

WELCOME

VISITORS

The presence of Jesus in the gathering of His people is the sweetest blessing we enjoy when we meet. We pray that you will find peace, comfort, and power for living today.

A visitor's card is provided in the book rack, to give us a record of your visit.

SUNDAY

Bible Study	10:00 AM
Worship	11:00 AM
Evening	6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	6:30 PM
Fellowship Meal (Every 1 st Sunday)	12:30 PM
Men's Meeting Last Sunday of every month)	5:00 PM

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

Morning Worship	28
Evening Worship	10
Wednesday	15
Contribution	\$1085.00

Visit our website at www.brunswickcoc.com

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TO OUR FRIENDS:

MESSENGER FOR CHRIST



BRUNSWICK CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 5, 2013

RULES, RULES, RULES

Steve Ridgell

It happens in Little League baseball all over the world. There are always players who know the rules and who understand the game. There are also always new players who do not know or understand the rules, and the game becomes confusing and frustrating for them.

If you don't hit the ball you are out. Unless you get four bad pitches before you get three good ones. Run really fast if you hit it. Unless you hit it on the wrong side of the white line. Or unless they catch it. But they have to catch it before it hits the ground. You can run past first base and home plate, but not second or third base. Step on the base to get someone out. Unless you have to tag them.

If children only see baseball as a bunch of rules everyone knows but them, it is easy to get discouraged and just quit. When they get confused and do the wrong thing, everyone seems to get mad and upset. It is easier to just not play. But with patience and teaching, children learn to love the game of baseball. They learn that the rules make sense and that they even make the game more fun.

Thinking about how confusing baseball is to an outsider makes me wonder how many people look at Christianity and see it as just a bunch of rules no one understands and no one follows. Even when they try to follow the rules, it seems so hard to get them all right. Some Christians seem to get mad and upset when other people do not know and follow the rules. Some even get so discouraged that they give up on God because they really do not get it.

Jesus wants more than for you to follow rules. He wants you to follow him.

Unless someone has the patience to teach them and show them that Christianity is not just a set of rules no one can understand or follow. Christianity is about a relationship with God and Jesus. It is about being loved and learning to love. When you begin to understand that, you realize that what appears to be a set of rules is actually a way of life enabling you to live a life of love, peace, and joy.

Heartlight.Org

“...The Churches of Christ salute you.” Romans 16:16

Does believing a thing to be right, make it right? Look at some Bible examples:

(1) Isaac believed Jacob was Esau (Gen. 27:23)
 (2) Jacob believed Joseph was dead (Gen. 37:33)
 (3) Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, believed they could use strange fire (Lev. 10:1)
 (4) Uzzah believed he could help (II Sam. 6:6-7)
 (5) The young prophet believed the old prophet (I Kings 13:11-22)
 (6) Paul believed he should persecute the church (Acts 26:9)

If believing a thing to be right makes it right, then true Christianity could be based upon opinion and not Bible facts. However, only the truth frees us (John 8:82 and John 17:17).

Clyde McCall

Birthdays in May

Don Lockey	5th
Ed Williams	13th



**God's Plan for Man
 Hear God's Word
 Heb. 11:6; Rom. 10:17
 Believe in Jesus
 Jn. 8:24
 Repent of Sins
 Lk. 13:3; 2 Cor. 7:10
 Confess Jesus' Name
 Mt. 10:32-33; Rom. 10:9-10; Mt. 16:15-16
 Be Baptized
 Mk. 16:15-16; Mt. 28:18-19; Acts 2:38, 41;
 Acts 22:16; Rom. 6:3-4
 Live Faithful until Death
 Mt. 10:22; Rev. 2:10**

The Bible study topic for Wednesday night: A Chronological Study of the Life of Jesus
 Bible study starts at 6:30 PM.



We will have our fellowship meal today following our worship service. Please stay and help us celebrate the May birthdays.



Everyone is Invited.

Opportunities to Serve		
Welcome Song Leader Opening Prayer Communion Scripture Reading Speaker Closing Prayer Nursery Evening	Today Charlie Gamble John Bowling Albert Sturdivant *Charlie Gamble Ed Williams Bill Bartlow John Lloyd Rick Massey John Bowling Gloria Coldwell Devotion	05/12/13 Albert Sturdivant Willie Gore Leslie Bell *John Bowling Lynn Means Albert Sturdivant Charlie Gamble Rick Massey Albert Sturdivant Betty Bell Willie Gore

Please remember to pray for the sick, lonely, and especially anyone outside Christ.

HEALTH
 Nancy Spencer
 Mary Stanford's Aunt
 Bill Bartlow
 Temba Hankins
 Georgiana Watson
 Paula Peele

GENERAL
 Keely Andrews
 Ally Williams
 White Family
 Preacher held Captive in Iran

The complete prayer list is on the bulletin board.



The ladies bible study will be held Tuesday, at 10:00 am in the fellowship room. Our study is about "God's Promises". Our time together will include prayer and songs of praise. You are welcome to join us.

John 8:12
 When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."