



# Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ  
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September 16, 2007

## God Wants My WORSHIP

By: David R. Shannon

**Some people have never learned to worship even if they never miss an assembly.**

It is much more enjoyable to participate in something as opposed to standing on the sidelines. How many times have coaches heard, "Put me in coach, I'm ready to play?" Riding the pine does not compare to participating in the game. With this in mind, which of these statements would honestly describe you: "I attend worship" or "I worship?" The attitudes of mere attendees are based upon performance of the ones who lead the worship service. This entertainment mentality makes them sideline critics. Worshipers leave the same assembly rejoicing in the Lord they worshiped. When Paul said, "**Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!**" (Philippians 4:4 NKJV), was he also including worship?

What would be the most accurate description of you as you approach worship – restless or rejoicing? How is it that some leave worship saying it was the highlight of the week while others leave the same service declaring it to be boring?

Are you glad to offer worship to God? Can you say along with the psalmist, "**I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go into the house of the Lord!'**" (Psalm 122:1) Our biggest challenge might be that we live in a religious culture that portrays worship as a form of entertainment. On the other hand, some feel certain that they have only worshiped when the service is

dry and boring. God's Word puts forth neither of these as criteria for true worship.

To worship is to pour out adoration. It comes from the thought of a dog licking its master's hand or crouching and fawning at his feet. It could involve the reverence displayed as one prostrates himself or bows before another.

How does this apply to our worship to God? The church in the New Testament poured out their adoration through the avenues of prayer, singing, studying God's word, giving and partaking of the Lord's Supper. Think about this: these avenues are the means by which we transfer our adoration from our heart to God. As we consider what worship is and what it produces, read the words of Isaiah 6:1-8, where we view a scene of worship as Isaiah is sanctified and called into service.

**Rejoice When Worship Focuses on God.** God is to be the object of our worship (John 4:24). If the worship assembly is filled with "true worshipers" (v.23), then only one is in the audience. God is the audience, and all others are participants who are pouring out their adoration to Him as they sing, pray, etc.

If you ever struggle to have your heart and mind as they ought to be in worship, close your eyes for a moment and imagine this scene from Isaiah. See the Lord in the front of your church building on a throne that reaches to the ceiling. Picture a robe that runs through the auditorium. It is touching your feet. Hear the praise of angelic beings. See the glory of God!

We are there to worship Him. Worship isn't toward an imaginary being. He really is on the throne. Worship isn't an exercise in self-development, although it does benefit us. Worship isn't an hour to be entertained, although it brings a deep, genuine joy. Worship is a time to bring our hearts, which have been set upon God all week, into a gathering with our spiritual family to transfer that love and gratitude to God. Merely sitting in a chicken house doesn't make us a chicken any more than merely sitting in worship makes us a worshiper. Attendees are bored and restless. True worshipers who worship the Father in spirit and truth rejoice.

**Rejoice When Worship Convicts Sinners.** True worship is humbling. It causes the worshiper to seek atonement. Isaiah was taught in a symbolic fashion about a glorious God who longs to redeem us. Paul describes an assembly of the church in which a sinner visits. The worship is conducted in such a way that the sinner is convinced, convicted, falls down on his face and reports, "**God is truly among you.**" (1 Corinthians 14:23-25)

Faithful Christians experience a move toward greater spiritual maturity while focusing on God in worship. When we compare ourselves to other people, we have dumbed down the standard. When we enter into every worship to see God, we cannot help noticing the perfection of this standard and admire the One we want to imitate. (Ephesians 4:15-16) Attendees look at their watches when people respond to the invitation while other **continued - page 2, third column -**

## Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

### SISTERS

Time passes. Life happens. Distance separates. Children grow up. Jobs come and go. Love waxes and wanes. Men don't do what they're supposed to do.

Hearts break. Parents die. Colleagues forget favors. Careers end.

But sisters are there, no matter how much time and how many miles are between you.

A girlfriend is never farther away than needing her.

When you have to walk that lonesome valley and you have to walk it by yourself, the women in your life will be on the valley's rim, cheering you on, praying for you, pulling for you, intervening on your behalf, and waiting with open arms at the valley's end.

Sometimes, they will even break the rules and walk beside you, or come in and carry you out.

Girlfriends, daughters, granddaughters, daughter-in-law, sisters, sisters-in-laws, sisters-in-Christ, mothers, grandmothers, aunties, nieces, cousins and extended family all bless your life.

When we began this adventure called womanhood, we had no idea of the incredible joys or sorrows that lay ahead, nor did we know how much we would need each other.

Every day, we need each other still.

*Author Unknown  
Sent In By: Iris Bates  
Springdale, AR*

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**“Speak only sweet words,  
because you may have to eat  
them later.”**

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## Remember Our Sick

**Amie Barkley** – upper G I scheduled.

**Carolyn Bennett** – knee surgery, Wednesday, August 29<sup>th</sup>. Home recovering, doing well.

**Lawrence Boley** – home, respiratory problems.

**Shelley Culwell** – on bed rest through rest of pregnancy.

**Jessalyn Davis** – cancer, undergoing treatment.

**Bill McAlister** – in Heart Hospital, LR, running tests.

**Ray Motley** – Home, hospice

**Charles Hickey** – experiencing more pain, on morphine patch, back home.

**Don Sheeran** – pancreas/gall-bladder problems.

**Lloyd Whitted** – heart attack, had bypass surgery, doing well, LR Hospital.

**Patsy Wisbrock** – knee replacement August 22, home recovering.

**Shut-ins – need prayers and visits.**

Dover Area:

**Bernice Brown**

**Evelyn Burton**

**Mae Vanzandt**

Russellville Nursing and Rehab Center:

**Evelyn Driver**

**Melba Hodges**

Stella Manor:

**Louise Killer**

**Others Who Need Our Prayers:**

Daisy Hogins Anderson, Bob Bennett, Lloyd Boley, Susie Boley, Jeff Davis, Anna Deimund, Don Eichenberger, Charles Ensey, Hoyt Ensey, Carol Graham, Sue Griffin, David Guthrie, Ray King, Jim Lackey, Thula La Rue, Robert and Rose Lee, Liliya McDaniel, Linda Melton, Charles Proctor, Annie Robinson, Summer Russell, Reedie Smith, Tanya Smith, Billy Walters, and David Walters .

**Special Children:** Elysia Lee, Emmy May, Keith Martin and Noah Williams.

**Military:** Greg Davis, Johnny Ragsdale, Cole Wetzel and Rudy Will.

Darius Brown, home and discharged.

## God Wants My Worship

Continued from page one . . .

worshippers rejoice that a sinner has approached the throne.

**Rejoice When Worship Provokes Service.** Isaiah saw the Lord, received atonement and could not help saying, **“Here am I, send me.”** Today the Lord continues to ask, **“Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?”** Some people say that 20 percent of the people do 80 percent of the work. Why do the 80 percent fail to serve? We ask why we lose 50 percent of our youth as they graduate from high school. We wonder why so many new converts don't remain faithful. We wonder why the pews are occupied by members who refuse to give liberally of time, energy, abilities and money. Of many potential reasons, one often overlooked is clearly taught in the Scriptures. The fact may be that they have never learned to worship even if they never miss assembly.

Worshippers leave the assemblies to serve the God they love just as certainly as fish swim and birds fly. That is simply the way God designed it. The number of religious books sold today helping individuals to find their purpose in life reveals the hunger people have to be useful. True worship provides motive and direction within our desire for purpose. If we are not leaving worship saying, **“Here I am, send me,”** we might have failed to worship. Attendees leave worship declaring, **“It's over,”** while worshippers leave ready to begin.

When we see God in His glory, we have reason to rejoice. When we see sinners convicted of sin and united with the Savior, we have reason to rejoice. **“Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord.”** (Philippians 3:1a) Yes, especially in worship.

*David R. Shannon is a graduate of Freed-Hardeman University, where he met his wife, Tracie. He is the minister for Mt. Juliet, TN, Church of Christ.*

*From Gospel Advocate, December 2006*

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## Events

### Dover Church of Christ Children's Church

Every Sunday  
11:15 - 12:00 Noon

Ages 4 thru 8  
Bible Story and  
Activities

Ages 1 thru 3  
Nursery Class

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### Area Wide Youth Devo

September 16<sup>th</sup>

Hosted by:  
Dover Church of Christ

### Dover Ladies Night

Thursday,  
Sept. 20, 7 PM

Hostess: JoAnn Killer

### Lawn Schedule

Saturday, Sept. 22

Marion Helton  
J. R. Hale  
Alan Boatright

## Mark Your Calendars

### CROSSWALK 2007

13<sup>th</sup> Annual  
September 29 – 30<sup>th</sup>

Sponsor:  
Southside Church of  
Christ, Rogers, Arkansas  
919 South Dixieland

\$15.00 Per Person  
(T-Shirt included)

### 1<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL RIVER VALLEY SINGFEST

October 6, 2007  
Saturday, 7:00 – 10:00 PM

West Side Church  
of Christ  
2200 West Main Street  
Russellville, AR

A Cappella at its Best!

Choruses  
Quartets  
Congregational Singing

You are invited to  
participate, please call  
479-968-1121  
or email:

[wscocrsvl@wscocrsvl.org](mailto:wscocrsvl@wscocrsvl.org)

Please Help us spread  
the word!

## September Birthdays

- 02 Rhonda Creel
- 05 Leota Hickey
- 06 Deidre Luker
- 07 Ian Roberts
- 09 Joyce Helton  
Bobbie Meline
- 16 Susan Straight
- 17 Danielle Williams  
Melissa Williams
- 20 Jannie Myers
- 21 Dimitrios Tsigourlas  
Michaela Walker
- 22 Nathan Killer
- 23 Rylie Boley
- 24 Wayne Strickland  
Alan Walker  
Gary Williams
- 25 Joshua Besterfeldt
- 26 Justin Vaughn
- 28 Donna Walters

If we missed your birthday,  
*please* let us know so it won't  
happen again.

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### 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday

### Celebration!

September 30<sup>th</sup>

Sunday, Noon

POTLUCK

# ***THOSE TO SERVE***

***September 16, 2007***

## **Sunday A.M.**

**Announcer:** Randall Walters  
**Song Leader:** Merrell Shoptaw

### **Prayers**

Blake Walters  
Chris Loper

### **Communion**

**Podium:** Jim Killer  
**Serve:** Marion Helton  
Rex McDaniel  
Rick Hollis  
William Boley

### **Scripture Reading**

Donny Forehand

## **Sunday P.M. Prayers**

Earl Whitted  
Gary Williams

# **SPEAKER**

**Sunday A.M.**  
Micah Williams

**Sunday P.M.**  
Micah Williams

## **Prepare Table for Communion**

Chris and Amanda Besterfeldt

## **Communion to Shut-Ins**

Earl Whitted  
William Boley

### **Greeters**

Robert and Juanita Bird

## **Wednesday Night Devotional**

**September 19, 2007**

Jim Killer

**Meeting Times**  
**Sunday Morning Bible Classes**  
9:45 A.M.  
**Sunday Morning Worship**  
10:45 A.M.  
**Sunday Evening Worship**  
6:00 P.M.  
**Ladies Tuesday Bible Class**  
10:00 A.M.  
**Wednesday Bible Classes**  
7:00 P.M.

**Minister:** Micah Williams  
**Church Office:** 479-331-3428  
**Or Cell:** 479-264-9244

### **Elders:**

William Boley 858-7131  
Jim Killer 331-2802  
Allen Veasman 331-2156  
Sid Womack 967-2367

### **Deacons:**

Chris Besterfeldt  
Donny Forehand  
Brent Hottinger  
Chris Loper  
Rex McDaniel  
Joe Miller  
Chris Moss

### **Nursery Attendants:**

**Sunday Class:** Kaeli Miller  
**Sunday Church:** Pat McAlister  
Kaeli Miller

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Dover Church of Christ  
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