

Elders:

Rufus Barfield * Dan Jackson * Donnie McDaniel

Deacons:

Paul Byas * Chris Gorham * Antoine Holloway
Rhett Moeller * 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:

Men's Leadership Class

July 28th @ 9:00am

Saturday Discipleship Class

August 11th @ 9:00am

Elders/Deacons Meeting

August 12th @ 5:00pm

Women's Thursday Bible Study

August 16th @ 7:00pm

2012 Summer Lectureship – Remaining Faithful & Enabled For The Ministry

August 1st-5th, 2012

2012 Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Philip Mullins of Ashburn, Virginia

October 11th-14th, 2012

2013 Spring Gospel Meeting w/ Ethan Longhenry of Venice, California

April 18th-21st, 2013

Prayer Requests (Health Problems & Sick Presently)

Beth Anderson * Thelma Findley * JoAnn Harrison * Andrew Madison *
Bruce McDonald * Isaac Parker * Lewis & Anne Wise

Prayer Request (Unable To Attend Services Here)

Anne Harrison * Steven Chung

Prayer Request (Traveling)

The Antoine Family * The Gorham Family * The Jackson Family * Cordel
Shaw * Tina Tatum * Kalandra Williams

Additional Announcements

- POTLUCK – Sunday, August 5th @ Bladensburg Waterfront Park in between services.
- We have May, June, & July Edition of "Biblical Insights" & recent CDs available in the lower lobby. Please take, read, listen, & share.
- Annandale COC Gospel Meeting – October 5th-7th w/ Chuck Durham

Contribution & Attendance Figures

July 15 th	\$5,333-Contribution	154-Attendance
July 8 th	\$7,707-Contribution	172-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: July 22, 2012

Wildercroft
CHURCH OF CHRIST



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Call BIBLE MOMENTS

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Updated This Week By Calvin Mitchell

***"A Going Church For A Coming Lord, Which Does
All The Lord Authorizes" – Romans 16:16***

The Recipe For Great Gain

Scriptural Text: 1 Timothy 6:6-10

We are living in an age where humanity is living in debt. Some individuals are in debt so bad that they have to save up just to be poor. Many individuals are simply one paycheck away from filing bankruptcy. I have read many books & have heard many sermons in the past 15 years geared towards eliminating debt & poverty & how to obtain wealth & prosperity. The "health & wealth" gospel has become a trend in our society in which religion has become what Karl Marx said it was, when he said, "*Religious suffering is, at one & the same time, the expression of real suffering & a protest against real suffering. Religion is the sigh of the oppressed creature, the heart of a heartless world, & the soul of soulless conditions. It is the opium of the people.*" In other words, religion is a tool used by society to keep the rich rich & to keep the poor poor. This is true when it comes to man-made religions, but when it comes to true Christianity; when it comes to the doctrine taught by the Bible & God's people, then this could not be further from the truth. **1 Timothy 6:6** teaches great gain is godliness & contentment. In order for us to rise to the level God would have us to be at, we must be godly & we must be content.

What Is Godliness?

Godliness has everything to do with our knowledge of God. Godliness has to do with our profound respect for God. Godliness has to do with the affection we show towards God & others. Godliness has to do with our dependence upon God to take care of us. Godliness is displayed in our submission & obedience to the will of God. Godliness is displayed in our gratitude for what God has already done for us. Oftentimes, Christians display godliness in their faithfulness in attendance; in their knowledge of the scriptures; in their love for God & others; & in their obedience to the will of Almighty God, but they are not satisfied with this, for they want something more.

What Is Contentment?

Contentment is self-satisfaction. Regardless of what others think, you are satisfied with you. You are pleased with your accomplishments, your decisions, your progress, your health, your wealth, your education, your dress, your appearance, your job, your spouse, your children, your house, your neighborhood, etc. We can list a whole lot of things wrong with those professing Christianity, such as error, false doctrines, & corrupt preachers. However, according to the text, there are at least two things hurting the church. I am convinced if we can eradicate these 2 things, then we can experience great gain not only in this life, but in the next.

The Church Is Hurt By A Lack Of Personal Contentment (2 Corinthians 9:8)

Christians are not where God would have them to be when they have a form of godliness, but they lack contentment. God wants us to abound in grace. He wants us to add to our faith virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly

kindness, & charity (**2 Peter 1:5-7**). God will supply everything we need in order to abound unto every good work. When God gives us sufficiency in all things, what more do we need? We must understand our great gain is in Christ & we need to be content with God & all He has done for us. When a person lacks contentment, they are never satisfied. They try to promote their own agendas instead of Christ's agenda. They seem to have joy & peace, but they have no real joy or real peace in their lives. We look for contentment in all the wrong places. We lack contentment when we look for fulfillment in our career, drown ourselves in our work, & change our slogan to "Cash Rules Everything Around Me; CREAM get the money; dollar dollar bills ya'll!!!!" We lack contentment when we look for gratification in fame, relationships, & sex. However, we will gain nothing if this is our dilemma. It is very difficult for a Christian to be what God would have them to be if they lack contentment.

The Church Is Hurt By A Lack Of Personal Godliness (1 Timothy 4:7-8)

Many Christians are not where God would have them to be when they are content where they are at, but they lack godliness. When a man is content without godliness, then this man is satisfied without having Christ in his life. Satan wants us to be satisfied in living ungodly. He wants us to be satisfied in our damnable condition. The devil wants us to be satisfied & secure in momma's religion or in our tradition, for the devil knows if he is successful in doing this, then we will not see the need in looking for & trying to obtain godliness. An individual is often content with listening to & believing profane & old wives' fables. However, the Bible teaches us we must refuse fables & embrace facts, which can only be found in godliness. The Bible teaches us bodily exercise does very little, but godliness can do a whole lot more. We need to start exercising our minds to follow after God for great gain & not philosophies. Anything we need help in, the Bible teaches godliness is good for everything. Why? It is because it is good for the promise that now is & of that which is to come. Godliness is not only essential for us to enjoy life right now, but it is necessary for us to enjoy life when Jesus comes again. However, we will miss the promise all together if we lack godliness.

One might think it is impossible for one to be content & godly at the same time. It might appear impossible for us, but it is not impossible with God's help. Jesus said in **Matthew 19:26**, "**With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.**" Our impossibilities are God's possibilities. Therefore, we can be both godly & content. Listen to your Bible! In **Philippians 4:11-12**, the Bible reads, "**Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, & I know how to abound: every where & in all things I am instructed both to be full & to be hungry, both to abound & to suffer need.**" However, Paul did not stop talking because he tells us how we can obtain both. "**I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me**" (**Philippians 4:13**). We can be content & godly at the same time, IF we have Christ in our lives, for He will give us the strength necessary to carry out the recipe for great gain.

- Antoine N. Holloway