



# The Worker

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Volume 5 Issue 30

www.hamburgpikecofc.org

July 24, 2016

## Ways to Invest in Worship

So many people talk about not getting anything out of worship. The usual response is that a person only benefits from worship in proportion to the amount of effort he/she puts into. Also, many people love the idea of "investment." They put "sweat equity" into their house and save for their children's education. It is just as prudent to "invest" in worship so that you will benefit from it, as well as giving proper glory and honor to God. Here are some practical ways to invest:

Learn to sing. Ask a song leader or someone who sings well to help you.

Buy a CD or cassette tape of a good a cappella singing group and sing along with them as you drive or work.

Sing out during worship.

Think of others as you sing - find someone in the crowd to focus on as you teach and admonish (Colossians 3:16).

Think of how each song applies to YOU.

As someone leads a prayer, follow the words and individualize the prayer - think of specific blessings you have, specific friends who are ill, in need, or grieving.

Follow the prayer through so at the end you can truly say, "Amen." (Which means, "May it ever be so!")

Do a personal study of the subject of crucifixion and draw upon your knowledge each week, during the Lord's Supper, as you think of the agony Jesus went through for you.

Also during the Lord's Supper, think of the wonderful blessing you have as the results of Jesus sacrifice. Also, anticipate the glorious return of our Savior.

During the sermon, try to connect with the main idea of the preacher and follow along in your Bible as he reads or quotes.

Make notes, either in a notebook, on a sheet of paper, or in the margins of your Bible.

When it comes time to give as you have been prospered, think first of all the many physical blessings you have from the Giver of every good gift (James 1:17). Then, give bountifully.

Yes, what you "get out of worship" depends on what you decide to invest. Invest wisely.

- Lance Cordle preaches for the Calvert City church of Christ, Calvert City, KY.

## Warren Wiersbe

Warren Wiersbe wrote a commentary for each book of the Bible that summarized it using the word "be." Exodus was "Be delivered." Joshua was "Be strong!" Job was "Be patient." Proverbs was "Be skillful" and Daniel was "Be resolute." He has a knack for boiling things down to the basic, I'd say!

Here are a few things that he had to say in these different commentaries that might spur your thinking... (This list was taken from a blog post over at Logos Bible Software!)

"Each member in the body of Christ is important (1 Cor. 12:12-31), and we all need one another and to minister to one another. Since there's no competition in the work of the Lord (John 4:34-38; 1 Cor. 3:5-9), there's no need for us to promote ourselves. The important thing is that God receives the glory." from Be Available: Judges

"'Christ died,' is only a fact in history, like 'Napoleon died.' The Gospel message is that 'Christ died for our sins' 1 Cor. 15:1-4." from Be Comforted: Isaiah

"Impatience was one of Israel's besetting sins, and God was helping them learn patient obedience; for it's through 'faith and patience' that God's people inherit what He has promised (Heb. 6:12). God is never in a hurry. He knows what He's doing, and His timing is never off." from Be Strong: Joshua

"There is true consolation in our faith, but it is not dispensed in convenient doses like cough medicine. It can be shared only by those who know what it's like to be so far down in the pit that they feel as though God has abandoned them. If you want to be a true comforter, there is a price to pay; and not everybody is willing to pay it. Paul wrote about this in 2 Corinthians 1:3-11." from Be Patient: Job

"The fact that God devoted an entire book of the Bible to the subject of holiness would indicate that it's an important subject, one that we dare not ignore." from Be Holy: Leviticus. Hope these help you think to look for beautiful gems in scripture!

- Matthew Hiatt Burns church of Christ Burns, TN

### Leadership

**Elders** Hayward Blanton, Jerry Casey

**Deacons** Clint Smith Sr, Clint Smith Jr,  
Robby Stocksdales, Joe Sweeney

**Pulpit Minister** Eric Welch

**Associate Minister** Irvin F. Williams

### Panama Mission

Pablo Sanchez

We Offer Free Personal Bible Studies and Bible Correspondence Courses - Phone (812) 284-3125

Visit Our Website: [www.hamburgpikecofc.org](http://www.hamburgpikecofc.org)

Email: [church@hamburgpikecofc.org](mailto:church@hamburgpikecofc.org)

### Sermon Titles

Sunday Morning: "How to Invest in Heaven" Philippians 4:14-23

Sunday Evening: "Private Words"

### Those Privileged to Serve

#### AM Service

Song Leader Michael Hawkins  
Opening Prayer Hayward Blanton  
Scripture Grover Blanton  
Sermon Eric Welch  
Lord's Supper  
Message Irvin Williams  
Attendant Jeremy Montgomery  
Attendant Nathaniel Welch  
Closing Prayer Joe Sweeney

#### PM Service

Song Leader Robby Stocksdales  
Bible Reading Rudy Ayala  
Selection 21  
Prayer Jerry Casey  
Sermon Eric Welch  
Closing Prayer John Keaton  
*If you are unable to serve, please call Art Patrick 502-819-9481 or Harold Tincher 502-409-3511*

#### AM & PM Services

Announcements Leon Stocksdales  
Lord's Supper Rick Martin  
Offering Jerry Montgomery  
Usher Marc Owens  
Count Offering Robby Stocksdales  
Assist Count Art Patrick

#### Last Sunday

Offering \$2,458  
Attendance 90

## The Shooting of Law Enforcement

Eric Welch

We, the church of Christ at Hamburg Pike have a personal interest in the safety of law enforcement because our own Lance Blanton, a state trooper. There may be others that you know personally.

It's a hazardous job. Police officers run toward the danger to protect us from fires, natural disaster or home invasion. They risk their lives to confront people high on drugs, fear and anger. Even those who hate the police have no trouble dialing 911 when in peril.

Just this Sunday a gunman shot six officers in Baton Rouge killing three. A week earlier, a well-trained sniper shot twelve officers in Dallas with five killed. Our country is despairing at the loss of so many innocent officers and we sympathize with their families suffering through this atrocity. We are also angry at the organized crusade underway to provoke violence against them.

One such organization exists; the Black Lives Matter movement (BLM) bases their violence on the lie that white offers routinely murder black men because of their race. This premise has been proven false by Roland Fryer, a professor of economics at Harvard, who is black. In his research, he found that no racial bias in police shootings exists. But why let facts stand in the way of your agenda to riot and destroy lives and property?

Do policemen ever behave as criminals? No doubt. When that happens, the aberrant officer, regardless of race, must be prosecuted and punished. Yet why target over 600,000 officers for the bad behavior of a very few? It is lunacy. The Dallas and Baton Rouge officers had no connection with the cases in Louisiana and Minnesota that they are protesting.

The culture of the political left in the US rejects human dignity, but it especially impacts the black community. The real slaughter of black people takes place in abortion clinics. Every day 1800 black babies are murdered in the womb. According to the US Census Bureau, the black population consists of 13.3% of the US population but accounts for a third of abortions.

According to 2010-2011 statistics, there were 661,400 doctors, out of which 33,624 were ob/gyns (5% of doctors). Out of these ob/gyns only 14% (4700) perform abortions. What if politicians, protesters and media pundits came together to stir up violence against anyone in a white lab coat? It is insane, but the people who think police departments should be abolished also think the abortion industry should be funded.

Someday, we might call 911 and get this recording: "I'm sorry. This number is no longer in service."

(Adapted from an article by David Wright, "Reflections on the Dallas Shooting" / <http://www.seagoville.org>).

### Which Do You Feed the Most?

An old Native American was describing for a listener the struggles he has with the inner man. "Inside of me there are two dogs. One is good and gentle. One is mean and evil. The mean one fights with the good dog all the time." The listener waited for the answer to the obvious question and finally asked the old man, "Which one wins?" After a moment of reflection, the old Indian said, "The one I feed the most."

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The Bible says, "But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please" (Galatians 5:16-17).

Each one of us has a war waging within. It is the struggle between the desire of the flesh and the leading of the Spirit. If we are honest with ourselves, it is a battle about which we give little thought most of the time. We go about our daily lives doing what we want and pursuing our personal agendas without much consideration of which is winning and which is losing.

The fact remains that with every choice we encounter, one of the combatants is going to win. And the one that wins will be the one that we feed the most. When we refuse to discipline our lives with prayer, Bible reading and church attendance, our fleshly desires will continuously do a victory dance on our intentions to live the holy life. But when we deliberately and consciously fill our lives with spiritual things (prayer, the Word of God, church attendance) and spiritual thoughts, the Holy Spirit will lead us to victory.

Russ Mullins 14<sup>th</sup> and Main church of Christ Big Spring, TX

### **Hamburg Pike Happenings**

Sunday July 31<sup>st</sup> is our next 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday special contribution. The elders are considering possible financial support for Denicio Miranda's preaching the Gospel in the Republic of Panama.

Ladies Bible class will not meet in July. Class will resume the end of August.