



WELCOME VISITORS

The presence of Jesus in the gathering of His people is the sweetest blessing we enjoy when we meet.
We pray that you will find peace, comfort, and power for living today.

A visitor's card is provided in the book rack, to give us a record of your visit.

SUNDAY

Bible Study	10:00 AM
Worship	11:00 AM
Evening	6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	6:30 PM
Fellowship Meal	12:30 PM
(Every 1 st Sunday)	
Men's Meeting	5:00 PM
(Last Sunday of every month)	

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

Morning Worship	49
Evening Worship	15
Wednesday	10
Contribution	785.00

Visit our website at www.brunswickcoc.com
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TO OUR FRIENDS:

MESSENGER FOR CHRIST



BRUNSWICK CHURCH OF CHRIST

August 8, 2010

Be Honest. Is Your God A Burden?

By Joe Chesser

I may be wrong, but from my perspective, most people feel that God is a burden. I think most people realize they have a need for God, but they struggle with it. For them, God often gets in the way of life, and especially the fun things. God seems to be more tolerated than enjoyed. And there seems to be a lot of guilt and fear and dread in connection with God. Religion that has been reduced to ritual and obligation has become burdensome. People feel obligated to go to church, but they don't really enjoy it. They've fulfilled their duty, but that's about it. It's the same with giving and evangelism and just about anything else God expects. They are just heavy burdens to be borne, more like slavery than freedom.

That kind of a god is not much different from the gods Isaiah wrote about close to 3000 years ago: "the images that are carried about are burdensome, a burden for the weary" (Isaiah 46:1). We don't have images of wood, stone and metal to tote around, but we do have false concepts of God that are heavy and tiring. Instead of allowing God to carry us, we feel like we have to carry him. A god like that robs us of the joy that the true God intends for us to experience. They think, "There are so many rules and restrictions. How can anyone possibly keep them all?! And if you did, what a miserable life that would be!"

God, any god, is a burden if we make them ourselves. If our concepts of God are restricted to what we can visualize and design, our god is way too small to lift our burdens, and, in fact, becomes a burden himself.

How grateful we must be to learn that our God is much greater than our concept of him. He can do more than we can imagine (Eph. 3:20-21). He knows more than we can fathom (Deut. 29:29). He didn't begin when we first thought of him, but is eternal (Heb. 13:8). A God like this is not a burden, but instead invites us all to "come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matt. 11:28). A God like this doesn't rob us of life's pleasures, but instead has "come that they may have life, and have it to the full" (John 10:10). A God like this does not make rules that are a burden, but instead guides us to victory (1 John 5:3-5)! A God like this fills us with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Gal. 5:22-23).

When you get out of the way and let God be God, he is never a burden!

-----Via Bulletin Gold

“...The Churches of Christ salute you.” Romans 16:16

Welcome

We are pleased to have Brock Shanks as our speaker today. Brock and his family are from the Conway, SC, area. Brock will be attending the Preaching School in Sumter, SC, this fall. Please make him and his family welcome.

Labor of Love

We will have our Labor of Love meeting this Saturday, August 14th, in the fellowship room. Please try to attend as this is the last meeting before our Ladies Day on Saturday August 21st. Don't forget to bring your gift of love for the shelter for women.



God's Plan for Man

- **Hear God's Word**
 - Heb. 11:6; Rom. 10:17
- **Believe in Jesus**
 - Jn. 8:24
- **Repent of Sins**
 - Lk. 13:3; 2 Cor. 7:10
- **Confess Jesus' Name**
 - Mt. 10:32-33; Rom. 10:9-10; Mt. 16:15-16
- **Be Baptized**
 - Mk. 16:15-16; Mt. 28:18-19; Acts 2:38,41; Acts 22:16; Rom. 6:3-4
- **Live Faithful Until Death**
 - Mt. 10:22; Rev. 2:10

The Bible study topic for Wednesday night:

A Study of Authority in Religion
Bible study starts at 6:30 PM.



Opportunities to Serve

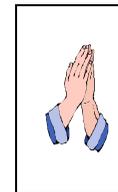
	Today	08/15/10
Welcome	Albert Sturdivant	Willie Gore
Song Leader	Willie Gore	Scott Bowling
Opening Prayer	Adam Yeager	Albert Sturdivant
Communion	*Scott Bowling	*Aaron Phillips
	Lynn Means	Dwight Hewett
	Taylor Bowling	Bill Bartlow
Scripture Reading	Aaron Phillips	Leslie Bell
Speaker	Brock Shanks	Rick Massey
Closing Prayer	John Bowling	John Bowling
Nursery	Iris Garner	Gloria Coldwell
Evening	Adam Yeager	John Bowling

Please remember to pray for the sick, lonely, and especially anyone outside Christ.

Health

Traveling

Garner Family
Massey Family
Means Family



The complete prayer list is on the bulletin board.



The ladies bible study is cancelled this week. We will resume our studies on Tuesday, August 17, at 10:00 AM in the fellowship room. Our topic next week: Queen of Sheba (1 Kings 10:1-13). Join us if you can.

God's Omnipotence

A Sunday School teacher was questioning her pupils after a lesson on God's omnipotence. "Now children," she asked, "is there anything God can't do?" One lad enthusiastically thrust his hand into the air. The teacher, feeling certain that the boy had missed the point of the lesson, asked halfheartedly, "Well, just what IS it that God can't do?" Replied the boy: "He can't please EVERYBODY, Miss!"

-----via Bulletin Gold

“We don't change the message; the message changes us.”