

The Emerald Beach Christian

Emerald Beach
CHURCH OF CHRIST
Panama City Beach, Florida

Your Weekly Edification

About Us

And God Said

I Said, "God, I hurt."
And God said, "I know."

I said, God I cry a lot."
And God said, "That is why I gave you tears."

I Said, "God, I am so depressed."
And God said, "That is why I gave you sunshine."

I Said, "God, life is so hard."
And God said, "That is why I gave you loved ones."

I Said, "God, my loved one died."
And God said, "So did mine."

I Said, "God, it is such a loss."
And God said, "I saw mine nailed to a cross."

I Said, "God, but your loved one lives."
And God said, "So does yours."

I Said, "God, where are they now?"
And God said, "Mine is on my right, and yours is in the light."

I said, "God, it hurts."
And God said, "I know."

Attention Visitors

Thank you for choosing to be with us this Lord's Day! You are our welcomed guests, and it is our prayer that we make you feel welcome this morning! We would love to have a record of your visit, and we ask that you please either sign the guest book (located in the back of the auditorium) or return to us a *Visitor Information Card* (located on the back of the pews). If you have any questions or comments about your visit with us, please express them to any of our members.

Contact Information

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Phone

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Website

www.emeraldbeachchurch.org

Times of Assembly

Sunday

9:00 AM – Bible Classes
10:00 AM – Worship
6:00 PM – Worship

Wednesday

7:00 PM – Bible Study

Staff

Minister

Barry Gilreath

Secretary

Duffle Chisolm

Emerald Beach Contacts

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Looking Ahead to March

Barry Gilreath

Questions often arise about the differences of the church of Christ from other religious groups. Such questions often include:

- 1) "Why is the church of Christ non-denominational?"
- 2) "Why do members of the church of Christ teach baptism for the remission of sins?"
- 3) "Where is the piano?"
- 4) "Why does the church of Christ observe the Lord's Supper every first day of the week?"

Each Lord's Day of the month of March, Lord willing, I have aspirations of presenting a series of sermons entitled *A Peculiar People*.

a Peculiar People

The apostle Peter, by the inspiration of the Spirit of God, once wrote of New Testament Christians, "But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, **a peculiar people**" (1 Pet. 2:9, emphasis mine). The series will be centered upon perceived peculiarities of the church of Christ.

We need to be ready to provide a Biblical answer for any question we may receive, especially pertaining to the church of Christ. Peter also wrote, "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear" (1 Peter 3:15). May we all approach this study with an open-mind to what the Word of God teaches!

May
God
Bless
You!

The Emerald Beach church of Christ is currently in need of financial support; any monetary contribution would be greatly appreciated. We are small in number, and our out-of-town visitors, who often outnumber us, have been faithful to help support the work of this congregation throughout the years. We would like to thank our brethren in Christ for your support in the Gospel of Christ!

Calendar of Events

Tonight – The men of the congregation have decided to move our *Monthly Devotional* from the last Wednesday of the month to the 4th Sunday evening of the month. This will enable us to have a normal schedule of classes on Wednesday evenings.

Tuesday, Mar. 1 – *Men's Meeting* @ 10 AM for the men of the congregation

Friday, Mar. 11 – *Game & Chili Night* @ 6:30 PM

Saturday, Mar. 19 – *Ladies' Lunch* @ 11:30 AM at the Italian Grill on Front Beach Rd.

Prayer List

Duffie Chisolm – Duffie is now at home; **Clint & Ann Byars; Sam & Louise Maxwell; Charlie Hernandez; Tim Akers; Pat Young** – is dealing with various health problems after her radiation treatment; **William Jordan** – has moved to *Bay Center* on St. Andrews Blvd (Room 112); **Carol McGinnis** – Ann Byars; sister; **Edna Jones** – Ann Byars' mother; **Jim Murrell; Dorris Richardson; Craig Byars; Jean Nichols** – Mother of Sharon Stockton; **Alice Heath** – Mother of Betty Brown; **Ivan Burnett** – sister of Jean Nichols; **Jo Nesbitt**

Last Week's Records

AM Bible Study	47
AM Worship	101
PM Worship	38
Wednesday Bible Study	41
Contributions	\$2,186.00

Upcoming Birthdays & Anniversaries



March

Van Hendrix (3rd)
Brenda Bost (3rd)
Ann Byars (4th)
Dennis Peterson (16th)
Jane Wilmouth (18th)
Terri Miles (25th)
Jodi Hendrix (26th)
Berma Chapman (30th)



March

Mickey & Tracey Vintson (15th)
Phil & Jeannie Mitchell (15th)
Forrest & Berma Chapman (17th)
Richard & Brenda Bost (17th)
John & Melba Sain (29th)

Pantry Needs

Green Peas
 Green Beans
 Canned Fruit
 Peanut Butter
 Instant Potatoes
 Instant Oatmeal



Beef stew
 Jelly/Jam
 Spaghetti
 Kool-Aid
 Tomato Soup
 Canned meats

How Big Was that Fish Again?

Patrick Swayne

John Steinbeck wrote of his first visit to Montana, “It seems to me that Montana is a great splash of grandeur. The scale is huge but not overpowering. The land is rich with grass and color, and the mountains are the kind I would create if mountains were ever put on my agenda. Montana seems to me to be what a small boy would think Texas is like from hearing Texans.”

I’ve never been to Montana, but I still laughed after I read that last sentence. Having known and heard many Texans – my father’s family is from Texas, so I guess I’m even half Texan myself – and having actually driven across Texas a couple of times, I know that for the people of that state the fish in the story is much bigger than the one they caught. Texans, like many people, are quite given to exaggeration. My wife and I drove last year through Shallowater, TX, and the sign that greets you says beneath the town name, “Where Pride Runs Deep.” I told my wife, “I’m not sure there’s anywhere in Texas where pride doesn’t run deep.”

There’s nothing wrong with having a healthy degree of pride for your home town, state, or country. There’s also nothing wrong with a bit of exaggeration when we are joking around about something. However, we have to be careful that exaggeration is understood by our listeners to be what it is, and that when pressed we don’t hold on to the fish in our story rather than the one in our freezer.

Ananias and Sapphira once exaggerated about the amount of money they had given to the church (Acts 5:1-11). They wanted people to believe that they had sold a piece of property and had given all of the proceeds to the church, because they liked the way that made them look. The fact of the matter was though that they had only given part of what they had received to the church, and had kept back the rest. It was their right to give all or none of that money to the church, but by saying they had given all when they had in fact only given some made them guilty of lying to God (v. 4).

Exaggeration can make its way into many aspects of our lives if we are not careful. It happens when we say things to make people think that we have done more, given more, and had more done to us than what has actually happened. A simple rule of thumb is always to apply what our Lord Jesus Christ said, “But let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No,’ ‘No.’ For whatever is more than these is from the evil one” (Matthew 5:17).

So the next time someone asks you, “How big was that fish again?” be sure to bring your hands in a couple of feet, even if you caught it in Texas.



This article was recently featured in Jim Murrell’s Exhortmail. If you are not receiving these edifying emails, sign up at iftruthbetold.org.

WEDNESDAY TRIVIA QUESTIONS

1. When did the manna stop?
2. What was the name of the young girl or damsel that wouldn't let Peter in at the gate?

Answers from last week:

- 1) Moses, late in his life, married an Ethiopian woman (Num. 12:1).
- 2) Moses prayed to God for Miriam to be healed from her leprosy (Num. 12:13).

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

God gave what was *right*,
not what was *left*.

STUDY THE BIBLE

See one of our members if you are interested in learning more about God’s desire for your life! We offer a variety of free Bible courses:

You Can Be Sure: Many today teach that you cannot be sure about anything. This course teaches how one can be assured of God, the Bible, salvation, the church, and one’s eternal destination.

Bible Correspondence Course: This 8-lesson study is perfect for one desiring to study from the privacy of his or her own home.

Open Bible Study: This 3-lesson course is a question & answer approach to understanding the fundamental teachings of God’s Word.

Searching for Truth: One who participates in this DVD Bible course will embark on a journey for Biblical truth.

OBEY THE GOSPEL!

- Hear the Word (Rom. 10:17)
- Believe in Christ (Mark 16:15)
- Repent of Sins (Acts 17:30)
- Confess Christ (Rom. 10:9-10)
- Be Baptized (Acts 2:38)
- Live Faithfully (2 Tim. 4:6-8)