



# THE INFORMER

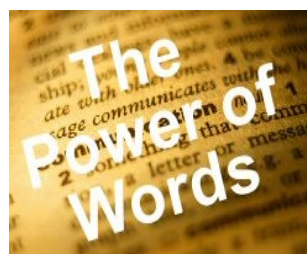
Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

[www.nacoc.us](http://www.nacoc.us)

April 25, 2017

## Words for Living

Mike King



Jesus epitomized the expressions of God's heart to man. He was God's "Word" to mankind. Words are bridges between God, others and us. Words can be either terrible or wonderful things. The Bible depicts man listening and trying to obey.

The most important factor in life is this ability to listen and communicate with each other. Family and marital success depend on our ability to listen and communicate with each other. Not only are we to listen to each other carefully, but supremely to God. He has spoken to us the word of life in His Son.

Three significant words spoken to us by God most clearly and unmistakably through Christ are: *Come*, *Believe*, and *Go*.

Jesus was God's living invitation to man: "*Come unto me all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest*" (Matt. 11:28). He also offers life, peace, joy and the power to become the sons of God (Jn. 10:10; 14:2; 15:11). It is only when we listen and hear His words in a right relationship with God that we access that true rest, peace, joy and life. The world is sending out messages of invite that counters those words of Christ. We cannot respond to the invite of the world and imbibe the true joys to be found in Christ at the same time, "*Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded*" (Jas. 4:7-8).

We must "*have faith in God*" (Mk. 11:22). In a world of doubts, in whom can we place our *belief*? Belief is not just mental assent, but acceptance and trust, a commitment leading to action. "*But without faith it is impossible to please him, for he who comes to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of those who diligently seek him*" (Heb. 11:6). Man uses his heart to believe unto righteousness (Rom. 10:9).

The third great word for living is *go*. The last words just before a blast off into space at the Kennedy Space Center is "Go." The same was true before Jesus made His physical departure from His disciples. He declared: Now that you have the key to life and victory, "*Go...and teach all nations*" (Matt. 28:19). When God's will is understood and accepted, we are required to share it! "A man of words but not of deeds is like a garden full of weeds." It is incumbent upon us to come, believe, go—and live!

## THOSE TO SERVE THE MONTH OF MAY 2017

**Announcements:** Lonnie Weaver  
**Sound Room:** Chris Smithey  
**Usher:** Brian Carpenter

**Lead Singing:** Sun. A.M.: Dalton Beard  
Sun. P.M.: Richard Jennings  
Wed.: Youth

### Sunday Prayers:

May 07:  
A.M. Tyler Weaver  
Randy Wall  
P.M. Steve Todd  
Dan Cobb  
May 14:  
A.M. Andy Clemmer  
Richard Adams  
P.M. Ruston Adams  
Ronnie Griggs  
May 21:  
A.M. Jim Gann  
Shane Crotts  
P.M. Greg Clayton  
Caleb Jennings  
May 28:  
A.M. Greg Harrison  
Tim Dye  
P.M. Alvin Parks  
Hunter Jennings

### Lord's Supper:

North Head: Kevin Simmons  
North Helper I: Matt Jennings  
North Helper II: Paul Ormon

South Head: Terry Stubblefield  
South Helper I: Olen Clark  
South Helper II: Harold Russell

### Scripture Reading:

May 07 — Thomas Wall  
May 14 — Phil Young  
May 21 — Martin Crotts  
May 28 — Dean Dillard

### Wednesday Prayers:

May 03 — Dillon Clayton; David Clayton  
May 10 — Roger Clayton; Jerry Grimmett  
May 17 — Harold Crowe; Mark Jennings  
May 24 — Jason Jennings; Bill Lyon  
May 31 — Perry Jones; Bobby Marques

### Usher:

May 07 — Roger Clayton  
May 14 — Randy Wall  
May 21 — Harold Russell  
May 28 — Greg Clayton

### Lock:

May 07 — Troy Robertson  
May 14 — Phil Young  
May 21 — Richard Jennings  
May 28 — Dan Cobb

### Prepare Communion:

Janice Griffin

### Host Youth Devo:

Roger & Kathy Clayton

**\* If you are unable to carry out your assignment please let Randy Wall know before service time.**



## Raccoons and Sins Grow Up

Gary Richmond, in *A view From the Zoo*, tells the following story. Bandit was irresistible. No raccoon that ever existed had more natural cuteness than this ninety-day-old bundle of mischief. When Julie bought him at the pet store, she was sure they would be lifelong friends. Everywhere she went, he went usually perched on her shoulder. Bandit's habit of holding Julie's cheeks in his paws and looking into her eyes with sparking curiosity always melted her and solicited an affectionate kiss and hug. And he grew. Eighteen months passed, and Bandit became a strapping twenty-five pound adolescent raccoon, still full of mischief only slightly less playful. He still loved affection, rode on her shoulders, and seemed to be a one-raccoon advertisement that raccoons make great pets.

A friend of Julie's mentioned Julie and Bandit to the zoo veterinarian one day and inquired as to why more people didn't keep raccoons as pets. His answer was revealing. "They undergo a glandular change at about twenty-four months. After that they become unpredictable, independent, and often attack their owners." "Are there exceptions?" the friend inquired. "None that I know of," he said thoughtfully. "Then Julie is likely to be bitten" "Any time now, I should think," the doctor added with conviction.

Since a thirty-pound raccoon can be equal to a one hundred pound dog in a scrap, Julie's friend felt compelled to mention the coming change to Julie. She sat and listened politely as he explained what an eminent world authority had shared concerning raccoons and their nature. This is how she responded. "It will be different for me. Bandit is different." "Bandit wouldn't hurt me. He just wouldn't."

Three months later Julie underwent plastic surgery for facial lacerations sustained when her adult raccoon attacked her for no apparent reason. Bandit was released into the wild.

A striking parallel exists in the spiritual realm, Sin is fun. It's pleasurable (Heb. 11:25). It's cute, playful and exciting (Lk. 15:13). It's often couched in a form that appears perfectly harmless. We flirt with it. We invite it into our homes, fully intending to rid ourselves of it at the first sign of harmful effects. But the more time we spend with it, the more it becomes a part of our lives — the harder it is to imagine life without it. Then the day comes when it reaches maturity and it strikes the death blow... *and sin, when it is finished, brings forth death* (Jas. 1:15). Listen to your doctor. *The wages of sin is death.* (Rom. 6:23).

~ Chuck Webster



**PRAYER LIST**

**Amy Martin**, granddaughter of *Tim & Kathy Dye* was released from Le Bonheur Sun., after being treated for strep in her bloodstream. *Amy* is the daughter of *Jonathon* and *Amanda Martin*.

**Linda Palmer** is in the Tupelo Hospital with back problems.

**Chris & Arley Crow**, aunt and cousin of *Darrell Crow* were injured in an accident in Ohio this past week. They received multiple injuries.

**Helen DePriest** was released from the Tupelo Hospital Sun. after having a gall stone removed.

**Kathy Wesson**, daughter of *Bill & Grace Lyon* is at home recovering from surgery.

**Ernestine McKinney**, mother of *Perry Jones* was admitted to room 601 of Baptist DeSoto Co. Hospital for continuing fluid build up and an infection.

**Johnny Lee**, 4-year old great nephew of *Mike & Sheila King* received test results that showed he is not yet in remission and continues to need chemo treatments.

**Continue to Remember:**

William Bailey, Wade Chism, Todd Coleman, Liz Collins, David Crossings, Roy Crow, Preeble Foster, Ray Franks, Jacqueline Golden, Linda Griggs, Pam Hall, Donna Haynes, Dianna Hodges, Laura Hollowell, Shane Hutton, Taylor Kirk, Johnny Lee, Dean Long, Barbara Raines, Cliff Sanders, Pete Scriara, Kayla Thomas, Sheila Thomas, Judy Ward, Terry & Betty Young, Tommy Young.

**Shut-Ins:**

Teresa Clark, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe Garner

**Nursing Home/Assisted Living:**

Grace Anderson, Genice Collett, Wanda DeLoach, Jean Drummond, Mattie Golden, Laura Mae Harris, Cornelia Kennedy, Betty Lang, Mary Frances Reid, Price & Claudia Senter, Ione Wall

**Military List:**

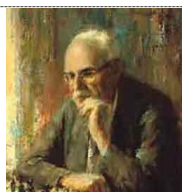
Derek Bradley, Tevin Bradley & Chase Seals

**AREA EVENTS**

- Christian Chapel Church of Christ invites you to their Ladies Day Saturday, April 29th.
- The Bible and Archaeology will be discussed April 29-30 at the East Main Church of Christ.

**I've Learned...**

Between the great things that we cannot do and the small things we are unwilling to do, there is the danger that we will do nothing.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



- April 29. .... Lana Todd
- April 30. .... Jamie Crow
- May 03. .... Anderson Parks
- May 04. .... Ruston Adams
- May 06. .... Lonnie Weaver

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

- April 28. .... Larry & Linda Ashmore
- April 29. .... Harold & Deloris Crowe
- May 02. .... Will & Sallye Bowlin



**THANK YOU NOTES**

Thanks to all who came to the Fish Fry Sat. evening April 22nd, and for all the help.

Harold Russell & Bobby White

To Harold & Bobby,

The congregation would like to thank you for the wonderful fish supper you provided. The fish and sides were all so good. Everyone enjoyed the time of fellowship. Once again, Thanks

We love you, New Albany family

Thank you for everyone's prayers, calls and text over the last few days. We are truly blessed to have such a loving Christian family here at New Albany.

Tim & Kathy Dye

**5TH SUNDAY SERVICES**

Sunday April 30th, we will have a noon fellowship meal followed by a 1:15pm service. Our young men will be in charge of the afternoon service. The adult 3 class will be in charge of the fellowship building. Please join us Sunday!

**CARE GROUP 1**

- Care group 1 to meet Fri. night April 28th, at the home of *Mike* and *Sheila King*, at 6:00pm. Please let them know if you plan to attend.

**OUR DREAM:**

**To become better friends with God in 2017!**

Visit our website @ <http://www.nacoc.us>

Email: [nacoc15s@gmail.com](mailto:nacoc15s@gmail.com)

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

Sunday School.....9:30  
Morning Worship.....10:30  
Evening Worship.....6:00  
Wednesday Bible Study....7:00

**MINISTER**

Mike King ..... 507-0625  
Home..... 534-6872  
Office ..... 534-4649

**ELDERS**

Richard Jennings .....316-1305  
Troy Robertson .....316-3163

**DEACONS**

Greg Clayton .....252-9762  
Roger Clayton ..... 538-8195  
Randy Wall ..... 316-9255  
Lonnie Weaver .....801-8448

**TO SERVE**

Scripture.....Michael Crotts  
A.M. Prayer.....Troy Robertson  
Closing Prayer...Jerry Grimmatt  
P.M. Prayer.....Youth  
Closing .....Youth  
Wed.4/26.....Paul Ormon  
Wed.4/26.....Harold Russell  
Usher & Lock.....Greg Clayton

**OUR RECORD**

Sunday School.....100  
Sunday A.M.....126  
Sunday P. M.....89  
Wednesday.....107  
Contribution.....\$3,218.00  
Budget.....\$4,385.16

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**Distractions on the Road**

Surly you’ve seen them– those drivers who are so busy talking on their cellular phones that they sit through a green light or ignore some other important traffic situation. The ‘topper’ to this is when you see a driver talking on the cell phone AND eating a sandwich - all while driving a car.

Driving is a serious activity that demands our devoted attention. Things like cell phones and sandwiches tend to distract us, making driving even more dangerous. When two or more such distractions are added together watch out! The likelihood of an accident is significantly multiplied.

Now, make a spiritual application. The problem is that we too often allow ourselves to be distracted by the things of this world. When that happens, a spiritual accident is sure to follow.

And, we’re not just talking about the sinful things that can distract us. Certainly, there are plenty of those. Wickedness abounds in our society and we are confronted with multiple temptations everyday. Constant vigilance is necessary. But, more than this, there is danger that we will get so busy with our day-to-day affairs that we forget what our main pursuit is supposed to be. Our jobs, our families, our recreation and a host of other things– not sinful in and of themselves - - can crowd God out of our lives.

Add two or three such distractions and you are simply a spiritual accident looking for a place to happen. Be careful! Stay focused. *“reach forth unto those things which are before”* and *“press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus”* (Phil. 3: 13,14)

~ by Greg Gwin ~



**PANTRY ITEMS**

Tuna