

Weekly Bible Reading – Week 11

- *Sunday* John 16:25 – 18:14
- *Monday* John 18:15 – 19:24
- *Tuesday* John 19:25 – 20:31
- *Wednesday* John 21:1 – Acts 1:26
- *Thursday* Acts 2:1-47
- *Friday* Acts 3:1 – 4:22
- *Saturday* Acts 4:23 – 5:32



Prayer List (1 John 5:14–15)

Bryan Bailey Sr.'s father, Elwood Gaskins • Jo Byrnes • Joyce Coones • Sleatha Gore • Evelyn Griffin • Faye Kilpatrick • Pat Hunt • Gary Ogden • Marissa Black's grandmother and family.

Traveling

Ronnie & Bonnie Lord and Shane Brewer (Alabama) • Devoise & Barbara Lord will be leaving tomorrow for Tennessee • John Myers' daughter, Denise (Alabama).

Gospel Meetings

- Oct. 12-17 • **Bethel congregation** • Frank Jamerson, preaching Sunday through Friday, 7:30 PM.
- Oct. 12-16 • **Crystal River congregation** • Bob Dickey, preaching Monday through Thursday, 7:30 PM.
- Oct. 19-24 • **Cherry Sink congregation** • Different speakers (consult the announcement in foyer) • Sunday through Friday, 7:30 PM.
- Nov. 2-7 • **Our gospel meeting** • Jeff Himmel, preaching • regular times Sunday; 7:30 PM Monday through Friday.
- Nov. 7-9 • **Old Town congregation** • Buddy Payne, preaching • Friday through Sunday, 7:30 PM.

↪ Chiefland Church of Christ ↪

Meeting at 211 NE 2nd Street in beautiful Chiefland, Florida
Post Office Box 2539, Chiefland FL 32644 • (352) 493-1242

Things Above

“If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.”

— Colossians 3:1-2 —

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Gospel Meeting Reflections

by Jeff Himmel

[A Note from Jamey: Brother Himmel is coming to us the week of November 2-7. *This is only 3 weeks from today!* I agree with his observations . . . even when he refers to baptisms during the course of a gospel meeting. I was blessed with that opportunity last winter when I preached in Ridgeway, Va., baptizing a young woman into the Lord.]

I've just been through two weeks of gospel meetings: one out of town, in which I was the speaker; and the other, of course, our own meeting with Steve Dewhirst this past week. During those two weeks I've made a few observations.

Observation #1: If you invite people to come hear the gospel, they may just do it. During both weeks I got to meet non-Christians who had been invited to come. Some of those who did the inviting

were pleasantly surprised to see them! Take heart; your efforts to reach the lost are not in vain.

Observation #2: People make time for what's important to them. During both weeks, there were saints who attended every service even though it was not easy. May God increase that spirit among us.

Observation #3: The word of God still touches hearts. Brethren sometimes grumble about gospel meetings because "no one is baptized at them anymore." Wrong! During my meeting out of town, a young lady was baptized into Christ. It made the week for everyone. The harvest may sometimes be small, but the seed of the gospel is no less powerful.

Observation #4: A week's worth of daily instruction in the gospel is good for you. It enlightens, corrects, encourages, and motivates everyone. It gets us in the habit of daily Bible study — something we ought to be doing anyway. And hearing the same familiar truths from a different speaker can impress them even more strongly on our minds.

Observation #5: A week's worth of daily association with Christians in worship is good for you. By the end of the week, there is a heightened sense of familiarity and involvement on the part of everyone. By the end of the week, we've spent a lot of time singing and praying together. We can't help but feel closer to one another. Plus, there's the bonus of being with Christians from other places, reminding us that we are all part of one family. By the end of the week, we're all stronger.

Observation #6: If you choose not to be there, you don't know what you're missing.



Do You Speak Hebrew?

by Jeff Himmel

Probably not. Very few people are fluent in Biblical Hebrew. But did you know that there are several Hebrew words in our prayers and hymns — not to mention our Bibles? You've spoken a little Hebrew if you've ever used the following words. Do you know what they mean?

Amen. This Hebrew word is an acknowledgment that something is true or right. It comes from a root word that denotes surety, faithfulness, or trust. At the beginning of a thought, amen means "surely, truly." At the end of a thought, it means "so be it" or "may it be fulfilled." Thus we customarily end our prayers with this expression, as Jesus did in his model prayer (cf. Matt. 6:13). In the Old Testament, amen was often an expression of agreement or consent to something that was said. For instance, when the Law of Moses was read aloud the congregation of Israel responded with "amen," indicating their acceptance of its teaching (cf. Deut. 27:15–26; Neh. 8:6). Likewise, we frequently (I hope) say an audible amen to show our agreement with the thoughts expressed in a prayer or a sermon.

Hallelujah. This expression, so common in the hymns we sing, means "Praise Jehovah" or "Praise the Lord" (from *halal*, "praise" and *yah* which is a shortened form of the proper name of God in Hebrew). In some spiritual songs it has the alternate spelling of *alleluia*. The word occurs frequently in the Psalms and also for times and Revelation 19. The word expresses our own adoration for God and calls on others to adore him, too.

Messiah. This word means "anointed one." In the Old Testament, priests and Kings were anointed with oil to designate them as being set apart for God's purpose (cf. Exod. 28:41; 1 Samuel 16:1–13). Messiah also appears in the prophets as a reference to a great servant whom God would someday raise up (cf. Dan. 9:25,26). The equivalent word in the New Testament is Christ (Greek *christos*). Jesus of Nazareth fulfilled the prophecies of the anointed one of God (cp. Isa. 61:1; Lk. 4:16–21). As Peter told the Jews at Pentecost, "let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus ... both Lord and Christ" (Acts 2:36).