

Today's Order of Worship

- Announcements: Greg Lowery
- Song Leader: Josh Berryhill
- Opening Prayer: Eddie Dickinson
- On the Table: Head - Greg Lowery  
Servers - Ralph Burleson  
Billy Box  
Bradley Box
- Closing Prayer: David Key
- Preparing the Lord's Supper: Lellie Dickinson

Weekly Service Times

|                 |           |          |
|-----------------|-----------|----------|
|                 | Sunday    |          |
| Bible Study     |           | 10:00 am |
| Morning Worship |           | 10:45 am |
| Evening Worship |           | 5:00 pm  |
|                 | Wednesday |          |
| Bible Study     |           | 7:00 pm  |

Visit Our Website

www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org

Elders: Leonard Key / David Key  
Billy Box / Eddy Dickinson

Deacons: Al Corkren / Josh Berryhill

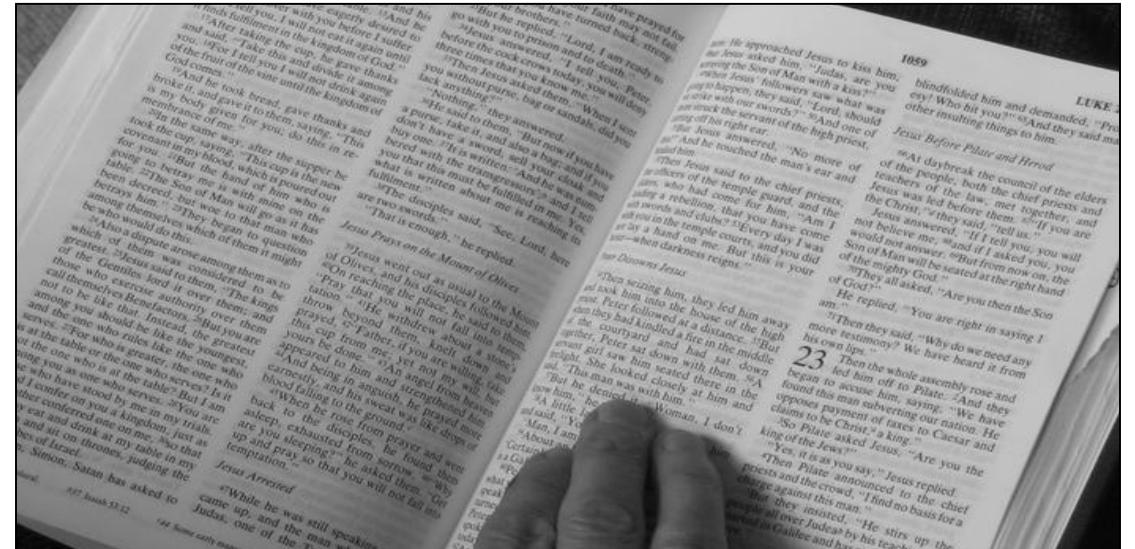
Minister: Greg Lowery

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# Missionary Ron Clayton



The  
Brilliant  
Beacon



**Blinders**

By Royce Pendergrass

So often, something will happen, and someone will exclaim, “Did you see that?” It may have been something extraordinary and could have been important, but someone may have been concentrating on something else or some other kind of distraction may have captured one’s attention. While one of the people saw it as something very exciting, dangerous or unusual, at the same time, the other party didn’t see it at all.

We’ve all seen blinders on horse’s eyes to keep them looking straight ahead so that they won’t be startled at some unusual or strange sound or something they see off to the side. Those things become distractions and cause them to hinder their ability to keep going straight forward. People are like that too. Even Christians may need blinders to keep them from reacting to distractions along the way. Those things can cause us to lose sight of our destination of Heaven. When we react to and give in to sin, we lose our concentration on the heavenly goal. Jesus spoke of this very thing in Luke 9:62, where He said, “No man, having put his hand to the plough and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.” We must set our eyes on the heavenly goal and not keep looking back, whereby we are tempted to participate in all those old sins we gave up to become followers of Christ.

So, what kinds of blinders do Christians need to keep them on the straight and narrow path? God is the major blinder. If we keep our eyes on Him, He promises, “No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it” (1 Corinthians 10:13). The Psalmist always reminded us to put our trust in the Lord and follow Him. He said, “God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, Even though the earth be removed, And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea” (Psalm 46:1-2). The promise is that God has done His part to help us keep our eyes on the goal. Now, it’s up to us to do the rest. Don’t look back at the old pleasures of sin and be tempted to commit them again, but be faithful to God and look forward to a heavenly home with Him.

**THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS**

Mary Rainey: has bone cancer throughout her body, please be praying for her and her family

Patty Berryhill: having problems with a hernia, please pray that the doctors can help her with this problem

Billy Lee & Jimmie Ann Hardy {Carolyn’s Brother & Sister} both are in the nursing home in Guin, please continue to pray for them they both have some health issues

Joey Colburn: is taking treatments for cancer, please pray that the treatments will be successful in defeating his cancer

Felicia Berryhill: she is having some ongoing health problems, please pray that she will be able to receive the right medical treatment to help her

Angie Ganey Gardner: breast cancer surgery went well and is waiting learn the next course of treatment, please pray that this cancer will be defeated

Tommy Housh: diagnosed with bladder cancer, please pray that they will be able to successfully defeat this cancer

Ren Garrison (Donna Martin’s Nephew): is still dealing with an issue concerning his heart, please be praying that this issue will be dealt with successfully

Shauna Silas: diagnosed with thyroid cancer, please be praying that with treatments this cancer will be defeated

Ruth Addison: ongoing health problems, please keep her in your prayers

Mary Box: some ongoing other health problems, please keep her in your prayers

Glynda Long: she is fighting stage 4 colon cancer, please pray that this cancer will be defeated

**THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS**

Celia Grace Hamlett, daughter of Gary and Kassie Hamlett, was diagnosed with MLD(Metachromatic Leukodystrophy); planning on traveling to Italy for gene replacement treatment; please pray that these treatments will be successful.

Tony Lawrence: is improving and is scheduled to go home soon, please pray that he will be able to recover without any serious complications

Virgie McMillan (mother of Ann Box: dealing with complications from a recent stroke, please keep her in your prayers

Don Lawrence: had a temporary knee replacement because of an infection. He will be taking antibiotics to clear up the infection and then will have a total knee replacement; please be praying that the infection will clear up

Karen Chaffin: has had fainting spells, please pray that the doctors can determine what is wrong and that she will have no serious problems

Nelda York Bishop: is scheduled to have spinal surgery in a few weeks, please be praying that the surgery will be successful

Jamie Long: scheduled for hernia surgery October 19<sup>th</sup>, please be praying that there will be no complication with the surgery

Please keep the family of C.J. Wilkinson in your prayers.

**Upcoming Events**

October 18<sup>th</sup> Fellowship Meal

October 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> Gospel Meeting  
(James Wyers)

Jesus is a major blinder. He lived on earth and was “in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin” (Hebrews 4:15). Jesus was our example and taught us that we can overcome the temptations of Satan. James said, “every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed” (James 1:14). Man looks upon sin and wants to do the things that Satan offers. We must keep our eyes on the path that Jesus showed us and put blinders on to the offerings of Satan. When we do that, we “make... [our] calling and election sure” and “will never stumble” (2 Peter 1:10).

Fellow Christians are major players in helping us put on blinders to sin. The apostle Paul said, “...Evil company corrupts good habits” (1 Corinthians 15:33). Does that mean we ought to be selective about with whom we spend our time? We can understand from Paul’s statement that keeping bad company causes bad things to happen!

When we’re with Christians, we’re not nearly as apt to be tempted to do bad things as when we’re in the company of others. After all, speaking about things eternal, we should all be headed in the same direction. James put it this way. “...Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God” (James 4:4). Sinful companions can bring one to do sinful things, and thus, separate him from God. Choose Christian companions who have the same heavenly goal that you do.

The next time you feel that your “blinders” are askew, place them back in position, looking neither to the right hand nor the left but keeping your eyes on the heavenly goal. Recall that Jesus said, “No man, having put his hand to the plough and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God” (Luke 9:62). Remember that God, Christ and fellow Christians are blinders that help us stay on the “strait gate” and “narrow... way” (Matthew 7:14) to Heaven!

Obtained at: [www.gospelgazette.com](http://www.gospelgazette.com)

## How to Love Life and See Good Days

By Randall Evans

The Bible is full of practical advice for Christian living. We can learn what God would have us to do from reading the Scriptures, and we can also find the keys to happiness in this life. In 1 Peter 3:10-11, the apostle Peter wrote a simple formula for how a Christian can love life and see good days. He wrote, “For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile: let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it.” Let us notice this three-part formula more closely.

### Refrain Our Tongues from Evil, v. 10.

James 3:5-6 tells us that our tongues are little members but boast great things. The tongue is also described as a fire and a world of iniquity. When we use our tongues for positive things such as confessing Christ and preaching the Gospel to others, then the tongue is used for its intended purpose. However, when we misuse the tongue, it can be very dangerous. Misusing the tongue includes gossiping, which is condemned in 1 Timothy 5:13 and cursing, condemned in James 3:10. The context of 1 Peter 3:10-11 also deals with speaking no guile. This means we are not to use our tongues to speak deceitfully. Speaking good things will lead to good results and will save us from so many problems in our lives. It will allow us to love life and see good days.

### Eschew Evil and Do Good, v. 11.

The word “eschews” here is found in Job 1:1 where Job is described as “one that feared God, and eschewed evil.” Eschew means to avoid; thus Job avoided evil. As a result, he received the praise of Almighty God. We are to avoid foolish and hurtful lusts (1 Timothy 6:9-11). We are also to avoid false teachers (Romans 16:17). Yet, avoiding evil is not enough; we must also do good. I have never been truly happy in my life when I was doing evil. The only true contentment we enjoy is through living a godly life (1 Timothy 6:6).

## Seek Peace and Ensue It, v. 11

The word ensue means to pursue. We are commanded to seek and pursue peace in our lives. The Bible says that we as Christians are to be a peaceful people (Hebrews 12:14; Romans 14:19). Of course, we have an inward peace because we trust God (Philippians 4:6, 7), but we also are to live peaceable lives (1 Timothy 2:1-2). Christians have a peace the world cannot understand, a peace that passes all understanding (Philippians 4:7; John 14:27).

Following God’s formula for happiness is a sure way for success. After all, He created us and knows what is best for us. When we do what God would have us to do in our lives, then and only then can we love life and see good days!

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**Six Four-Letter Words for Christians**

→ *Appropriate Four-Letter Words for Christians* ←

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <p><b>Love</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matthew 22:37-38</li> <li>• 1 Peter 1:22</li> <li>• 1 John 4:19-20</li> </ul> |  | <p><b>Work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John 9:4</li> <li>• James 5:14</li> <li>• 1 Peter 3:12</li> <li>• Philippians 4:6-7</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Obey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Romans 6:17-18</li> <li>• Hebrews 5:8-9</li> <li>• Matthew 7:21-23</li> </ul> |  | <p><b>Give</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acts 20:35</li> <li>• 2 Corinthians 8:1-5</li> <li>• 2 Corinthians 9:7</li> </ul>              |
| <p><b>Pray</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Thessalonians 5:17</li> <li>• 1 John 5:14</li> </ul>                        |  | <p><b>Look</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 Corinthians 4:17-18</li> <li>• Hebrews 12:1-2</li> </ul>                                     |

**ARE YOU USING APPROPRIATE FOUR-LETTER WORDS?**