

“What Constitutes a Saint?”

This article was written by R.W. McAlister, the preacher for the Anna church of Christ in Anna, IL. He passed away on October 7th from Covid-19, one day after his birthday.

With the recent declaration of Pope John the XXIII and Pope John Paul the II as saints, it makes one wonder, "What is involved in becoming a saint?" Notice the following from CNN.com:

"To be named a saint involves a series of steps, but the qualifications are straightforward, according to the veteran Vatican analyst John Allen. 'You put a holy life and two miracles together, according to the Catholic system, you've got a saint,' he said."

Is that a Biblical teaching?

Paul, inspired by the Holy Spirit, writes to the church at Rome in Rom. 1:7: "To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints:" Who are called to be saints? The beloved of God.

In I Cor. 1:2, in writing to the Lord's church at Corinth, Paul penned these words: "...to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:" Who are called to be saints? All who are 1) sanctified (set apart) in Jesus Christ, and, 2) those who call upon the name of the Lord. So, what does it mean to call upon the name of the Lord?

In his sermon on the day of Pentecost, Peter declared: "Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Acts 2:21). In view of this statement, folks sometimes ask: "Why do members of the church of Christ insist that baptism is a requirement for being saved?" You see, calling upon the Lord's name, and being baptized, are synonymous obligations.

It's clear that simply "calling" on the name of Christ is not enough to bring salvation since Jesus Himself declared in Matt. 7:21: "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."

Clearly, therefore, "calling" on Christ involves more than a mere verbal or mental plea. Calling on the name of the Lord includes repentance and baptism. In Acts 2, the same apostle who promised salvation to all who "call on the name of the Lord," also commanded: "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins" (2:38).

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Since the "shall be saved" of 2:21 is equivalent to the "forgiveness of sins" in 2:38, it necessarily follows that "calling on the name of the Lord" includes both repentance and baptism. Note Acts 22:16. Ananias instructed Saul as follows: "And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord."

All who wish to enjoy the remission of past sins, and thus be saints, will call on the name of the Lord by obeying the gospel plan of salvation. When Paul addresses Christians, he refers to them as saints (Rom. 1:7; I Cor. 1:2; I Cor. 14:33; I Cor. 16:1; II Cor. 1:1; Eph. 1:1; 2:19, and many other verses). In becoming a Christian, one becomes a saint. How does one become a Christian? By hearing the word of God preached (Rom. 10:17), believe it - believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God (Heb. 11:6), repent of your sins (Luke 13:3), confess faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God (Acts 8:36-37), be baptized (Acts 2:38; I Pet. 3:20-21), and live faithfully unto death - (Rev. 2:10).

The Catholic church says John Paul miraculously cured Marie Simon-Pierre, a French nun stricken by Parkinson's disease, several months after his death. Also according to them, the second miracle occurred when a Costa Rican woman with a brain aneurysm recovered after praying to John Paul.

John XXIII, revered for his role in the Second Vatican Council, is only recorded as having performed one miracle after his death in 1963. (It seems they even violate their own laws, not just God's!) There's no need to perform even one miracle. None of us can do that anyway. The power to perform true miracles ended upon the completion of the New Testament (I Cor. 13:8-10). Furthermore, Jesus teaches us to pray to God, the Father (Matt. 6:9), who is alive on His throne in Heaven (Rev. 7:15), not to any mortal who has passed from this life. Let us understand what the Bible says and abide by it in all things.



Ladies' Bible Workers

October 19 @ 9:30 a.m. —11:30 a.m. (Cards, Bible study, Mission Printing)
Led by: Nancy Smith

LADIES: Don't forget to bring your items for the "goodie" bags.

October 31

Immediately following morning worship—Harvest Potluck
Following potluck—short devo and songs (no 5 p.m. services)

Prayer Requests & Concerns

Edith White has been moved to Avante in Irving for continued rehab and therapy. At this time, she can receive visitors (two at a time) from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Check in at the desk; temp will be taken; you will be given a special N95 mask. Send cards to her at Avante, 225 N. Sowers Road, Irving, Texas 75061.

Gary Gough has been dealing with pain in his side for a few weeks. He had a CT scan that indicates there is a problem with his liver. He will see a hepatologist on November 3 to get more details from this test. Keep Gary in your prayers that this will be something that can be treated with medication and not too difficult to manage.

Judy Burge was released from the hospital. She will be wearing a heart monitor for the next 30 days. The doctor has advised her to do very limited driving during this time. Also, a pacemaker has been ruled out at this time.

Pray for those with unspoken prayer requests. For those whose hurts are too deep to be spoken. For those whose hearts are broken. For those who daily need prayer and compassion.

Continue in prayer for Brian Petty's sister, Jorge Trevino, Wren Smith's friend Doyle, Gary Gough's daughter-in-law Sylvia Gough, Rita Gough's cousin Darlene, CharlesAnn Sandler

Also, continue in prayer for our shut ins :

Mary Busby
Jimmie Newton
Weldon Smith

Peggy Schubert
Joyce Singleton



to Bill and Barbara Tillman for providing Wednesday evening meals for the last several months. GREAT JOB! At this time, they are stepping down from this responsibility due to the care and attention Edith needs.



to Peggy Holveck who graciously accepted this responsibility along with several others who will be providing desserts and drinks.



Sympathy is extended to the Abar family, former members at Freetown, at the passing of Danny Abar (the son).
Keep this family in your prayers.

Daily Bible Reading

October 17 Isaiah 66:1-24; Philippians 3:4-21; Psalm 74:1-23; Proverbs 24:15-16

October 18 Jeremiah 1:1-2:30; Philippians 4:1-23; Psalm 75:1-10; Proverbs 24:17-20

October 19 Jeremiah 2:31-4:18; Colossians 1:1-17; Psalm 76:1-12; Proverbs 24:21-22

October 20 Jeremiah 4:19-6:15; Colossians 1:18-2:7; Psalm 77:1-20; Proverbs 24:23-25

October 21 Jeremiah 6:16-8:7; Colossians 2:8-23; Psalm 78:1-31; Proverbs 24:26

October 22 Jeremiah 8:8-9:26; Colossians 3:1-17; Psalm 78:32-55; Proverbs 24:27

October 23 Jeremiah 10:1-11:23; Colossians 3:18-4:18; Psalm 78:56-72; Proverbs 24:28-29

Sermons, Bulletins and More @
freetownroad.com

Freetown Road Church of Christ

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Service & Class Times

Sunday Bible Class: 9:30 AM
Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Worship: 5:00 PM
Wednesday Evening Meal: 6:00 PM
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 PM

Minister:
Mike Lane

Sunday , October 10, 2021

Sunday Attendance-AM Worship: 46
2021 Budget: \$3,405.77
Contribution: \$2,557.62



October 10, 2:00, Ladies' meeting
October 12, 9:30 a.m., Ladies' Bible Workers
October 13, 7:00 p.m., Bible Class
October 16, 9:00 a.m., Ladies' Day in Killeen
October 31, Potluck immediately following worship
More info to follow or see Rita Gough
December 21, Christ Haven pickup



Wednesday, October 20 @ 6:00 p.m.
Menu: Chicken Spaghetti
Come fellowship while you eat.....and then stay for a great Bible lesson from the Gospel According to John given by Mike (currently in John 12)

Welcome Guests!

We are delighted you have chosen to worship with us. You honor us with your presence. We pray you find your time with us uplifting and encouraging and that our worship will honor our God and bring you closer to Him. If you have any questions, simply ask one of our members, or speak to one of our ministers. Please take a moment to fill out one of our visitors' cards, so we can have a record of your visit with us. Feel free to let us know what you think by writing comments on that card. You are always welcome!

Those to Serve
October 24, 2021

Welcome & Opening Prayer, and Family Matters:
Israel Esparza
Family prayer: Mike Lennard
Communion Leader: Mike Lane
Scripture Reading: Arron Melenderz
Closing Prayer: Dwaine Gough

Cleaning crew: Purple team (Sharon Jordan)

The Family Gram

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**Freetown Road
Church of Christ
2021**

Becoming a Rainmaker

Order of Worship

Song Leader: Perry Grace

Hymn

We Will Stand

Hymn

A Common Love

Welcome & Opening Prayer

Gary Gough

Hymn

Heart of a Servant

Hymn

Servant Song

Hymn

I Am Mine No More

Hymn

Will You Not Tell It Today

Family Prayer

Tommy Seymour

Hymn

Jesus, Name Above All Names

Hymn

Oh, to be Like Thee

Scripture Reading

Mike Lane

Hebrews 1:1-2

Sermon

The Church of the Burning Bush

Hymn

Jesus Paid it All

Hymn

When My Love to Christ

Grows Weak

Communion Leader

Jerry Morris

Family Matters

Gary Gough

Hymn

I Love You With the Love

Of the Lord

Closing Prayer

Joey Anguiano

Cleaning crew: Pink team (Erica Alvarado)
Greeters: Jerry and Maria Morris