

SUMMER 2019

# TIDINGS

CHRIST'S SANCTIFIED HOLY CHURCH



## God's Pursuit

Many times we have heard those who obtain salvation use the phrase, "I found the Lord." This heartfelt expression is obviously borne of someone spending significant time searching for peace or the meaning of life, yet only experiencing unfulfillment and disappointment. Once they become convinced that serving the Lord is the answer, and truly obtain salvation, it's quite natural to proclaim, "I found the Lord!" It is our human way of saying, I searched, and I searched, and I finally found what I was looking for, and that is simply, Jesus Christ. He alone fills the void and emptiness. He fills our hearts with His great love, joy, and peace. This has been the testimony of so many and is truly a beautiful proclamation.

So, do we really "find the Lord," or does He find us? In this great big world, and small moment in time, how can we ever find Him? We are so very helpless within ourselves, but all the while through His Holy Spirit, He searches for us, finds us, and gives all the opportunity to serve Him. He explains this clearly in Luke 15:4-6: "*What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost.*"

He knows exactly where we are and where to find us. He knows all about the sin and disappointment in our lives and yet still reaches out to us. He says exactly this in Matthew 11:28-29: "*Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.*"

*continued on p.2*

*"O give thanks unto the Lord,  
for he is good: for his mercy  
endureth for ever. Let the  
redeemed of the Lord say so,  
whom he hath redeemed from  
the hand of the enemy; And  
gathered them out of the  
lands, from the east, and from  
the west, from the north, and  
from the south."*

- PSALM 107:1-3

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## UPCOMING

- 7/20 - 7/27: Annual  
Campmeeting Services at the  
CSHC Campground in Perry, GA  
Visit [www.cshc.org](http://www.cshc.org) for more  
information.

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*What release the Savior gave me!  
Christ indeed has set me free!  
All the pow'r of sin is broken,  
All death's sting is passed from me!*

*Christ has made me more than  
conqu'ror,  
By His mighty victory,  
Now His resurrection power  
From my spirit strengthens me!*

*Christ has sin condemned at Calv'ry  
And its power done away;  
Now it has no ground within me,  
I am freed from all its sway.*

*All-sufficient grace He giveth,  
With His pow'r He covers me,  
Makes me glory in my weakness  
And in weakness strengthens me.*

- PHILLIP P. BLISS

Another example in the Scriptures of how Jesus seeks us can be found in the 4th Chapter of St. John. This passage describes Jesus telling his disciples that He must go through Samaria while traveling from Galilee to Judea. This wasn't a spur-of-the-moment decision, but rather one of great purpose. He knew there would be someone there who would listen to Him, and who would be accepting of His words. He knew all about this person and the finest details of her sins. He also was aware of the social implications of Him, being a Jewish man, stopping to have a conversation with a Samaritan woman, but this did not stop Jesus. As He waited by a well, the Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus began to reason with her. The 10th verse says: *"Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water."* He explains further in the 13th and 14th verses: *"Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life."* What a message to this lowly and sinful woman! She was going through life searching for elusive fulfillment, then while simply going about her day, Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world, crossed her path. Jesus goes on to tell this woman all about her life, and reminds her of her sinful ways. In the 23rd and 24th verses, He then says perhaps some of the most important words of the Bible:

*"But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. The woman saith unto him, I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things. Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am he."*

Again, what a message, not only to this woman so many years ago, but to all of us today. It is amazing to think how Jesus sought after this woman, in a place where many wouldn't go, and found her. He knew all about her before meeting her and cared about the details of her life. He clearly explained to her, not just who He was, but how He could miraculously change her life. And He didn't stop there! He went on to tell her how to seek after Him, and how to worship Him. Our amazing Savior sought after her and provided EVERYTHING she needed to come to Him. Today, He can do exactly that for us. He still seeks those who will serve Him in spirit and in truth. He continually strives with men and women of all ages, ethnicity, and social background, saying to all, "Come unto Me." And when He finds you, He will provide all you need to come to Him and will change your life completely. Make Jesus your choice today and let Him find you! You are God's Pursuit!



- Bro. Mike Merritt

CONTENTMENT

**L**ately I have been thinking about contentment, and how being discontent can get in the way of a personal relationship with God. Typically people link being content in their lives with having the right things. They want a nice house, a nice car, things that come with dollar figures attached. However, 1 Timothy 6:5-7 says, *"Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself. But godliness with contentment is great gain."*

The Bible is clear. Prosperity and success are not equal to godliness. But what about situations in life? Because you can be discontent with those too. People want to get just a little further ahead in life. They can never wait until the next phase. It's like we think the next phase will be better than the last; that if we didn't

have to deal with (fill in the blank), life would be so much better. Newsflash: life doesn't work that way. More importantly, God doesn't work that way. Maybe you are dissatisfied with a certain aspect of your life and wish you could fix it. I know that a lot of situations aren't easy. Sometimes life is hard, painful, stressful, but God is working it out in His own time and for our good IF we are obedient to Him. *"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."* Romans 8:28 Be content where you are in life. And when I say content, I mean to trust that the Lord is working it all out because the danger with discontent is that we quickly find ourselves not trusting the Lord's plan and trying figure it out on our own. During the difficult seasons of life, allow God to mold you into a vessel that will fill His purpose. We won't always understand or enjoy the process, but the promise that can't fail is that it's all for our good.

- Sis. Breslin Hagan

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# CAMP MEETING 2019! WILL YOU BE THERE?

Camp Meeting! Best week of the year. Every year. Anticipation starts building by late spring and increases every week until finally, it's here! Clothes, we need clothes! Shoes. Shirts. Pants. Belts. Dresses. Blouses. Skirts. More shoes.

How do you fit all of this stuff into the car/SUV/truck for one week, anyway? There is no way we're going to wear all these clothes! Dress clothes. Casual clothes. After church clothes. Work-on-the-cabin clothes. Not to mention cabin stuff! Stuff to work on your cabin. Stuff to sleep in your cabin. Stuff to serve food in your cabin. How are we gonna get all this stuff packed in one vehicle?

First Saturday. Time to get settled in. Lots to do and the Camp Ground is buzzing! Everyone riding around, wanting to see who all is there. Anticipation building for the first weekend of services. Who is preaching on Saturday night? What about Sunday morning and Sunday night? Hey, it's time to get ready for the first meeting!

There is nothing like Sat. night! Crowd gathering, noise level high, greeting old friends from far and near. Waiting to hear "When The Redeemed Are Gathering In," the "official" start to another Camp Meeting! Looking around the sanctuary all during the meeting, trying to see who is here.

Back to the cafeteria after church. What a crowd! What fun! Time for eating and meeting a bunch of folks you didn't get to speak to in church! Crowded. Noisy. Busy. Kids playing in the kids area. Time has almost stopped and all of the craziness of home has disappeared, because we are now "at home."

Sunday. Now the routine begins. Three meetings a day for most, four for others. First altar service – finally! Someone has come to God! Preaching and singing has sent conviction out to the congregation! Tears flowing. Families reunited. Hearts full of thankfulness and love. THIS is what Camp Meeting is all about!

Monday. First day of Bible School! Kids riding the tractor. Teachers and helpers overwhelmed. Crafts. Cafeteria snacks. Memory verses. Seeds being sown. Hearts being prepared, years in advance. Lifetime friendships, cemented forever.

Wait, it's Wednesday already? "We're in the middle of a good fix!" Halfway through the week with another half in front of us. Morning meetings that are free. Young Folks meetings with fresh testimonies and full enthusiasm. Incredible singings at 6:30. Night meetings. Cafeteria after. Watching the young folks cruise the Camp Ground at night on golf carts, creating memories and bonds that endure for generations.

Friday night. Time for the Bible School program! Kids dressed to the nines. Parents and grandparents with cameras and video everywhere. Host crowds exhausted but proud and ready to "show off" these amazing children! Smiles as each child quotes their verses. And just like that, it's over, almost as soon as it started!

Last Saturday. Last morning meeting. Last Young Folks meeting. Crowd getting smaller each time. Still one meeting left! Still one more opportunity for someone to go to an altar and change their life! Lots of "it's-the-end-of-Camp-Meeting-and-I-want-to-talk" testimonies. More preaching, singing, and shouting. One last closing prayer. One last "Amen."

Camp Meeting. Revival. Restoration. Recharge. Rekindle. Refocus. Healing. Fellowship. New beginnings. Love. More love.

Camp Meeting 2019. Will you be there?

- Bro. Gary Collier



## PARTING THOUGHT

So make up your mind that God is an infinite sovereign and has a right to do with His own as it pleases Him... He will wrap you in a jealous love and protect you from all the powers of evil and bestow on you many rich blessings. Settle it then within your heart forever that you are to deal directly with His Holy Spirit, and that He is to have the privilege of tying your tongue, restraining your hand, ruling your heart and spirit, that with joy unspeakable you will be pleased and delighted with this peculiar, personal, jealous care, under the guardianship and management of the Holy Spirit over your life. You will then have found the vestibule of, and the gateway to, Heaven.

- Bro. Joe Edwards

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