

**Psalm 119:50:** "This is my comfort in my affliction: For thy word hath quickened me."

## THAT YOU MAY KNOW...

### Let us pray for...

- Rick Beauchamp** – on extended absence from family and us because of employment  
**Sheila Beauchamp's brothers** – Mike, Rick, and Doug.  
**Jerry Douglas** – fighting bone and lymph cancer (Danny Douglas's twin brother)  
**Ann Henderson** - fighting cancer again, trying one last treatment series (Sheri's Aunt)  
**Terry Hightower** – in the loss of his wife, Vicki  
**Judith Klein** (Don Smith's mother) is down with pneumonia.  
**Dub McClish** – Recovering from an angiogram/stent emplacement April 6  
**Debbie Post** – fighting cancer (wife of Doug Post, Gospel preacher)  
**Judy Reid** – sister in NJ, planning to move here  
**Llewelyn Reid** - is suffering from serious heart problems (Judy Reid's husband)  
**Jaylen Reid** – Courts have awarded custody of Jaylen to his father on weekends, meaning he will be under denominational influence every Sunday (the Reids' grandson).  
**Brian Ritter** – fighting rare autoimmune disease (son of Rick Ritter, Gospel preacher)  
**Jeff Simmons** – "our boy" in the US Navy (Saratoga Springs, New York)  
**Don Smith** – faithful brother in Ohio prison, ordered to cease teaching fellow inmates  
**Stephanie Tigner** – who has been restored to Christ (Kourtney's sister)  
**Samuel Bagsangi** – Gospel preacher in Philippines we support  
**Danny Douglas** – Gospel preacher in US we support

### Records you helped make last week...

Bible Classes	15
Sunday AM Worship	15
Sunday PM Worship	10
Wednesday PM Bible Class/Worship	8
Contribution	\$956.00
Contribution average (2017)	\$1,242.50

### Internet and YouTube Sermon broadcasts...

- Both sermons each Sunday are broadcast, beginning at approximately 10:45–10:50 a.m. and 1:12–1:15 p.m., via Internet through our Website, [www.northpointcoc.com](http://www.northpointcoc.com).
- Our **YouTube** channel at *Northpoint Church of Christ* has a growing collection of Northpoint sermons available for viewing.

Preacher, Editor, *The Lighthouse*

Philip Smith



# The Northpoint Lighthouse

Volume 13, Number 17  
April 23, 2017

## THE GREAT REUNION

Do you enjoy reunions? There are family reunions, school reunions, military reunions—all kinds of reunions. These bring people, who were separated by time and distance together again. Most people enjoy seeing those with whom they were once close, but with whom, they have now drifted apart. Often, they meet relatives and make new friends that they had not known before. A reunion can be a joyous time spent with family, friends, and loved ones.

There is a greater reunion awaiting faithful Christians. A reunion of brothers and sisters, many whom we have never known in our lifetime. This is no earthly reunion we are talking about, but one that takes place in Heaven itself (2 Cor. 5:1). God's Word teaches us that we will recognize one another there (2 Sam. 12:23). How many times have we thought about the joy of that great reunion where faithful brothers and sisters will be together in a place where there is no sickness, dying, or troubles any more? It is a place where none of us will ever grow old.

Are you going to be at this great reunion? Not only must you know about it but you must know how to get there in order to attend. There are two roads in life but only one can take us to this reunion (Matt. 7:13–14). Are you on the right one? God's Word is like a map to direct you there. You must follow it or you will be lost and will never be able to make this great and final reunion.

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**Sunday**  
Bible Class 9:30 AM  
Worship 10:30 AM  
Worship 1:00 PM  
**Wednesday**  
B.C./Worship 7:00 PM

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Perhaps your earthly grandparents, parents, son, daughter, brother, sister or best friend will be there. They won't be there unless someone informs them (Rom. 1:16–17). They, too, need to know about it and how to arrive. Do you want them there? Have you discussed this great reunion with them?

The great reunion will be like no other. I want to be there. I want you to be there. Are you willing to follow God's Word which leads to that final and everlasting reunion in Heaven?

-Philip Smith

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## Whose Sheep Are You???

Jess Whitlock

“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me: and I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand” (John 10:27–28). Years ago I met a Mr. Ballard in public discussion on the matter of “eternal salvation,” or “once saved, always saved.” This passage was his favorite proof-text to defend his doctrine that is so full of “comfort” for his brethren.

The word *hear* in this passage involves much more than to recognize sound. The indication is that one “hears” with the intention/disposition to obey. “He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith to the churches” (Rev. 2:7, 11,17,29; 3:6,13,22). Notice please, the passage asserts “and they follow Me.” If the hearing does not indicate the desire to obey, then why do they follow Him? In 1 John 2:4 we read, “...he that saith, I know Him and keepeth not His commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him.” One simply cannot be a “sheep” of Christ, the good “Shepherd” without obedience to His voice. On the day of Pentecost, the inspired Peter preached, “repent and be baptized” (Acts 2:38); those who truly **heard** the message were obedient (v. 41) and some 3,000 were added to the church by the Lord Himself (v. 47).

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The assurance of Jesus' promise was this: “I give unto them eternal life.” Only those who hear and heed the voice of the Shepherd could receive that blessing. Now, sheep can become careless, cold, and calloused. Many have done so, ceasing to follow the voice of the Shepherd. Such one are no longer loyal “sheep.” Christ taught, “He that hath My commandments and **keepeth them**, he it is that loveth Me...” (John 14:21). If we, of our own volition, fail to keep the commands of Jesus, then we show that we do not love the Lord (v. 15; 15:14).

The latter part of John 10:28 is assurance that no child of God can be separated from God against his own will. God is on our side. The word *pluck* (*snatch* in ASV 1901) means “to take something by force.” The follower (“sheep”) of Christ cannot be stolen away from God/Christ. Some do choose to return to sin, to rebel against God and His Word, and to return to the “god of this world,” who is Satan himself. Let us understand that the Christian can sin and fall from God's great grace (1 Cor. 9:27; Gal. 5:4; Heb. 10:26–ff. et al.). “**Whose Sheep Are You?**”

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## Denying The Obvious

There are those, no doubt, who are convinced that they know more about salvation than God does. They deny plain Bible teaching on the organization of the church, worship of the church, work of the church, the plan of salvation, and just about everything else in the Word of God.

The Bible describes them as “ever learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth” (2 Tim. 3:7). When they deny any aspect of God's revealed Word they exalt themselves above God.

If we are to be saved we must rely on God and His Word (Jer. 10:23; Prov. 3:5–6)

One very basic and clear necessity for salvation from sin is baptism. Yet so many deny its importance. Let's notice just a few passages:

- Mark 16:16: “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved.”
- Acts 2:38: “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins.”
- 1 Pet. 3:20–21: “...baptism doth also now save us.”

While the Bible teaches that many things enter into our salvation, the message is clear that one cannot be saved apart from baptism .

-Philip Smith