

Welcome to the church of Christ at Alisal

The Lord's Day Message

“Saved!... How?”



Welcome Brothers and Sisters!

Jordan will lead our **Bible Class**, **Kerry** will lead singing, **Paul McCollum** will deliver the **Message**. May God bless their efforts!

*Our Lord's Day
Plan...*

~ Happy Lord's Day ~

*And all flesh shall see the salvation of God.
Luke 3:6*

We are praying for you!

Rosemarie Johnson - for relief from her neck and back pain.

Gwen Yee - for less pain in her knees.

Sweeti Parichha - for better general health.

Don Blackwell - for strength and endurance in his service to the Lord.

Church of Christ - for strength to preach God's Word to all souls.

~God's Blessings to Everyone!~

“WHEN YOU COME TOGETHER IN ONE PLACE”

Raymond Elliott

“When you come together in one place”, it is imperative “all things be done decently and in order” (1 Corinthians 11:18;14:40). It is the opportunity when we come together to worship God and the Lamb “in spirit and truth” (John 4:23,24; Revelation 4 & 5). It is wonderful that brothers and sisters in Christ enjoy the company of one another; but, when the set time has come, our hearts should be centered on worshiping God. This is a deliberate action on our part. Worship begins with the first song. God is spirit and our spirits should be attuned with God's spirit (John 4:24) The ‘acts of worship’ can sound too legalistic and formal for some; but if we use the term ‘avenues’, it can be understood that singing, praying, teaching, the Lord's Supper and giving are avenues through which we express our love, praise and homage to our God.

The order in our assemblies when we are worshiping together can be and oft is a tradition. This can contribute to our worship being done “decently and in order”. However, when the same ‘order of things’ is done for decades it can easily become law and that is when tradition becomes wrong. Several years ago an elder told me that when he went off to a Christian College located in a different state, he knew that the church where he began worshiping was unscriptural. The reason being, the church was having the Lord's Supper before preaching and not afterwards! If a change should be made in the order of worship it would be best for it to be announced before it was time to begin. ‘The Order of Worship’ could be printed and would be available to those in attendance. By doing this, there would be less confusion for everyone. Several years ago while working with a congregation in a small town, I mentioned to the song leader that I would like to make a change in the order of our worship. He was to lead the first song and then I would read from the Bible and make some remarks and we would do this more than once. My failure was that I did not inform the congregation of the changes that I had made! And this is the way things went in our worship that Sunday morning; the song leader led the first song and then I got up and read from the Scriptures and made some remarks that were appropriate and I sat down.. The song leader announced the number of the song that we were to sing and when he began singing, the congregation stood, thinking that this was the ‘invitation song’! Lesson learned! It would be good for a congregation to make changes occasionally so that the younger generations could know that a set

...continued on back page

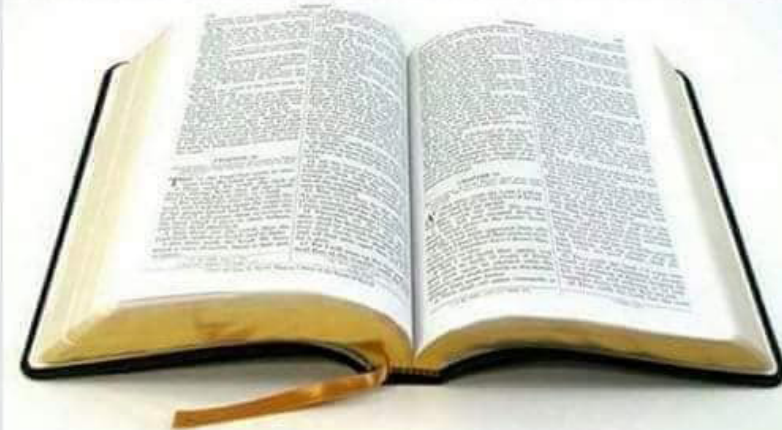
...continued

'order' was not a pattern as found in the New Testament.

It is good that the song leader prepares his selections for the worship. Since we are to praise God, songs of praise would be excellent to lead to begin our worship. It is always appropriate for the congregation to stand when singing such songs. It would be good for the men who have been asked to lead prayers in the assembly to think beforehand what would be said in the prayer. Remember also it is to be a public prayer, that is, the prayer leader should lift his voice so all could hear. When there is a microphone, the prayer leader should speak directly into it. Remarks made when we are observing the Lord's Supper should be brief and a source of encouragement for all to meditate on the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ; and the love of God and His son manifested at Calvary. Remember also that prayers are offered up to God the Father (Matthew 6:9). It was the body of Jesus that hung on the cross and it was His blood that "was shed for the remission of sins" (Matthew 26:28). God is spirit and "a spirit does not have flesh and bones..." (John 4:29). Preaching/teaching the word of God is a fearful responsibility (James 3:1)! Timothy received a charge from the apostle Paul to "Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching" (2 Timothy 4:2-4). "The word" would consist of "All Scripture" because they were "given by inspiration of God" (2 Timothy 3:16). It is the duty of the preacher to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ for "it is the power of God to Salvation"! (Romans 1:16; Matthew 28:19,20; Mark 16:15,16; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4)! We have the example of the early church giving "On the first day of the week" (16:1,2). This contribution was for the "saints" in Judea who were in need of financial help. This is an example as to when we can give our monetary gifts to the Lord when we assemble on the first day of the week to worship God. Every Christian should read 2 Corinthians chapters eight and nine to learn more about the giving made by the churches in Macedonia. First of all, the Christians "gave of themselves to the Lord" (chapter 8:5). Paul also wrote that their giving was a matter of "grace" (chapter 8:7). My brothers and sisters, When we come together in one place, let us "worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs." "Come, let us bow down in worship, Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker; for He is our God and we are the people of His pasture, the flock under His care." "Great is the Lord! He is most worthy of praise! No one can measure his greatness" (Psalm 100:1,2; 95:6,7; 145:3).

March 17, 2024

THIS IS STILL THE FINAL AUTHORITY



OPINIONS DON'T MATTER...

Meeting Days and Times

Sunday 9:00 am

Wednesday (via Zoom) Bible Class, singing & prayer - 6:00 pm

church of Christ at Alisal

67 Eucalyptus Drive

Salinas, California 93905-2728

Paul McCollum, preacher

pulpitpaul@razzolink.com

(831)424-9800 or 206-5568

www.churchofchristalisal.com/