

WELCOME VISITORS

MESSENGER FOR CHRIST



BRUNSWICK CHURCH OF CHRIST

August 4, 2013

What if There Were only one Choice?

Tim Archer

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		ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY	
Bible Study	10:00 AM	Morning Worship	40
Worship	11:00 AM	Evening Worship	22
Evening	6:00 PM	Wednesday	14
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	6:30 PM	Contribution	934.00
Fellowship Meal (Every 1 st Sunday)	12:30 PM		
Men's Meeting	5:00 PM		
Last Sunday of every month)			

Visit our website at www.brunswickcoc.com

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TO OUR FRIENDS:

Imagine that you have been diagnosed with a terminal disease. The doctor informs you that there is one cure that is 100% effective. But only one. Would you be interested? Or would you insist on the need to have multiple options?

What if you are traveling to a famous historical site and are told that there is only one road that leads to the venue? Would you return home in protest, refusing to be forced into a certain pattern of behavior?

Picture wanting to buy something that you've wanted for a long time and discovering that this item is only available in one store. Would that make you desist from getting what you've been longing for?

Now imagine that a man comes along claiming to offer the only path to knowing God. Do you reject him for his audacity? Criticize his intolerance?

When his followers repeat the claim of exclusivity, how should they be viewed? Will we write them off as closed-minded bigots?

Jesus made the following claim: *"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me"* (John 14:6).

There are times when we have to face the truth that not every option is equal

Pretty outrageous, when you think about it. It's one thing to claim to be one of many ways, to hold a truth among other truths and to offer one lifestyle among many. It's quite different to claim to be *"the way and the truth and the life."*

Openness and tolerance would seemingly require Jesus to offer many options about coming to God. But he didn't. He said, *"No one comes to the Father except through me."*

Then his followers came along and said the same. Peter, one of Jesus' closest disciples, had the audacity to say, *"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved"* (Acts 4:12).

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