



# THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 43

January 12, 2025

Number 2

## Schedule of Services

### Sunday

- Bible Classes 10 am
- Worship 10:45 am and 2:00 pm
- Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm

### Elders

- Mike Ernstberger  
270-753-2108 Home  
270-293-7027 Cell
- James Pigg  
270-759-2145 Home  
270-293-2319 Cell

### Deacons

- Bobby Hall
- Jesse Vincent

### Preacher

- Jonnie Hutchison  
Cell: 270-978-7569

### Supporting Works

India—Dale Foster, David Nance, & Ronnie Gootam;  
Hatti/Cuba: Arnold Gerson

### Location

- Green Plain Church of Christ  
3980 Murray Paris Road  
Hazel, KY 42049
- Phone: (270) 492-8206
- [greenplaincoc@gmail.com](mailto:greenplaincoc@gmail.com)
- [greenplainchurchofchrist.org](http://greenplainchurchofchrist.org)

## WHEN YOUR BROTHER OR SISTER HAS SINNED *By Jonnie Hutchison*

Christians can and do sin. John writes to Christians, *“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us”* (1 John 1:8). No one who is accountable before God lives above or without sin. Only one man lived in this world without sin and that was Jesus Christ who is also Deity (2 Corinthians 5:21). God has made provision for Christians who sin to be forgiven by giving the Christian access to the cleansing blood of Jesus. This requires walking in the light of God’s truth, repenting, and confessing ones sin. The promise is, *“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness”* (1 John 1:7, 9; Acts 8:22).

When the faithful see a brother or sister in sin, what is their responsibility? The Bible teaches in Galatians 6:1, *“Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit*

*of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.”* The Greek word translated “restore” means “to mend what has been broken or rent; to repair.” (Thayer). The Christian who sins has broken his or her fellowship with God and needs the help of his or her brothers and sisters to mend and restore that lost relationship with God.

How is such restoration to be accomplished? In speaking of personal offenses between brethren, Jesus gives a pattern to follow.

### THE FIRST STEP:

*“Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother”* (Matthew 18:15). How many problems would be solved and souls saved by carefully observing this first step. Yet, far too often this step is skipped and the sins of the erring child of

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## NEWS AND NOTES

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** Green Plain Members: Maxine Pool, Jim Fielder (Spring Creek), Hayes Grady is back at Raymond's home. Continue to pray for Marie Wyatt, Jackie and Don Spiceland, Dave & Ann Thompson, and Joan Lathrop, and Roy Wyatt.

**Family and Friends:** Ted Lovett, Jerry Lovett, Teresa Tacker, Dale Pentecost, Brett Wyatt, Kim Burrows, Nat Evans, Lucetria Hutchison, Ted Clark, Larry and Rose Wyatt, Tonya Morris, and Teri Mercer.

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:** Remember our afternoon services has been changed to **2:00 pm.**

**PANTRY ITEMS January 2025:** 5- Sweet Pickles; 12-Dill Pickles; 19-Canned Carrots; 26-apple Sauce. All items must be **non-perishable or canned.**

**January 2025; Anniversaries:** None **Birthdays:** 18th-Karen Elkins.

**HOME BIBLE STUDY;** Request a **FREE** home Bible study—“Back to the Bible” for anyone who is interested in gaining more knowledge of the Bible.

**ENROLL IN A FREE BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE.** Send your name and complete mailing address and phone number to Green Plain Church of Christ 3980 Murray Paris Rd, Hazel, KY 42049 or enroll online on our webpage. This is a great way to increase your Bible knowledge. Enroll Today!



**VISIT OUR YOUTUBE AND FACEBOOK PAGES.** Search for Green Plain church of Christ to find videos of this years Gospel Meetings with Bradley Smith (Spring 2024) and John Sales (fall 2024).



## **WATCH YOUR WORDS** By Jerry Joseph

*“If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth; that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever” (1 Peter 4:11).*

Is it true that when we teach and preach we must only teach and preach “the Truth”? Paul said that we must “Preach the word” (2 Timothy 4:2). What we must declare and defend is the “doctrine of Christ” (2 John 9-11) not the doctrines of men. Therefore, when we teach false doctrine, such words do not honor and glorify God.

What about when we lie, gossip, backbite, take God's name in vain, curse? Is God

pleased with that? Will God overlook such from the mouth on one who claims to be one of His children? In Ephesians 4:29, Paul said, “Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.” The importance of this can be seen in the fact that Jesus said, “That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned” (Matthew 12:36-37).

It does make a difference what we say. Think about it!

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God are widely broadcast to whomever will listen. Go to the erring brother or sister first and if he or she will hear you and repent you have saved a precious soul.

**THE SECOND STEP:** “But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.” (Matthew 18:16). Not every first attempt at restoration will be successful. But

one must not give up the effort. If the erring Christian will not hear you, then take one or two more concerned and faithful brethren with you to emphasize the erring Christians undone spiritual condition and to serve as witnesses.

**THE THIRD STEP:** “*And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the church.....*” (Matthew 18:17a). The church becomes involved only after the first two steps fail to bring the erring Christian to repentance. Members of the church then have the opportunity to express their love and compassion for their erring brother or sister in exhorting his or her repentance. With the participation and prayers of the church a powerful influence is exerted to save a soul from death.

**THE FOURTH STEP:** “*...But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector*” (Matthew 18:17b). Concerning the fornicator in the church at Corinth, Paul wrote, “*In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when*

*you are gathered together, along with my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord*” (1 Corinthians 5:4-5). To the church in Thessalonica inspiration declared, “*But we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you withdraw from every brother who walks disorderly and not according to the tradition which he received from us.*” (2

Thessalonians 3:6). When all previous efforts at restoring the erring have failed, the last step to help the erring realize his spiritual state of separation from God

is the withdrawal of his fellowship by the church. This does not mean that efforts to restore this lost person should cease. But spiritual fellowship is withheld in order to help the erring see his lost condition. The purpose is to bring him or her to repentance to save his or her soul. An additional purpose for such action is to maintain the spiritual purity of the church (1 Corinthians 5:6-8).

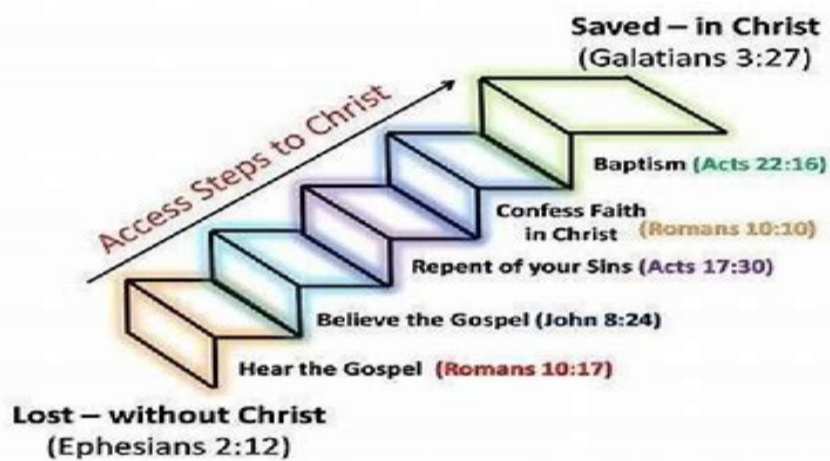
These are the steps of the pattern Jesus has given when a brother or sister sins. Let us endeavor to follow this divine pattern so that precious souls can be saved and we do not find ourselves in error.

“*Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.*” (James 5:19-20).



**“Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you.” Acts 8:22.**

“If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.”  
Colossians 3:1-4



**THOSE TO SERVE January 2025**

- Announcements: James Pigg
- Lord’s Table AM: Mike E. & Jimmy C.
- Lord’s Table PM: 5-Mike; 12-Jimmy 19-Mike; 26-Jimmy
- Opening Prayer AM: 5-Bobbgy; 12-Jonnie; 19-Perry; 26-Russell
- Closing Prayer AM: 5-Roy; 12-Dave; 19-Jesse; 26-Junior
- Lead Songs: Sunday AM-Perry; Sunday PM-Mike; Wednesday-Chad
- Count Contribution: Mike & Jimmy

**COME VISIT WITH US**

The church building is located southeast of Murray one mile off highway 641 - Near the corner of the Green Plain and Murray Paris Roads. We look forward to seeing you!

**Bible Study Opportunities**

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS 10:00 AM**  
**“A Study of Mark”**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:45 AM**  
**“How To Overcome Sin”**

**SUNDAY WORSIP 2:00 PM**  
**To Be announced**

**Wednesday 7:00 PM**  
**“A Study of Ecclesiastes”**



A Bi-Biweekly Podcast Available wherever you get your Podcasts