

August 8, 2021

## Invitation to Hear the Truth

By Michael Hickox

# Olney Church of Christ

220 North Van Street  
P.O. Box 683  
Olney, IL 62450  
217-218-0803  
[www.olneychurchofchrist.org](http://www.olneychurchofchrist.org)

## Services

### Sunday

Bible Study	9:30 am
A.M. Worship	10:20 am
P.M. Worship	2:00 pm

### Wednesday

Bible Class	7:00 pm
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**Elders:** Mike Gerber, Travis Hall

**Deacons:** John Frost, Dave Goff,  
Roger Sholders

*Visitors are welcome*

*We offer Bible classes for all ages*

*We also offer in-home Bible studies*

We have Bible lessons on the radio  
(92.9 FM) Sundays from 8:00-8:30 a.m.

The Bible is our source of divine instruction (**2 Timothy 3:16-17**). It is the means through which God reveals Himself and His will to mankind today. As the Word of God, the Bible is infallible truth (**John 17:17**). This truth is not just intended to satisfy curiosities, but it relates to “***all things that pertain to life and godliness***” (**2 Peter 1:3**).

The inspired truth of God teaches us how the world and mankind came into existence (**Gen. 1**), what our greatest problem is (**Rom. 3:23; 6:23a**), what God’s solution is (cf. **Rom. 5:8-10**), and what each of us must do to be saved.

The inspired truth of God has the ability to take us from where we are to where we need to be. By hearing God’s Word and responding to it rightly, one can escape eternal condemnation in hell, and gain hope of eternal life in heaven (**Rom. 6:23**).

We invite all to come hear lessons from the inspired Word of God this week. A list of the times we’ll be meeting and the topics that will be covered are included on the inside of this bulletin.

If you’re interested in visiting or have questions about our church, feel free to call (217) 218-0803, or submit a question at [olneychurchofchrist.org](http://olneychurchofchrist.org). We look forward to seeing you!

# Simply Christians

By Michael Hickox

**Acts 11:26: *And when [Barnabas] had found [Saul], he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.***

After His resurrection, Jesus told “***the eleven disciples***” to “***teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you***” (Matthew 28:16, 19-20).

The apostles carried out this mission in the book of Acts. They did not teach people to follow man-made traditions or doctrines, but taught *Jesus’* commands.

Barnabas and Saul (Paul) taught Christ’s message to people in Antioch, and God referred to those who heeded Christ’s doctrine as Christians in **Acts 11:26**.

In the New Testament, the qualification for being a Christian is not following man’s rules, but rather following the Word of Christ (**Colossians 3:16**). The apostles did at times encourage people to be followers of themselves, but only inasmuch as they followed Jesus (see **1 Corinthians 11:1**; **1 Thessalonians 1:6**).

Following fallible men as the standard leads to divisions and many different ideas of what’s right (**1 Corinthians 1:11-12**).

It’s when we obey Christ that we become united through the Gospel.

Consider the application of this principle today. What would God say of the thousands of “denominations” and “sects” that exist? “***Is Christ divided?***” (**1 Corinthians 1:13a**).

What would God say of the creeds that have been penned by men as guidelines in religious matters? Has God not given us “***all things that pertain unto life and godliness***” (**2 Peter 1:3**)?

God did not call those meeting at Antioch “Paulians.” The group didn’t follow “Barnabas’ Official Creed.” Such might seem odd, yet this is similar to what is often done today.

There *are* some individuals though who do not bear the name of a man-made denomination, but simply aim to be Christians like those in Antioch. There *are* some individuals who do not religiously follow doctrines or creeds from the minds of fallible men, but simply aim to follow Christ’s Word. There are some who, like the church meeting at Antioch, simply strive to be the church *God* designed, allowing His Word to determine the organization, work, and worship of the church.

Won’t you choose to follow the simple pattern of the New Testament and be a part of the Lord’s body?

## Area Gospel Meetings

\*Our Gospel Meeting is this week with Jim Stauffer\*

*Sunday time: 9:30 & 10:20 a.m., 2:00 p.m.*

*Monday – Friday time: 7:00 p.m.*

### Topics for the Meeting

**Sun Class** – Flesh and Blood Hath Not Revealed This

**Sun AM** – How Was Jesus Glorified

**Sun PM** – The Purpose of Good Works

**Mon** – Jesus: God’s Grace, Our Savior

**Tues** – How Does God Choose Us

**Wed** – How Does God Deliver Us

**Thurs** – How Should I Respond to the Gospel

**Fri** – No Other Name

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## God’s Plan for Saving Man

God’s Grace	Ephesians 2:8
Christ’s Blood	Romans 5:9
The Holy Spirit’s Gospel	Romans 1:16
Sinner’s Faith	Acts 16:31
Sinner’s Repentance	Luke 13:3
Sinner’s Confession	Romans 10:10
Sinner’s Baptism	1 Peter 3:21
Christian’s Work	James 2:24
Christian’s Hope	Romans 8:24
Christian’s Endurance	Revelation 2:10

## Prayer List

Holly G  
 Sandy S  
 Cheryl S  
 Norma C  
 Raymond & Maxine  
 Barbara G (Cancer)  
 Robert C  
 Don C (Esophageal Cancer)  
 Ken G (Pancreatic Cancer)  
 Ethan W (Injuries from fall)

## Daily Bible Reading

August 8 – Psalm 13-17; Acts 19  
 August 9 – Psalm 18-19; Acts 20  
 August 10 – Psalm 20-25; Acts 21  
 August 11 – Psalm 26-30; Acts 22  
 August 12 – Psalm 31-34; Acts 23  
 August 13 – Psalm 35-36; Acts 24  
 August 14 – Psalm 37-39; Acts 25

***“And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.”***  
**– Acts 20:32 (ESV)**

### Prayer Leaders

Sunday, August 8, 2021

Bible Study: Darrell  
Worship: Michael  
Evening: Dan H

Wednesday, August 11, 2021

Steve

### Clean Building

Jessica

### Prepare Communion

Jessica

### Upcoming Reminders

**Aug 8-13:** Gospel Meeting (with Jim Stauffer)

**Next Sunday (15<sup>th</sup>) adult class:**

*1 Corinthians 14:1ff*

**Next Wednesday (18<sup>th</sup>) adult class:**

*Create In Me a Clean Heart, O God*

*Lesson 1 (Sinful Anger)*

### Assignments

Sunday, August 15, 2021

Reading: Dan H  
Announcements: Mark  
Table: Jeff  
Serve: Mike  
Roger  
Mason  
Jim

Wednesday, August 18, 2021

Invitation: Larry

### Anniversaries

August 15 – Roger & Debbie

### Birthdays

August 10 – Cheryl  
August 11 – Jim  
August 19 – Paula  
August 24 – Debbie  
August 26 – Olivia  
August 31 – Stephanie