

# 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

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)



December 4, 2011

## GOD'S FAMILY

When times are hard, and our way seems long,

Our family is there to bear us along.

Through dark trials sore and long nights of pain,

Our family is there to help keep us sane.

No matter the time, and no matter the crime,

Our family can help us to reclaim the prize.

Of all the wonderful gifts God has granted,

Family has to be one of the greatest.

For of the three institutions He gave,

The family was the first that He made.

So if to your family you have not been true,

Remember that God is family too.

He will forgive you if no one else will,

And share with you Heaven, for that is His will.

And may we strive always our family to save,

For if we will do this how beautiful will be,

The words of Our Maker when Jesus we see:

“Well done thou good and faithful servant”

And forever and ever we all will be,

Members one of another,

God's Family.

— Barry Kennedy

# WHAT TO DO WHEN CRISIS COMES

**Neal Pollard**

Remember a fact from David's life, that he praised God at least as often when he prospered that he did in the "pits" of hurt. Read through Psalms, where he says things like, "thy loving kindness is better than life" (Psa. 63:3), "enter into His gates with thanksgiving" (Psa. 100:4), "from the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the Lord's name is to be praised" (Psa. 119:62), and countless, similar statements. He realized what it is too easy to forget, that God is the God of every hour of every day. David's spirituality wasn't one-dimensional. He didn't just come to God in troubled times. Sadly, God only hears from some when they need something. That's no way to enjoy the full life in Christ.

When it comes to crisis, though, the godly inevitably turn to the Father. Who else can help? Once, David wrote, "Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O Lord" (Psa. 130:1,2). Why? The Hebrews writer says, "The Lord is my helper" (Heb. 13:5). That's why! Notice Psalm 120:1, where David reacts in his crisis.

## ***The Reality Of Crisis-- "In my distress..."***

Adversity is a common denominator of humanity. We can suffer for living right (2 Tim. 3:12) or as a consequence of our own wrongdoing (1 Pet. 4:15). In life, we must be prepared to "endure hardness" (2 Tim. 2:3) and "suffer trouble" (2 Tim. 2:9). Distress is a reality!

## ***The Reaction To Crisis-- "I cried..."***

David did something very human. He reacted to his trouble. Under the weight of suffering, the knees of the most valiant warrior buckles. Under twice the weight, the knees of the godly, Christian soldier humbly bend in prayer. James advises, "Is any among you afflicted? Let him pray" (Jam. 5:13). Along with wearing the whole armor of god, the godly should be found by God "praying always with all prayer and supplication" (Eph. 6:18). David knew he needed help when he hurt.

## ***The Rescuer From Crisis-- "Unto the Lord..."***

David knew that man might forsake him, but God never would. He knew his help came from the Lord (Psa. 121:2; Phil. 4:6). We believe, "God is our refuge and help, a very present help in trouble" (Psa. 46:1).

## ***The Result Of David's Prayer In Crisis-- "And He heard me."***

His effective prayer did much good (cf. Jas. 5:16). Peter reminds us that God's ears are open to the prayers of the righteous (1 Pet. 3:12; cf. Mt. 7:7; Pr.15:29). Why did God hear David's prayer? He was God's child. The confidence of a child of God in prayer should be immeasurable!

Problems are inevitable, but we should never think them insurmountable. God hears and answers the prayers of the godly. With that in mind, the song of the sainted sufferer should ever be, "I will not fear what man shall do unto me" (Heb. 13:6)!



## IMAGINE YOU SEE JESUS' HAND AND ASK "WHAT HAPPENED?"

**David Shannon**

Imagine Jesus' hands and side after the resurrection. Although His face must have worn an expression of relief - relief because the greatest battle of the horrifying fight against evil was over He still carried the battle scars.

Thomas was not present with the other disciples when Jesus came to them the first time after His resurrection. When they told Thomas of Jesus' visit, he doubted the truth of such a story. Perhaps in an effort to emphatically state his disbelief he stated that he would need proof requiring not one, but two of his senses, "Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe."

Jesus came to Thomas eight days later saying, Look, behold, reach, thrust, and "be not faithless, but believing."

**Thomas replied, "My Lord and my God."**

Jesus did not commend him, but instead praised those that can believe even though they have not seen the prints, the side, the battle scars of a bloody conflict of eternal consequence. (John 20:24-30)

Today, will you doubt? Do you believe? Jesus told his disciples of His sacrifice by saying "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." Then He taught them saying, "Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." (John 15:13:-14)

If you obey Christ's covenant you are a believer. If you do not obey, you do not believe.

**To Christ it is simple.**

Imagine Judgment day. Picture Jesus sitting before the human race. Place yourself on the stand. You sadly confess that since you did not obey, in reality, you did not believe. Listen to Jesus say, "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels." (Matthew 25:41) But wait, that's not all! Look close as He lifts His hand to gesture. Your heart leaps inside, your mind races to recall passages about the crucifixion, because you see with your own eyes the battle scars of the cross. You see the pierced hand. You know the mistake you have made and you cry, you cry for an eternity!

Stop imagining and start believing! Believe in the Savior with nail pierced hands! ... Our life, faith and hope is all because of Him!

