

**Crossville Church  
of Christ**

P.O. Box 211

Crossville, TN 38557

Phone

484-5297 or 484-2960

Fax 707-0025

Bible Call

707-5523 or 707-5532

# COMPASS

Using God's Word to Chart The Course  
Of A Congregation

[www.crossvillechurchofchrist.org](http://www.crossvillechurchofchrist.org)

Email: [mainstchurch@volfirst.net](mailto:mainstchurch@volfirst.net)

[crossville\\_elders@volfirst.net](mailto:crossville_elders@volfirst.net)



**Elders:**

Frank Bohannon

Eddie Brown

Bill Foland

Al Griffin

Jonathan Loveday

Larry McDuffee

Clyde Randolph

**Deacons:**

Jim Bell

Kyle Fairman

Jimmy Harris

David Kerley

Doug Loveday

Greg Maxwell

Brian McLaughlin

Mark Roberts

Roger Smith

Jon Tatum

Jason Wyatt

Jerry Wood

**Minister:**

Barry Kennedy

**Missionaries:**

Don Iverson

Jim Waldron

(India)

**Service Times**

Sunday Bible Study 9 AM

Sunday Worship 10 AM

6 PM

Wednesday 6 PM

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:**

**Ladies Bible Class**

Tuesdays 11AM

**Prayer Meeting**

Tuesdays 10 AM

**Joyful Generation**

(Youth Devotional & fellowship)

1st Sunday 7:00 PM

October 16, 2011



"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son"

(Revelation 21:6-8)

## “FEAR NOT”

Barry Kennedy

“And Moses said unto the people, **Fear ye not (Emph. mine BK)**, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will show to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever” (Exodus 14:13).

**FEAR ROBBS US OF OUR ABILITIES.** Satan has preyed upon man’s fears for centuries. The sad fact about it is that we allow it. Fear backs one into the corner and makes it virtually impossible to see the ability God has given His creation. When Moses brought the children of Israel to the banks of the Red Sea, they were ready to let fear rob them of their ability to go forward. God said through Moses “Fear ye not.” What does the New Testament have to say about fear? The parable of the talents gives divine insight into how God views His creation (Matthew 25:14-30). This parable is a study of judgment, but we need not overlook the important point that the master (Jesus) knows our ability. “And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man **according to his several ability**; and straightway took his journey” (Matthew 25:14). The one talent man allowed fear to control his abilities and when that happens ability turns into inactivity. The result, “cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth” (Matthew 25:30). Many focus upon the punishment and fail to see that God is saying, “Fear not, I know you have the ability.”

**FEAR BLINDS US TO OUR OPPORTUNITIES.** Opportunities are all around us, but one thing is for certain, if we close our eyes we will never see them. The children of Israel quickly forgot about the deliverance God gave them in Egypt when they saw the enemy advancing and the Red Sea serving as an “impassable” boundary. Their fear would not allow them to see the opportunities that lay before them. How many times do we allow fear to blind us of the opportunities God has before us? How about the times we have been given the opportunities to talk with someone about the gospel, but we allowed our fears to keep us from seizing the opportunity? We must remember that the great commission (Matthew 28:19-20) was given by our Lord; therefore, we should “FEAR NOT.” After all, Jesus said, “...Lo I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world” (Matthew 28:20). Paul informed the Roman congregation that if God is for us then who can be against us (Romans 8:31).

Many times we find ourselves frightened by the unknown. Sadly many people are fearing their Christians duty because of the same reason, the unknown. We are the only ones who can change that. It will take diligence to overcome our fears. It will take faith that is motivated to trust in the living God and not in our own ways. “Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones” (Proverbs 3:5-8).

Are we ready to trust the Lord and do His will, or will we keep on allowing fear to extinguish our zeal and maintain a melancholy approach to serving God? Let’s all take up that “cross” we have been denying and start following Christ as TRUE BELIEVERS and not fearful mice. The result of a life spent in fear is an eternity in a Devil’s Hell. “But the **fearful (emph. BK)**, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death” (Revelation 21:8). On the other hand, “He that overcometh shall inherit all things.” (Revelation 2:7). The same God who says “Overcome” says “Fear Not!” Are we listening?

# WHAT DO YOU BRING TO WORSHIP?

Patrick Morrison

The Old Testament required all Jewish males to appear in Jerusalem three times per year to worship and offer sacrifices. “Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the Lord thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the Lord empty” (Deut.16:16). It was imperative that those who made the journey to Jerusalem to worship God not come before Him empty-handed. The Old Law even made provisions for those who could not afford to offer the customary sacrifice for sin of a lamb or goat (Lev.5:7-11). From the wealthiest prince to the lowliest pauper all were to come before God in worship with something to offer. Herein lies a fundamental principle of our worship to God: worship is something that we offer, something that we bring before God, and when done in accordance with His Divine will, we know that such offerings will be acceptable to Him.

The idea of worship has been lost on many within our generation. For most it is a time to be entertained. Worship has become just another spectator sport, a place to be seen, something to check off the to-do list. It is a shame to see those who claim to love the Lord coming to worship with nothing to offer. Some sit as silent as the tomb while praises are being sung to our heavenly Father. Empty-handed! Some cling tenaciously to the material wealth with which God has blessed them as the time for giving back to Him as He has prospered us comes. Empty-handed! Some pass notes, talk, day-dream as God’s word is being read and/or proclaimed. Empty-handed! Some slip in, take some unleavened bread and fruit of the vine thinking they are observing the Lord’s Supper, and slip out, giving nothing to the rest of the worship of Almighty God. Empty-handed! Some show up every once in a blue moon and expect everyone to notice the effort they put forth to be there. Empty-handed! Brethren and friends, how can we “offer...unto the Lord my God of that which doth cost me nothing” (2 Sam.24:22)?

Worship is not about man. It has never been about man. It will never be about man. Worship is about bowing the knee in reverence to God, and coming before Him with that which we know will please Him. We dare not come empty-handed. “By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise unto God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name” (Heb.13:15). “But as for me, I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy: and in thy fear will I worship toward thy holy temple” (Psa.5:7). “Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness” (Psa.29:2). “O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker” (Psa.95:6). “I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the Lord” (Psa.116:17). “I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name” (Psa.138:2). “Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ” (1 Pet.2:5). “Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him” (Psa.2:8). The worship of the God of heaven demands that we come before Him with something to offer, something which all can afford: our prayers, our praise, our time, our talents, our money, ourselves!

[http://www.sixthavenuechurch.org/gt/articles/what\\_do\\_you\\_bring\\_to\\_worship.pdf](http://www.sixthavenuechurch.org/gt/articles/what_do_you_bring_to_worship.pdf)

