

**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**

**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

# 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)



**June 26, 2011**

## Wednesday Summer Series (2011)



# FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT,

*"Helping Christians to be ripe for the harvest."*

### July:

**July 6:** *"Why should we bear fruit?"* **David Smith**, Soddy Daisy, TN.

**July 13:** *"This is no ordinary fruit."* **James Meadows**, Knoxville, TN.

**July 20:** *"LOVE, The root of the fruit."* **Alan Adams**, Cantonment, FL.

**July 27:** *"JOY, The emotional fruit"* **Gary Hampton**, Ragland, AL.

### August:

**August 3:** *"PEACE, The comfort fruit."* **Ben Bailey**, McMinnville, TN.

**August 10:** *"LONGSUFFERING, The fruit worth waiting for."* **Byran Hatcher**,  
Memphis, TN.

**August 17:** *"GENTLENESS, The fruit we share with others."* **Joey Davis**, Atlanta, TX.

**August 24:** *"GOODNESS, The fruit for our own good."* **Kent O'Donnell**,  
Palmerston, New Zealand.

**August 31:** *"FAITH" The fruit that pleases God."* **Clarence DeLoach**, Cookeville, TN.

### September:

**September 7:** *"MEEKNESS, The fruit that reminds us who we are"* **Wally Kirby**,  
Sequatchie, TN.

**September 14:** *"TEMPERANCE, The fruit of self-control."* **Bill Greer**, Hixson, TN.

**September 17:** *"RIPE FOR THE HARVEST, Against such there is no law."*  
**Edward Anderson**, Carthage, TN.

# THE BLESSINGS OF HEAVEN

Wayne Jackson

Though we cannot fathom the intricacies of heaven from our current vantage point, surely we can appreciate some of the blessings of that state as set forth in the divine record.

**(a) Heaven is a place of REST from earthly hardships.** "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord. From henceforth, yea saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; for their works follow with them" (Revelation 14:13). "Let us therefore give diligence to enter into that rest" (Hebrews 4:11).

**(b) Heaven is a place of REAPING (cf. Galatians 6:9).** This earth is supposed to be a sphere of obedient activity wherein one lays up treasures to be finally enjoyed in heaven (Matthew 6:19). All who have faithfully worked in the interest of others here below, will be received by those friends into "the eternal tabernacles" above (Luke 16:9). There will be a tremendous "reward" of satisfaction in knowing that we have helped to increase the population of heaven (1 Corinthians 3:14).

**(c) Heaven will be a place of REJOICING.** Those who remain loyal to Christ will hear the Master say, "Well done, good and faithful servant . . . enter thou into the joy of thy Lord" (Matthew 25:21). All who enter heaven will rejoice for the great victory they have won over the forces of evil (Revelation 12:11,12; 19:7).

**(d) Heaven will be a place of RIGHTEOUSNESS.** "And there shall in no wise enter into it anything unclean, or he that makes an abomination and a lie: but only they that are written in the Lamb's book of life" (Revelation 21:27). "Without are the dogs, and the sorcerers, and the idolaters, and every one that loveth & maketh a lie" (22:15).

**(e) Heaven will be a place of RESPONSIBILITY.** The celestial realm will not be a domain of idle inactivity. There "his servants shall serve him" (Revelation 22:3). In one of his parables, Jesus told of ten servants who were each entrusted by their master with money to invest in trading. When they were finally called to account, each was rewarded with responsibility in direct proportion to the way in which he had used his ability (Luke 19:16-19).

**(f) Heaven will be a place of REUNION & RECOGNITION.** When the patriarchs died, they were "gathered to [their] people" (Genesis 25:8; 35:29). Both Jacob and David expected to be reunited with loved ones after death (Genesis 37:35; Samuel 12:23). The Lord taught that we shall "sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 8:11). Paul affirmed that those whom he had helped in their heavenward journey would be a source of joy at the time of the Lord's return (1 Thessalonians 2:19,20). This clearly implies future recognition.

Surely with these great blessings ever before us, we will constantly renew our diligence to obtain this magnificent destiny. [Select Studies from the Book of Revelation (Stockton, CA: Courier Publications, 1995), pp. 100,101].



# INCORRECT MOTIVATIONS FOR BECOMING A CHRISTIAN

Phillip Brannon

Yes friend, you have read the title correctly. Just as there are correct motivations for obeying the gospel, there are also many incorrect motivations for doing so. We shall discuss a few at this time. Please note that one should not obey the gospel because of:

**1. Ties to family** - Family influence can be a great motivating factor for a person's obedience to the gospel. However, it should not be the sole motivation. If one's sole reason for obeying the gospel is because of the fact that his grandfather, father, or some other family member, was a faithful Christian, then his reasoning is flawed. God will not accept this type of submission (if it can even be called submission), for it makes family ties greater than heavenly ties (Matt. 10:37,38; Luke 14:26-27).

**2. The affiliation afforded** - Some people are so desperate to be a part of a group that they obey the gospel solely to be affiliated with a body of people. Though one would not be wrong in wanting to be associated with the people of God, one would be wrong in obeying the gospel just to be affiliated with people. God will not accept this type of submission, for one's should desire to be with God more than to be with people (Ps. 73:25).

**3. The political influence one can gain** - Some people's motives for becoming Christians are for political purposes. They become whatever they need to become, religiously speaking, in order to have the most political influence and power. If they can have the most influence by converting to Islam, then they will do it. If they can have the most influence by converting to Hinduism, then they will do it. Whatever religion must be accepted in order for these people to further their personal agenda, they will accept it. God will not accept this type of submission, for this person has no true allegiance to Him (Matt 22:37; Matt. 4:10).

**4. A desire for financial gain** - Some people become Christians because of a false belief that they will be financially blessed for doing so. They believe that if they obey God, then they will receive the big house, nice car, or extra money they have always desired. God will not accept this type of submission, because those who come in this way only come for physical wealth, not for spiritual gain (John 6:26-28; 1 Tim. 6:10; 2 Tim 3:12).

**5. A desire to please men** - Some people become Christians simply to please men. They obey the gospel to get someone, whether family, friend, or foe, "off of their backs." They do not really want to follow God, but in order to get people to quit "bothering" them about becoming a Christian, they go ahead and obey the gospel, with the hopes of making everyone happy. God will not accept this type of submission, for these people would rather please men than please Him (Gal. 1:10).

There are many incorrect reasons for becoming a Christian, but none of them will actually save a man. In fact, if any incorrect motivation is one's primary motivation for obedience to the gospel then that person is not really a Christian. Each of us should ultimately be motivated to become a Christian by understanding that we can have our sins washed away, which in turn will sanctify us for service to God.

