

# From The Ministers Desk

## The Importance of Right Motives

“And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.”

- Luke 14:27

Jesus was becoming very popular in His ministry – maybe too much so. People followed Him in great numbers. The crowds swelled on a daily basis. But Jesus looked at these people and, being God, knew their motives.

He recognized that most of them were not interested in spiritual things at all. They wanted to be dazzled by a few miracles. Others heard that He had fed the hungry. A few hoped He would overthrow Rome and established the kingdom of God.

There were various reasons people had for following Him, but He realized many of them were following Him for the wrong reason. Thus, He made a series of statements intentionally designed to thin out the ranks. He wanted to be left with those who really wanted to follow Him – not fair-weather followers but true, committed disciples and soldiers.

In the same way in the church today, there are many people who are not really interested in the spiritual. God wants us to follow Him for the right motives.

Jesus said, “Whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple...Whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple” (Luke 14:27, 33). Here Jesus laid out plainly what it is to be His disciple, to be a soldier in His service.

God has unusual set of mathematics. He subtracts in order to multiply. Sometimes we think bigger is always better. But these words of Jesus show that He is more interested in quality than He is in quantity. Yes, He wants everyone to come into the Kingdom. He wants everyone to believe. But He wants us to come with the right motives, because a halfhearted soldier can be more of a liability than an asset.

Donald

<b>Sermon Topics:</b>	Notes:
AM: “Divorce and the Bible” Matthew 5:31-32	
PM: Shepherd Group Meetings	
<u>Hispanic Studies:</u> JJ Espinoza	
Class: Salmos 23	
Sermon: 2 Corintios 1:21-22	

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# Poteau church of Christ

## Reaching Up, Reaching Out, Reaching In

Elder on Call for March 2018: Rick Parker 918-839-1593



## Welcome to the Poteau church of Christ!

If this is your first time to worship with us, please know that we are thrilled to share in your journey of faith. We invite you to join in the singing of praises, praying, studying from God’s Word; to enjoy the warmth of just being together with fellow seekers. Our prayer is that you will feel the love & grace of God during your worship experience this morning. We are honored to have you as our guest today and look forward to meeting you after our worship service. May God bless you richly and deeply.

### DEACONS:

Danny Baker –Worship  
Ben Bentley –Missions  
Russ Campbell –Fellowship  
Joe Harbuck –Building  
Don Johnston –Building/Vans  
Philip Kirkes - Youth  
Bob Marchant –Benevolence  
Brad McMillin –Missions  
Tim Olive –Youth & Budget

### ELDERS:

Winfred Ashley  
Randy Lum  
Dick Moore  
Rick Parker  
Rendall Thompson

### MINISTERS:

Donald Cherry –Pulpit  
J.J. Espinoza –Hispanic  
Paul Fletcher –Youth  
Robert Martin –Prison

### OFFICE:

Sue Taylor Dunn - Secretary  
Joni Fitzgerald – Office Manager

### Contact Information:

20690 292nd Street, Poteau, Oklahoma 74953

(918) 647-4873

don@poteaucoc.org

sued@poteaucoc.org

joni@poteaucoc.org

Or go to [www.poteaucoc.org](http://www.poteaucoc.org) for prayer requests, our audio & video sermons and classes as well as upcoming events.

You will also find online study tools and other information to help you grow stronger in your faith.

We’re also **‘Live-Streaming’** the 9:30 a.m. Bible Class, our 10:20 a.m. Worship Service and the 6:00 p.m. Evening Service.

To receive messages from the church: text @poteau to 81010

**By The NUMBERS**

Week of March 4, 2018

Worship Attendance-AM	253
Bible Class	153
Auditorium Class	72
Jr. High & High School	20
College age 18-25	11
Women's Class	20
Hispanic Class:	6
Prison Class:	30
NewLife Behavior Ministries	25
Wednesday 3-7-2018	

Week of March 4, 2018

Contribution	\$10,010.
Budget –Weekly:	\$7,385.
Contribution–YTD	\$80,712.
Budget –YTD:	\$66,465.
Over/(Under):	\$14,247.

**Monthly Events**

**First Sunday - Cake & Ice Cream** for birthdays & anniversaries after evening worship.

**First Sunday - Elders, Deacons and Minister's** meeting after evening worship service.

**Every Sunday - Elder's Prayer Meeting** after worship service.

**Second Sunday - Shepherd group meetings** after evening service.

**Third Sunday - Deacon's Meeting** after evening worship service.

**Sunday Morning - Women's Outreach Class** @ 9:30 am. taught by Marilyn Ashley in the MPB.

**Sunday Evening** - The ladies meet for prayer meeting in the MPB after evening service.

**Sunday Morning and Wednesday night** - College age students - 18-25 - meeting in the MPB.

**Wednesday Nights - Mid-Week Manna** - 5:15 before Bible Study

**Wednesday Nights Auditorium @6:30 - Adult Bible Class**, taught by Ralph Hawkins.

**Wednesday Night@ 6:30 - Relationship Class in the gym**, taught by Donald Cherry.

**Wednesday @ 6:30 -Ladies class:** Taught by Sue Dunlap in the GAP classroom.

**Second Thursday Game Night** – 6:00 p.m. in the MPB.

**Elders Prayer List**

Note: First of the month: many will be removed from the list to keep it current. Submit new cards for requested prayers.

**Health:** Colton Ray (recovering/gall bladder surgery); CD Sullard, (Gabe's dad) heart problems; Jim Hardwick (Joyce's son) 6 weeks of radiation; Joseph Seaman (Brad's son) Multiple Sclerosis, healing/health; Josh Nixon, continued recovery; Kathey Frey (Larry Earl) broken leg; Kay Woodruff (Mary Scott's sister) stroke; Liana Faye Jones, blood disorder/ 7 mo. Pregnant; Lola Payne, recovery at home; Lori Stearman, bursitis/ right shoulder; Ouida Moore, back pain/MRI; Regina Lewis, health; Sarah Shackelford, artery blockage; Sue Carty (Benny Bentley's sister) needs liver transplant; Sue Dunlap, safe travel; Tim Cauthen (continued recovery); Tom Hughes, recovery from knee surgery; Trevor Fox family (Carlos) complications following Cardiac arrest.

**Thankful:** Emery Lomon, good test results; Barbara Harrison (Becky) hip is healing, thanks for prayers., Adonia, court case dismissed.

**Bereavement:** Winnie Bowen's family, passing of Winnie; Ken Cremeans's family, passing of Ken.

**Cancer:** Jackie (Robin); Nancy Frier; Malita Tracy; LeeAnn Starts; Michelle Glassburner; Angela Collett (Mandy); Shirley Hollan (Brenda/Loretta's sister); Sandra Lum; Vicki Gillion (Sally); Glenda Bradshaw; Minki Morton Lovell (Spiro coc); Richard Thomas (Larry E.).

**Prisoners:** Tommy Jay, Shane Calico, Mack Hulse, Justin Moss, Brian Clinesmith, Jeff McCauley, William Cooper, Justin Lee, Craig Phillips, Amos Wilson, Teddy Berry.

**Response**

Adonia Becerra's court case has been dismissed. God is good! She wants to thank God for his mercy.

**Update List on Our Sick**

Mint Johnson is asking for prayers for her granddaughter, Kara Powers. She is having health issues. Keep her and her family in your prayers.

Rita Broom is asking for prayers for her sister, Barbara Morton, for her spiritual growth.

Kim Daniels is in need prayers. She is losing her voice and is down in her back.

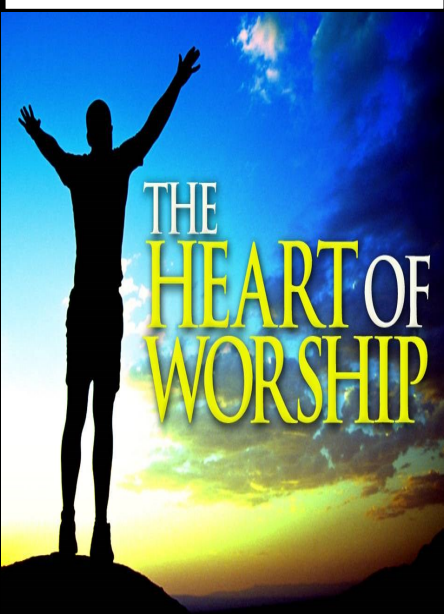
Bobby Frame has cancer and will have surgery on April 19th. Pray for a successful surgery.

Mia Miller (Carolyn Cooper's daughter) has cancer. Mia lives in Louisiana. Keep Mia and her family in your prayers.

Debbe Little is under Hospice care at Mercy, after having a stroke. Please keep her and her family in your prayers during this difficult time.

Ouida should get the results from the MRI this next week. Pray for her relief from back pain.

Amy Glenn is having health problems. Keep her in your prayers. Amy is Roy and Judy Robertson's daughter.



**Notice**

- **Ladies Day** has been scheduled for April 14th. If you would like to help, please contact Heather Garner.
- Shepherd Group meetings after evening service. All are encourage to attend your group meeting.
- If you have an announcement for the bulletin, please turn it into the office no later than 3:00pm on Thursday, if possible.

**Volunteers Needed**

Volunteers are needed tomorrow, Monday, March 12th at 9am, to help clean up and repaint the church parking lot. Women and men are encouraged to come and enjoy the fellowship as they serve the Lord. If you have any questions, please contact Joe Harbuck.

**Rick Parker's Shepherd Group**

Please bring finger foods for your meeting tonight.

**GOD'S PLAN**

**For Saving Man**

Divine love: John 3:16

God's Grace: Ephesians 2:8

Christ's Blood: Romans 5:9

The Holy Spirit's Gospel: Romans 5:9

Sinner's Faith: Acts 16:31

Sinner's Repentance: Luke 13:3

Sinner's Confession: Romans 10:10

Sinner's Baptism: 1 Peter 3:21

Christian's Work: James 2:24

Christian's Hope: Romans 8:24

Christian's Endurance: Revelation 2:10

**Youth Announcements**

- **April 20-22: "Family Spring Retreat"** This is a new event! We will do a weekend "Family Retreat" Friday-Sunday April 20-22. More information will be available soon. But this is for the purpose of "Reaching In" and spending more time together as a church family and strengthening the families of our youth. All youth group students are invited! We will also have volunteer mentors working with the students who may not have family members who attend PCC.
- **June 3-9: Camp Wyldewood:** (Summer Church Camp). We will be attending first session again this year, June 3-9. Chad Hudelson, assistant director for Camp Wyldewood, will be coming on Wednesday March 14th from 6:30-7:10pm. We will meet in the Youth Room. **All Parents and children 3rd—12th grade are asked to attend** this very informative meeting to prepare the students, parents and volunteers for an amazing week of church camp!

**Poteau church of Christ Purpose Statement:**

To bring people to Jesus and membership in his family, develop them to Christ like maturity, and equip them for their ministry in the church and life mission in the world, in order to magnify God's name.

**Poteau church of Christ small group ministry vision:**

To see every person, from the core of the church, to the ever-growing community, connected in a healthy small group.