

What Would Christianity Look Like?

Let's say that you're a Christian and people decided they wanted to be just like you — a perfect carbon copy. Would you urge them to do so?

Paul did not hesitate. He pleaded with the Philippians, "Brethren, join in imitating me, and mark those who so live as you have an example in us" (Philippians 3:17 NASB). That is a bold statement - asking others to reproduce your faith, your manner of life, your dedication to Christ?

Would you really want anybody using you as a pattern or example? It's a sobering thought, isn't it?

The apostle Paul wasn't trying to be arrogant when he called upon others to imitate him. He didn't think that he had already been made perfect, but he was pressing on daily toward the "goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14 NASB). He had spiritual ambitions and longed that those who desired to be mature in Christ would think in these terms. Paul tried to provide a pattern of Christian living and conduct in every way. He lived a life for others to follow.

Just as Paul urged the Philippians, he would make the same request of the Corinthians. "Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ" (1 Corinthians 11:1 NASB). Paul felt the same in offering himself as a pattern because he was imitating Christ.

Would you be willing to say, "Let my example be the standard by which you tell who the Christians are among those about you?" (Philippians 3:17 NASB). Or, would you offer yourself as the model in self-renunciation, humble service, Christ-centered trust, zeal, and spirituality?

Suppose people everywhere took you for their model of a Christian.

What would Christianity look like then?

—John Gipson, via the Montana St. bulletin



P.O. Box 82
1095 Highway 2
Sterlington, Louisiana 71280
www.sterlingtoncoc.com

Sunday Morning Bible Classes - 9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Worship - 5:00 PM
Wednesday Evening Classes - 6:00 PM.

Welcome Visitors

If you are seeking a church home, we hope that you will consider joining with us. We are a growing congregation, dedicated to worshiping in truth and spirit. Please fill out the Visitor's Card and place it in the collection plate!

Elders:

Todd Chapman
Paul Simpson

Deacons:

Wayne Fowler
Billy Granger

Preacher:

David Garris
Buddy Hollis

Those to Serve Today

Announcements-Paul Simpson **Opening prayer**- Lyle Russell
Communion- Wes Chapman **Closing Prayer**- David Reppond

August 20th

Announcements- Travis Rogers **Opening Prayer**- Paul Simpson
Communion- Todd Chapman **Closing Prayer**- Damien Miller

Announcements

—Let's Be Encouragers! A friend of Whitney Chapmans is serving in the military, his address is:

PFC, **Blaine Wilson**, RN451
DCO 1-50 ITB
Bldg 3585
9597 Second Armored Division Rd
Ft Moore, GA 31905

—Mini-Ladies Day: Our next Ladies' Day is scheduled for Sept. 16th. Lunch will be provided. More details to come.

—Question & Answer Series: Our next Question and Answer Series will be scheduled when enough questions are collected. Give your questions to Don.

—Children's Home Collection: Our congregation is collecting items for the Children's Home in Paragould, AR. Collection boxes are by the nursery. A list of needed items is in the foyer. **The next pick-up is scheduled for Sept 30th.**

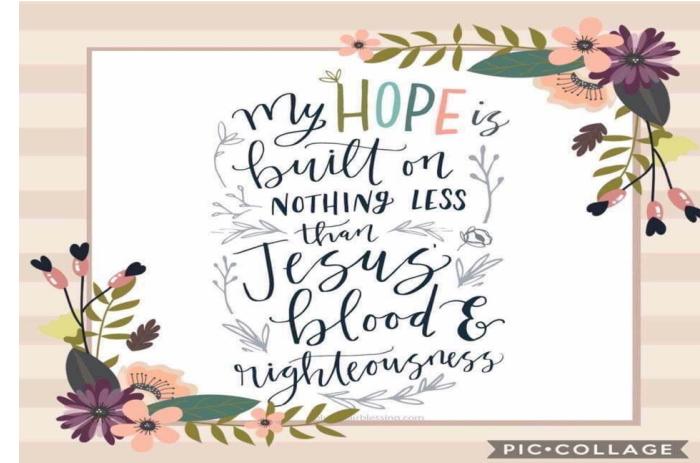
Please Pray For:

Donna Llewellyn, Joanne Randolph, John McDaniel, Gena Granger, Brax Williams, Jim Rhodes, Luckie Nappier, Kate Heavener, Rick Whittle, Carolyn Jones's granddaughter Emma, Steve Torres, Billy Granger.

Bereaved: Families of Fannie Jo Donavon, Cathy Allen, Chris Switzer, Charlie McDaniel Jr.

Continue to Pray For:

Dwain Flowers, Susie McGough, Linda Garris, Sharon White-Ross, James & Lorene Johnson, Bobby Barker, Gail Sewell, Renee Gee, Malea Zuber, Bobby Simmons, Tricia Muse, Elizabeth Hollis, Terrance Dawson, Jamie Ross.



August birthdays

- 2 - Lisa Guice
- 2 - Larry Silmon
- 4 - Brenda Fricke
- 6 - Sandy Van Loon
- 8 - Mandy Magee
- 8 - Travis Rodgers
- 20 - Leo Goodwin
- 26 - Brandon Rogers
- 30 - David Garris

August anniversaries

- 3 - Paul and Wanda Simpson
- 13 - Jerry and Joyce McDonald
- 14 - James and Lorene Johnson
- 20 - Wes and Whitney Chapman

