



**Bryan Pitts**



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You are cordially invited to attend a  
**GOSPEL MEETING**  
**LEONI CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
2132 Old McMinnville Hwy, Woodbury  
**April 6-9, 2025**

- Sun. 9:00am — How do I Grow in the Gospel?  
9:45am — How Important is My Worship?  
5:00pm — How to Handle Church Conflicts
- Mon. 7:00pm — Hope for the Family
- Tues. 7:00pm — Help for Spreading the Gospel
- Wed. 7:00pm — Help in Revealing the Kingdom

Bryan Pitts grew up in Cannon County and obeyed the Gospel at 19 at the Leoni Church of Christ. He is married to Alysia Vance Pitts, and together, they have two children, Gunter and Hannah.

In 2004, Bryan graduated from the Nashville School of Preaching. He served as a deacon at Leoni, where he was actively involved in extensive mission work overseas. His efforts included working alongside Jim Waldron in Northeast India, supporting schools of preaching, and spreading the Gospel. He also partnered with Amerindian Missions in Guyana, South

America, conducting village-to-village campaigns and teaching in schools of preaching. Additionally, Bryan serves as the Construction Coordinator for the Jamaica Missions team, assisting with their mission efforts on the island.

With 32 years of experience in the construction field, Bryan now shares his expertise as a high school construction teacher. After stepping down from his role as a deacon at Leoni, he and his family began full-time ministry at the Midway Church of Christ (Hwy 53), where he currently serves as minister.

# OUR PLEA

Garland M. Robinson  
Leoni Church of Christ

**T**he plea of the churches of Christ is very simple. It is a desire to “go back to the Bible” and recognize it as the guide for all we say and do. Actually, this is a Biblical plea that has been true ever since Old Testament times. During the days of Jeremiah the prophet (six hundred years before Christ came to earth), we read, *“Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls”* (Jeremiah 6:16).

God has always desired that men follow His way in every generation of time — from the beginning of Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden, to the present, and on until life on the earth will be no more when Jesus comes again.

All men will be judged according to “the old paths” (the New Testament). Jesus said, *“He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day”* (John 12:48; cf. Rev. 20:12). Are you ready? Are you prepared to meet God?

Only when we lay aside the creeds, disciplines and doctrines of men and go back to the New Testament can we be acceptable to the Lord. We must accept God’s “old paths” as our rule of faith and practice. Let us go “back to the Bible.” Therefore, this plea is...

## A RETURN TO NEW TESTAMENT ORGANIZATION

There was no hierarchy in New Testament times as is seen today in denominations of men. There is no clergy/laity system in the Scriptures. The organization of the church in the Bible was simple in its arrangement. No one congregation had any authority over any other congregation. Each one was autonomous (self-governing).

There are **elders** (also called bishops, pastors) who were the overseers of the local congregation of which they were

members (Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:1-3). God has given them the charge to see to it that what is done is according to His Word. There are **deacons** who are special servants of the church (1 Tim. 3:8-13; Acts 6:1-4). There are **evangelists** who preach the Word of God (1 Corinthians 9:16; Ephesians 4:11). There are **members** who are baptized penitent believers (Acts 2:38,41,47; Eph. 4:25).

Let us return to this Biblically authorized arrangement. This plea is...

## A RETURN TO THE PLAN OF SALVATION

Our plea is a return to the Lord’s plan of salvation. It is not my plan, your plan, or any man’s plan. It is God’s plan. We do not have the authority to add to it, nor do we have the authority to take from it.

Luke 19:10 says Jesus came to “seek and save the lost.” Salvation is only in his name. *“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved”* (Acts 4:12). Jesus said, *“...I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me”* (John 14:6). He died for our sins according to the Scriptures (1 Corinthians 15:3; Hebrews 2:9). He was raised from the dead for our justification (Romans 4:25). He alone is the Author and Giver of salvation (Hebrews 5:8-9). He has the authority to speak about salvation and how to obtain it (Matthew 28:18). Why not let the Lord Himself speak and tell us what to do to be saved?

Jesus said everyone must **Believe in Him** as the Christ, the Son of God. *“I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins”* (John 8:24; Hebrews 11:6). Jesus said all men must **Repent of their sins** to be saved. *“I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish”* (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 17:30). Jesus said all men must **Confess Him** before men. *“Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven”* (Matthew 10:32; Romans 10:9-10; Acts 8:37). Jesus said all men must be **Baptized (im-**

**mersed) in water** for the forgiveness of sins. *“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned”* (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; Romans 6:3-6; 1 Peter 3:21). Jesus said all men must **Live a faithful Christian life**. *“...Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life”* (Revelation 2:10; Matthew 10:22; 1 Corinthians 15:58).

Let us return to the Bible authorized plan of salvation. This plea is...

## A RETURN TO THE PATTERN OF NEW TESTAMENT WORSHIP

Worship must also be directed by Christ if we expect to be pleasing unto God. God has not left men to themselves to devise what they choose in worship. When we do that which is not authorized in worship, our worship is vain and unacceptable. Jesus spoke of those who *“...draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men”* (Matthew 15:8-9).

The New Testament reveals five acts of worship. These acts are included in worship every Lord’s day (the first day of the week). They include: **Singing:** *“Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord”* (Ephesians 5:19). Singing is congregational and a cappella (without the accompaniment of mechanical instruments of music). There are no choirs, solos or “special music” in New Testament worship. **Teaching:** A message from God’s Word is delivered. *“And upon the first day of the week...Paul preached unto them...”* (Acts 20:7). Nothing but the pure and unadulterated Word of God is proclaimed. The whole counsel of God is preached without fear or favor of any man (Acts 20:26-27). **Giving:** A free-will offering is made by each member of the congregation on the Lord’s day. *“Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him...”* (1 Corinthians 16:2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-7).

You will not find sales and fund raisers in New Testament giving. **Lord's supper:** Each member partakes of unleavened bread and fruit of the vine every first day of the week to remember Christ's suffering and death on the cross. *"And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread..."* (Acts 20:7; cf. 1 Corinthians 11:23-29; Matthew 26:26-29). **Praying:** Members reverently pray unto God the Father in the name of Jesus Christ the Son. *"...Prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God..."* (Acts 12:5; cf. Acts 2:42).

In John 4:24, Jesus said true worship is "in spirit" (from the heart, sincere) and "in truth" (according to and directed by God's Word). Does this characterize your worship? Let's return to the Lord's authorized acts of worship. This plea is...

#### A RETURN TO THE PATTERN OF NEW TESTAMENT TEACHING

We desire to teach and do only those things authorized in God's Holy Word. This is expressed in Colossians 3:17, *"And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus,*

*giving thanks to God and the Father by him."* To do something in the name of someone means that we act upon their authority. Therefore, our teaching and practice must be according to a "thus saith the Lord."

Churches of Christ wear an authorized name. *"The churches of Christ salute you"* (Romans 16:16). Members are called: *disciples* (Acts 16:1), *believers* (Acts 5:14), *saints* (Acts 9:13), *sons of God* (1 John 3:1-2), *Christians* (Acts 11:26). Each Christian is a member of Christ's one body, the church (Ephesians 4:4; 1:22-23).

In the New Testament we learn that Christ: *loved the church* and *died for it* (Ephesians 5:25; Acts 20:28), *built it* (Matthew 16:18), *is its head* (Ephesians 1:22-23), *adds the saved to it* (Acts 2:41,47) and *will save it* at his second coming (Ephesians 5:23).

In the New Testament we read about *one kingdom* (Colossians 1:13-14). *"There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all..."* (Ephesians 4:4-6).

Followers of the Lord must *"Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine"* (2 Timothy 4:2). We must *"speak as the oracles of God"* (1 Peter 4:11) and *"contend for the faith"* once delivered unto the saints (Jude 3). We must *"buy the truth and sell it not"* (Proverbs 23:23) for it is God's *"power unto salvation"* (Romans 1:16).

We live in view of the judgment, *"for we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad"* (2 Corinthians 5:10).

The plea of the churches of Christ is to go back to the Bible – to do Bible things in Bible ways and to call Bible things by Bible names. It is a plea to break away from the excess baggage of the doctrines, commandments, and traditions of men and return to the simple teaching of the New Testament.

If we obey God's Word, then we can enjoy God's promises! Are you ready to learn more? Are you interested in your soul? Do you want to please God and go to heaven when this world is over?

## CONVERSIONS IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

TEXT	TAUGHT	BELIEVED	CONFESSED	REPENTED	BAPTIZED
Acts 2:38	YES	Implied	Implied	YES	YES
Acts 8:12	YES	YES	Implied	Implied	YES
Acts 8:13	Implied	YES	Implied	Implied	YES
Acts 8:37	YES	Implied	YES	Implied	YES
Acts 9:5ff	YES	Implied	Implied	Implied	YES
Acts 10:34ff	YES	YES	Implied	YES	YES
Acts 16:14ff	YES	Implied	Implied	Implied	YES
Acts 16:25ff	YES	YES	Implied	YES	YES
Acts 17:32ff	YES	YES	Implied	Implied	Implied
Acts 18:8	YES	YES	Implied	Implied	YES
Acts 19:1ff	YES	Implied	Implied	Implied	YES

## So Many Churches, Choices

God's Word says that Christ only built one church, and it belongs to Him. Jesus said, *"I will build my church"* (Matt. 16:18). The true church of Christ is actually "of Christ." Its origin, beliefs, teachings, and practice are "of Christ" (Col. 3:17). Imagine this scenario: Two men on a desert island know nothing of religion, but they are able to read. An airplane drops a box of Bibles onto the island. They read the Bible and obey what the Bible says to be saved. According to the Scriptures, in which church would they be? What would they call themselves if they followed only the Bible? Friends, they would simply be Christians, members of Christ's church! (Matt. 16:18; Acts 2:36-41,47; 11:26; 26:28; 1 Peter 4:11,16).

This picture of "simple New Testament Christianity" is not some idealistic fantasy. When we use the Bible as our sole authority and guide in religion, it becomes reality. Every word of every verse of every chapter of every book of the Bible is God's eternal word (2 Tim. 3:16-17). We want you to be a part of pre-denominational, authentic, Christianity, completely based on the authority of God's Word.

We are inviting you to investigate what the Lord's church does and teaches and become a part of Christ's church (Acts 17:11; 1 Thess. 5:21). We hope you will accept the invitation! (Matt. 11:28-30; Rev. 22:17). Please come and visit us during this Gospel meeting. You will not regret it.

## BAPTISM STANDS BETWEEN

SINNER → SALVATION . . . . . MARK 16:16  
SINNER → REMISSION OF SINS . . . . . ACTS 2:38  
SINNER → THE NEW LIFE . . . . . ROMANS 6:4  
SINNER → SIN DESTROYED . . . . . ROMANS 6:6  
SINNER → WASHING . . . . . ACTS 22:16  
SINNER → CALLING . . . . . ACTS 22:16  
SINNER → THE KINGDOM . . . . . JOHN 3:5  
SINNER → CLEANSING . . . . . EPHESIANS 5:26  
SINNER → DEAD TO SIN . . . . . ROMANS 6:7-12  
SINNER → FREE FROM SIN . . . . . ROMANS 6:18  
SINNER → SALVATION . . . . . 1 PETER 3:21  
SINNER → FORGIVENESS . . . . . COL. 2:11-12  
SINNER → CHRIST'S BLOOD . . . . . ROMANS 6:3  
SINNER → A CHILD OF GOD . . . . . GAL. 3:26-27  
SINNER → DEATH OF CHRIST . . . . . ROMANS 6:3  
SINNER → NEW CREATURE . . . . . ROMANS 6:4-5  
SINNER → GOOD CONSCIENCE . . . . . 1 PETER 3:21  
SINNER → PUTTING ON CHRIST . . . . . GAL. 3:26-27  
SINNER → RAISED WITH CHRIST . . . . . ROM. 6:4  
SINNER → PUTTING OFF SINS . . . . . COL. 2:11-12  
SINNER → SANCTIFICATION . . . . . EPH. 5:26  
SINNER → BODY OF CHRIST . . . . . 1 COR. 12:13

Do you want to know more? Do you have questions?

We will be happy to study the Scriptures with you.

## WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

- **HEAR** the Word of God. *"...They shall all be taught of God. Every man therefore that hath **heard**, and hath **learned** of the Father, cometh unto me"* (John 6:45).
- **BELIEVE** the Word of God and what it teaches concerning Jesus the Christ, the Son of God and Savior of the world. *"...If you believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins"* (John 8:24).
- **REPENT** of sins. *"**Repent** and be baptized...for the remission of your sins"* (Acts 2:38). *"Except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish"* (Luke 13:3,5).
- **CONFESS** faith in Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God. *"I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God"* (Acts 8:37). *"With the mouth confession is made unto salvation"* (Romans 10:9-10).
- Be **BAPTIZED** in water in order to wash your sins away by the blood of Christ. *"Arise and be baptized and was away thy sins"* (Acts 22:16; Eph. 1:7). *"Unto him that loved us and washed us from our sins in his own blood"* (Revelation 1:5).
- **LIVE FAITHFUL** to the Lord the rest of your life. *"Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life"* (Revelation 2:10).

Free Bible Correspondence Course

Send us your name and address.

### LEONI CHURCH OF CHRIST 2132 Old McMinnville Hwy.

Times of service:

Sunday 10am Bible study, 10:45am & 5pm Worship

Wednesday 7pm Bible study

<http://www.leonichurchofchrist.com>



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