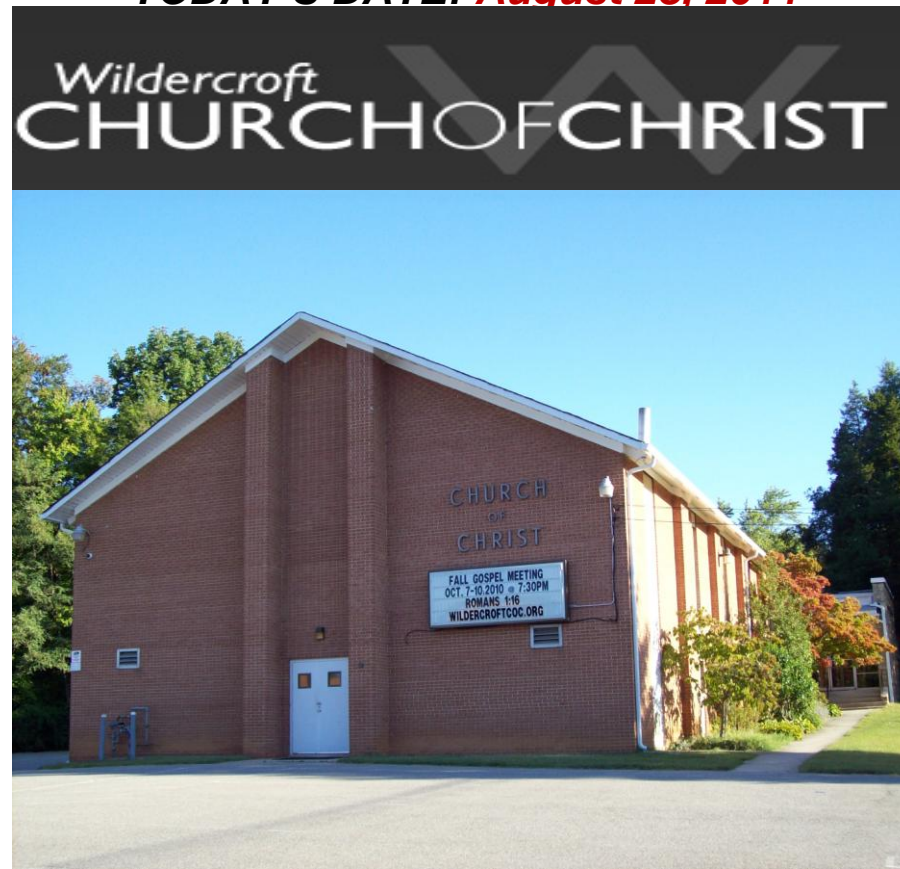
- Fairlawn COC Gospel Meeting – Paul Earnhart (August 28<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>)
- Centreville COC Gospel Meeting – Ferrell Jenkins (September 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>)
- Annandale COC Gospel Meeting – Bill Robinson (September 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>)
- Susquehanna COC Gospel Meeting – Scott Smelser (October 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>)

**Contribution & Attendance Figures**

August 21 <sup>st</sup>	\$4,900-Contribution	131-Attendance
August 14 <sup>th</sup>	\$3,107-Contribution	110-Attendance

**WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?**

Hear The Gospel (Acts 15:7) \* Believe In Jesus (Acts 8:12) \* Repent Of Our Sins (Acts 3:19) \* Confess Christ To Be The Son Of God (Acts 8:37)  
\* Be Baptized In Water (Acts 22:16) \* Remain Faithful (Acts 2:42)

**TODAY'S DATE: August 28, 2011**

6330 Auburn Avenue  
Riverdale, Maryland 20737  
(301) 474-7460

[www.wildercroftcoc.org](http://www.wildercroftcoc.org)

Call BIBLE MOMENTS  
(301) 345-1245

Updated Every Monday & Thursday

***"A Going Church For A Coming Lord" – Romans 16:16***

# Is There Biblical Authority For The Crusade For Christ?

***Colossians 3:17 – “And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.”***

Over the past year, many have asked, “Have you heard about the Crusade for Christ coming to DC?” Or “Are you going to the Crusade for Christ? It’s going to be in Washington this year.” Or “Why isn’t Wildercroft advertising or promoting this good work?” Or “Is Wildercroft participating in the Crusade?” When the answer is, “No,” regarding attending, participating, sending money, or providing manpower to all the Crusade wants to do, then the new question is “Why?” It is because there is no Biblical authority for it.

When trying to figure out whether there is authority to practice anything in religion, then this authority must be established using the Bible, the word of God. In **Colossians 3:17**, the Bible makes clear we must have authority for all we say & do. If the “Crusade for Christ” qualifies as an authorized means for the church to carry out its work of evangelism (**1 Timothy 3:15**), then where is the book, chapter, & verse to support this?

In our Adult class downstairs, as well as in the series taught from the pulpit in December 2010-January 2011, we learned authority is established in one of 3 ways: Direct command/statement, apostolic/approved example, & necessary inference/implication.

A “direct command” is “an order given by one in authority.” A “direct statement” is “a communication or declaration in writing by one in authority setting forth facts & particulars.” No interpretation is necessary. No narrative needs to be explained. The Bible expressly says what it means & means what it says. The phrase, “It Is Written” appears in the Bible 80 Times Between **Joshua 8:31 – 1 Peter 1:16**.

Apostolic &/or Approved Examples are “models & patterns in Scripture approved by God” (**1 Peter 2:21 & 1 Corinthians 11:1**). We may not find specifically where God commanded something, but we can read in the Bible where the people of God acted by the authority of God. Therefore, imitating the pattern is obeying God.

The word “inference” means “the process of deriving the strict logical consequences of assumed premises.” The word “implication” means “the relation that holds between two propositions, or classes of propositions, in virtue of which one is logically deducible from the other.” The word “necessary” means “such that its conclusion cannot be false if its supporting premises are true.” When we put all these definitions together, we understand a “necessary inference &/or implication” is “an inescapable conclusion derived from established authority.”

When it comes to the “Crusade for Christ,” there is NO DIRECT COMMAND/STATEMENT. When it comes to the “Crusade for Christ,” there is NO APOSTOLIC/APPROVED EXAMPLE. When it comes to the “Crusade for Christ,” there is NO NECESSARY INFERENCE/IMPLICATION. The Bible is completely silent to this event/organization as a means of evangelism. We must do Bible things Bible ways. Evangelism is a “Bible thing.” Therefore, it must be done the way we can read it in the Bible.

In the New Testament, the gospel was spread by the work of individual Christians in various roles (**Acts 8:4 & 2 Timothy 3:14**) & the local church (**1 Thessalonians 1:8 & Acts 11:26**). Congregations spread the gospel by sending preachers out (**Acts 11:19-23, Acts 13:2, & Acts 14:26-28**) & by financially supporting a preacher (**1 Timothy 1:3, Titus 1:5, 1 Corinthians 9:14, & Philippians 4:15**). The New Testament preserves the autonomy of each local church. When following the New Testament pattern, no one church is directing the affairs of another church, yet this is taking place during this “crusade” with one church directing the work of multiple congregations throughout the Mid-Atlantic. The New Testament picture is that the local church is fully sufficient to do the work of evangelism by itself without the assistance of other churches, nor a national organization like the “Crusade for Christ” (<http://www.dccrusadeforchrist.org/>). If the work is too big for one local church to handle, then the church must do the work it can handle. The apostles used no other organization than the local church & neither should we. Is there authority for the “Crusade for Christ?” NO, but unfortunately, this is not good enough for many who know this information, but still choose to participate.

**-Antoine N. Holloway**