

God's Desired Worship *by Don Strittmatter*

Jesus gave a lesson on true worship to a woman who was both morally and ethnically considered an outcast of that day. But, in [John 4](#), Jesus demonstrated God's amazing love and mercy for sinners to teach this woman and us what God's desired worship should consist of in our lives. Jesus tells us that God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and in Truth. Both spirit and truth are critical in God's sight to appreciate and love Him as we come to understand Him through the truth in the Scriptures. To worship with spirit but not be supported with truth can lead to a purely emotion focused, shallow experience that fades as soon as we leave worship services. To worship with truth and not involve your spirit in a meaningful way can lead to a robotic, legalistic obedience to God's Word. The balance of spirit and truth in our worship helps to grow a virtuous cycle of ever growing appreciation and love for God as we continue to grow in our understanding and knowledge of Him.

Our hearts have to be fully engaged with a deep longing to adore and praise God with our spirit. Without our heart truly involved we cannot worship in spirit. The more we grow in love and adoration of God the more we want to discover about Him. Our worship, without grounding and guidance in the Scriptures becomes a dangerous, idolatrous, self-deception of God's nature and is not worshipping in truth. In [Mark 7](#), Jesus warned the Pharisees that they worshipped God in vain, because they were following rules made by men instead of God's Word. Worshipping by God's terms should be our continual striving in order to please Him and show our appreciation for the grace of Christ.



Jan 14

City Women's Fellowship



Jan 21

Ladies' Life Talks



Feb 18

Men's Fellowship Day



Feb 26

Family Bible Class

Outreach Ministry Update *by Arthur Shlesinger*

In late September, we received a letter from our brother Ron Clayton at the [Church of Christ India Missions](#) who thank us for our financial support of their work of spreading the Gospel in India. Through the first 9 months of this past year our brethren in India were able to plant over 8,000 new Churches of Christ and conduct over 300,000 Bible studies with over 600,000 people giving their lives to Christ through baptism. This equates to about 1,200 studies a day and approximately 2,400 new Christians on a daily basis!

We also received a letter from [Healing Hands](#), a Christian organization that we support regularly (most recently with the Hurricane Matthew events that have severely affected Haiti). They thank us for our support and faithfulness in our compassion to the physical needs of those who've been affected by disaster and difficulty. 9,000 refugees have fled Sudan, at a rate of 400 per day, mostly women and children. Food provided by the UN is now being rationed, and there is not enough for infants and mothers. With our help, Healing Hands have been able to provide additional food to the refugees. By God's grace, food that was meant to feed only 300 people was actually able to feed 600. There's a truthful saying, "Little is much, when God is in it". Amen!

Baptisms & Bios



Condace Brazier —baptized on [October 15, 2016](#)



Suzette Caban —baptized on [November 11, 2016](#)



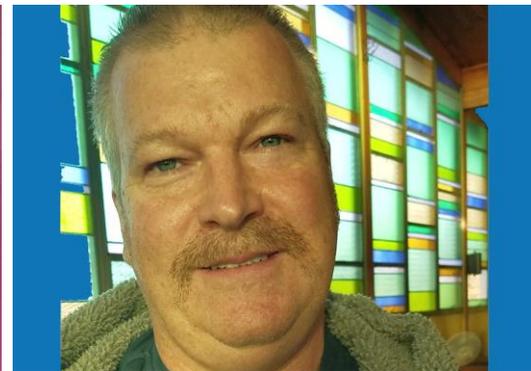
Jade Eberhardt —baptized on [October 30, 2016](#)



Concetta Cafiso —baptized on [October 30, 2016](#)



Issachar Charles —baptized on [November 6, 2016](#)



Brad Kean —baptized in [October 2016](#)

Check out our baptism videos here: <http://licoc.org/youtube>

Family Ministry Update *by Robert Young*

Happy New Year!

In keeping with the Scriptures to, "**entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also,**" (2 Timothy 2:2, ESV) I want to introduce you to our new Children's Ministry Director, Gerard Toughey. Our brother Gerard has been serving among us in many capacities and has decided, with a lot of prayer, to take on the responsibility of managing the Children's Ministry which primarily serves the families of our congregation whose children fall between the ages of 1-8 years old. He will be overseeing all functions of the ministry on Sundays and Wednesdays. Gerard is supported by his lovely wife Mirelle and his three beautiful children Tabitha, Priscilla, and Silas. As you move through this new year, don't forget to keep our brother and his family in prayer as he begins to lead this ministry.

Announcements

- ✝ Men's Order of Service Meetings:
January 15, February 19, March 19
- ✝ Children's Ministry Meeting:
March 5
- ✝ Children's Ministry Supervisors' Meeting:
February 26

Mission Work

- [Apologetics Press](#) International
- [We Care Ministries](#) West Monroe, LA
- [Ron Clayton](#) India
- [NY Harvest Campaigns](#)
Queens & Long Island, NY
- [Hope of Life, Orphans Lifeline Int'l](#)
International
- [Healing Hands Disaster Relief](#)
International

Contribution & Attendance

September	245	\$9,538
October	234	\$9,236
November	248	\$9,189
Quarter Weekly Avg.		\$9,314

Contact Us

(631) 348-7322
www.licoc.org
info@licoc.org