

# Northside Church of Christ

“God is a Spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”  
John 4:24



## Rejoice – We're In Good Company!

By Mike Riley

One morning, a postal worker was sorting the daily mail, when he found an unstamped, poorly hand-written envelope, addressed to God. Upon opening the letter, he discovered that it was from an elderly lady who was greatly distressed because all of her savings had been stolen — all \$200.00 of it. Now, she would be cold and hungry throughout the winter.

The postal worker suddenly had an idea. After telling the woman's misfortune to his fellow employees, he asked them to dig deep into their pocketbooks to come up with \$200.00 to donate to the destitute woman. However, they could only come up with \$180.00. The postal worker decided to go ahead and send the woman the donation anyway. She received it by special courier that same morning. A week later, the same postal worker recognized the same handwriting on another envelope. So he opened it up, and it read:

“Dear God, Thank you for the \$180. It will help keep me warm and fed. P.S. It was \$20 short, but that was probably because of those thieving Postal workers.”

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### SUNDAY MORNING

Triple E  
Edify, Exhort,  
Evangelize  
When Shovels Break  
8:30 AM

### SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

9:30 AM

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship Service  
10:30 AM

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Singing Night  
7:00 PM



Please visit our website  
[nscocmeridian.com](http://nscocmeridian.com)

- Information about our congregation
- Sermon Audio Archives
- Previous Bulletins
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“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

2 Timothy 2:15

Northside Church of Christ  
4217 Highway 39 N  
Meridian, MS 39301

Place Stamp Here

## Two Characteristics Of A Successful Church

By Mike Riley

What makes a church successful? A big turnout on Sunday morning? A multimillion-dollar budget? A state-of-the-art building?

We know these things aren't the criteria that define a successful church. Whether the church has stadium-size crowds or just a few in attendance, numbers are not the measure God uses for success, rather He looks at the heart of the church.

The apostle Paul's love for the brethren in Thessalonica was evident when he wrote:

[12] And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you: [13] To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints. (1 Thessalonians 3:12-13)

With these words, Paul shows us two characteristics that are vital for a successful church — love for one another and holiness.

Congregations, church buildings, and budgets come in different sizes. However, the true measure of success is demonstrated by followers of Christ who love God, love each other, and are committed to living holy lives (1 Peter 1:13-16).

1 Peter 1:13-16

[13] Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; [14] As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: [15] But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; [16] Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

Our challenge can be found in the words of the prophet Micah: "What does the Lord require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?" (Micah 6:8).

Brethren, criticism is very rarely easy to accept, even when we know it's deserved. Being criticized for something we did not do, especially when we're trying to do something nice, is tough to handle. It's bad enough to not be appreciated for our acts of kindness, but it's even worse to be slandered. However, the apostle Peter said that we should be thankful, even for those times!

In 1 Peter 2:19-20 NIV, Peter tells us:

"For it is commendable if a man bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because he is conscious of God. But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God."

So what's the benefit for being mistreated? We're in good company, that's why. "To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in His steps" (1 Peter 2:21 NIV).

Rejoice — we're in good company! (Acts 5:17-42 – note "rejoicing" in vs. 41).

## Announcements

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## Prayer Requests This Week

- Pray for all those with ongoing health ailments

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## Communion Preparation

- Sign up sheet for 2021 is in foyer

- September - Thrash

- October -

- November - Rowell

## September Birthdays & Anniversary's

- Camden Cooper - 1st
- Boston Claire Rowell - 10th
- Beverly Isaacs - 14th
- Aubri Cooper - 15th
- John Isaacs - 18th
- Greg Powell - 23rd

Every Sunday Morning

@ 8:00 AM

on WTOK-TV



## Sermon Notes

## Men to Serve

Announcements/Opening Prayer - Shay Cooper

Scripture Reading - Ephesians 4:1 - 3

Lead Singing - Chuck Rowell

Head of Lord's Table - Larry Montgomery

Assist on Lord's Table - James Johnson

Scripture Reading - 1 Corinthians 10:15 - 21

Closing Prayer - Rick Carlberg

<b>Comcast Cable</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Comcast Cable</b>	<b>431</b>
<b>Comcast Cable</b>	<b>1011</b>
<b>DirecTV</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>DirecTV</b>	<b>396</b>
<b>Dish Network</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Over-the-air</b>	<b>11.3</b>