

THE CHRIST CONNECTION
February 7, 2016 morning service
Colossians 2:1-7

Thank you, choir. Let it be Jesus. Take your Bible and go to Colossians chapter 2. We'll begin in verse 1 and read through verse 7 in just a moment. I invite you to stand with me today while we read the word of God and then I want to lead us as we pray together this morning. We are on our feet and thinking of our theme word for the first few weeks. Next Sunday we will finish this new series of messages around this word together. Unified together in Christ. We are to be together as all believers. All churches that name the name of Christ come together but then all of the believers at Olive need to come together. Jesus prayed for that in John's gospel. He said, "Lord, I pray, let them be made one, one together."

Well Paul is speaking of that in Colossians 2, verses 1 through 8 when he talks about our unity, our togetherness in Christ. He uses the word knit together, to be knit together. We'll see it in the text today. Let's read and then let's pray together. Colossians 2, verse 1, you listen now as we read because this is God's inerrant word.

For I want you to know how great a struggle I have on your behalf and for those who are at Laodicea, and for all those who have not personally seen my face [now Paul's in jail when he writes this], that their hearts may be encouraged, having been knit together in love, and attaining to all the wealth that comes from the full assurance of understanding, resulting in a true knowledge of God's mystery, that is, Christ Himself, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. I say this so that no one will delude you with persuasive argument. For even though I am absent in body, nevertheless I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good discipline and the stability of your faith in Christ. Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude.¹

Knit together in love. When we pray, we need our spirits to unite in prayer together. When someone prays aloud, you pray in your heart. Join me.

Father, I approach Your throne of grace with humility and yet with boldness today because You have admonished us to do so and I bring the needs of this congregation, those some of which I know, many that I do not. We lay them at your feet. I think today of Mary Grant. I pray for she and Otha today as she deals with cancer. I think of Helen Hawk, so faithful for so long and now not able to be here. Encourage her today. Lord, there are scores of others just like them, many of them that are watching this broadcast even now. Lord, on the other end of the spectrum I pray for the Rowland twins. I also pray Lord for little Dax Tyner and those other children that have needs out of our family today like Grit. I pray, Father, your healing mercy and help to be on them as well as parents. Then, Lord, for those that I know but I just should not name because of

¹ Scripture quotations taken from the New American Standard Bible®, Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission.

personal items and I pray, Lord – You know those needs, meet them. Father, I pray You'd unite this church in love and I want to thank You for over 120 years of unity, solidarity, of oneness together. Thank You, Lord, that no problem precipitated this series but that together we are and we work it staying that way. Now, Lord, across this vast audience this morning, I thank You for the many that know You but, Lord, there stands some among us that are unredeemed, that are lost, not Christians. I pray that, God, you would sweep them in the kingdom today, that they would believe and by faith be saved this very day before we leave this house. Lord, glorify Yourself among us and, Holy Spirit of God, teach us. Use, Lord, Your preacher and help us understand Your truth. And all the people of God together said, "Amen, praise the Lord, and Hallelujah."

Thank you and you be seated. Paul writing from that jail says, "We are knit together." To be knit is to take different threads and weave them together to make one. I've had many of you that have come to me and said today you liked my tie. Several people did. Not everybody but several. It's got blue and purple and brown and gold and yellow. All of those different colors were put together somewhere and they weave those together to make that tie. The same thing with a piece of clothing that we have. Those threads come together and become one garment. And so it is in the church. Various threads come together. God brings us together and He weaves us by His Spirit together and we become His garment of praise. Amen. The garment of holiness. We become that that the Lord would make us, knit together in compassion and love and charity. He tells us we are one.

What makes us one? What is that instrument that we put the threads on that makes us one as we weave together, that loom? Well the loom is Christ. In Christ together we are the Christ church connected. Thus, the title of this message, the Christ Connection. He is the one who connects all of us that come to Him to make us one. Though we all be different, we are one together. We are one church here. We are various churches across our area but yet one together if we name the name of Christ.

So how is it that Jesus unites us? Well I've given you a listening outline there and you'll see that there are three things about Christ that I want to weave together if you will this morning to see our oneness in Him.

Number one is what this text calls and I have stolen from it the mystery, the mystery, the *mysterion* of Christ. That is the first thing that unites us. The mystery of Jesus. Notice it in verse 2: *that their hearts may be encouraged, having been knit together in love, and attaining to all the wealth that comes from the full assurance of understanding, resulting in a true knowledge of God's mystery, that is, Christ Himself, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.* Wisdom and knowledge are in Christ and that is the *mysterion*. Now here's the mystery. God, up there, out there, God lives in you. Now, friend, that's a mystery. How'd God get in you? I wouldn't want in there. The mystery is Christ in you, the hope of glory. The mystery.

You see, what unites us is not the way we act. It's not our Baptist faith and message. What unites us in Christ in you, in you, in you, in you, in you, in you, in you together. It's the mystery. Now you are a trichotomous being. Hang on with me now. Tri, three. You are flesh. You are body. We see that part. We get a splinter in our finger and we hurt, we cut. We know you get a blister on your foot. That's your body. Also you are soulish. You go to college, you'll study psychology. *Psyche*, soul. That's your mind, your will, your emotion. It's what you think. It's how you feel. It's how you choose. It's your psyche. You deal with the psychology of the personality. But then you are spirit. Your dog has a psyche, a mind, will, and emotion.

I love the little funny going around on Facebook that says, "If you don't believe your wife and your dog have things in common, just lock them both in the trunk of your car and when you open it, see which one jumps on you and licks you in the face." They respond differently out of their psyche. That dog's going to lick you. That woman's coming out of there with a tire tool, alright? I'm telling you. But they're going to respond. Their spirit, the spirit side, now that's where God deals with us.

Now you've got your Bible open to Colossians 2. Just drop down to verse 13. I want to show you seven quick things, what God does when you become a believer. You've got to understand these things. Look at it. Verse 13. When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your heart. Number one, you were dead in sin in your transgression. Everyone is born dead in sin. That doesn't mean you can't have a mind, will, and emotion. It doesn't mean you don't think and choose, you don't feel. You do all of that. When Adam and Eve fell in the garden with the fall of man, they were dead in their sin and yet they thought and they felt, they chose. God came walking and they hid themselves. They were dead spiritually but they knew they should hide and hide they did.

Friend, you can't save yourself because in your spirit you are dead. You're a dead man in your spirit life. Notice secondly he goes on to say: He made you alive together with Him. The second thing is that when you get saved God raises you from spiritual death to eternal life. In your spirit, not your mind, your will, your emotion, not in your body but in your spirit, God saves you. He reaches and you've believed and God does a miracle, a mysterious miracle when God from the outside moves to the inside and you are converted. You are changed. You are born again. You are birthed anew. You're redeemed. You're regenerate. You're made new in Christ.

In verse 13 he goes on to say: Having forgiven all your transgressions. Now in the Greek New Testament that word means all. Every sin. Aren't you glad God dealt with it all? I keep thinking, you know, He saved all but I've got this one deal over here that – no, no, no. The mystery is He forgives it all. Now there's a sanctification process but I'm telling you, everything is under Christ when He raises you from the dead. You are forgiven of all. I want to let you in on a little secret. You're not only forgiven of everything you have done and you are doing, I'm telling you, you're already forgiven of everything you're going to do because grace doesn't just reach back and reach down. I'm telling you, it reaches forward.

Now there is a line out there I believe that you can cross. God'll kill your body to save your soul. There's some people that go to an early grave. I believe with all my heart I know two people in this church that God took early. I did their funerals. Just in my discerning spirit I believe God took them before their time but that's God's grace. He forgives us all.

Look at number four. Move into verse 14. Having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us. Did you know you've got decrees against you? You did some stuff and it's written down. I'm telling you, there are decrees for you. There's a document and all your stuff's written on here. You did A, B, C, D and then for some of you, you've got to turn the page over. Then for others you get another page and turn it over. All your sins are written. There's a decree against you. Have you ever had a traffic ticket that you had to go to court to pay? I've had one of those. Most traffic tickets I ever had, you could just mail it in but if you get to a certain speed you've got to show up. I had one of those in college. I walked up to the judge and this is what the bailiff said, "The State of Alabama vs. Ted Traylor." I'm just telling you in Jesus' name, those are bad odds right there. That judge looked down over those little half glasses. Do they give those out in judge school? Do all of them get that? They look at you over here and then he looks at that and he says, "Mr. Traylor, were you going 92 in a 55?" I said, "Yes, sir, I was." He had a decree against me.

Now if my daddy had known that judge then maybe he could have spoken to him and the judge would have kind of turned his back. They'll say, "Oh well, we'll forgive this time." My daddy didn't know anybody like that. So they told me to see the clerk and pay the bill before I left. Friend, you've got a sin ticket against you. Everybody in this room's got a decree against you and it's a sin ticket and it'll send you straight to hell if it's not dealt with and you cannot pay it yourself. But what did he say in this text that He did? Verse 14. "I have canceled out the certificate." I'm telling you, friend, when Jesus went to the cross, He took your sin debt, your certificate and He tore it up and He said, "It's gone and forgiven forever and ever and ever and ever." That's what Jesus did for you. You have a certificate and it'll send you to hell if you don't let Jesus deal with it but Jesus canceled it. Your name's written in the Lamb's book of life.

Then he goes on and he says, "He took it and He nailed it to the cross." He took your sin, made it like He did it. You don't have to die for your sin. Jesus died for your sin. It's called the substitutionary atonement and nailed it to the cross. Then it says in verse 15: *When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.* There are two things in that text. The King James uses the word blotted out. He blotted out your sin. That is He disarmed them and then He stripped the demons of all power so they can no longer say to you, "Yeah, but you did this." They'll come sit on your shoulder and say, "You're not really saved."

You see, ink in the first century did not have an acidic component to it and the ink sat on top of the paper until it dried but you could wipe it away with a substance. Now

ink today has an acidic content to it and ink will seep into the paper and you can rub it and it'll just stay in there. It'll smear but you can't blot it out.

In the first century Paul's using this illustration that you can wipe the slate clean. I'm telling you, that's what Jesus' blood did for you. He wipes your slate clean. You cannot do it for yourself but if you'll turn to Him, He'll blot out your sin debt and He disarms all the rulers that try to come against you.

I want to ask a question today. The first thing that unites us is the mystery. It's the mystery. Man, how do you get your sin forgiven? It's through the blood of the Lord Jesus. It's through the death of Christ. He disarms. He dismisses. He cancels. He blots out. He redeems. He takes a person that's dead in sin and raises them to eternal life. Does that ever happen for you? Friend, if that's never happened for you, you ought to run – no, you shouldn't run. You ought to right there where you sit, you ought to just in your spirit say, "O God, save me." If you're wanting Him to and God's calling you, if you'll call on His name, the Bible says, "Whosoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved."

The mystery, that that ties us together, everybody in this room who has the mystery of Christ living in you. The God of the universe who created you now lives in you raising you from the dead. That unites us. There is the mystery of Christ. Secondly though there is the mind of Christ. Not only does the mystery of Christ unite us but then the mind of Christ. Look at it if you would in verses 4 and 5. He said: *I say this so that no one will delude you with persuasive argument. For even though I am absent in body, nevertheless I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good discipline and the stability of your faith in Christ.*

After you get saved there will be persuasive arguments coming against you. All of our teenagers that are going to D-NOW, we try to equip them. We want to help them because I'm telling you, when you get out of here and you get off to college or you go somewhere, there's going to be people that will come against you with persuading arguments. You're going to be taught in this church all your life that God made you and you're going to get off somewhere to college and there's going to be a half infidel professor that's going to tell you that's not true what they taught you at Olive Baptist Church or wherever you went that it's not true, that you evolved out of a primordial suit from a big bang through an ape that made you what you are. That's what they're going to tell you. There are going to be other persuasive arguments. They're going to tell you that the sins of your fathers and your mothers, you can't help being what you are because your mom and daddy did this to you and you can never change. There's a Greek word for that. It's called bologna. I'm telling you, God can break the chain. He breaks the power of canceled sin and sets the prisoner free. Hallelujah.

These persuasive arguments will come. There'll be a worldview. As a Christian, you have to decide what kind of worldview you're going to have and there are really only two of them. You can slice and dice these things a thousand ways but there are two basic worldviews. One worldview says that God is central to everything and everything

in your life revolves around God the creator and that He knows more than you know. Isaiah 66:2 says that God is looking for people like this. God is looking and He will show Himself to people who are humble and contrite of spirit and who tremble at His law. He'll show Himself to you.

On the other side there are people who believe that everything in this world revolves around man, that man can figure anything out. There is an atheistic socialism that's being raised in our culture even today. It's in the election. It's going on. We've heard the word – last week I heard the word socialist and evangelical on television more than I've ever heard it. I heard the word socialist, socialist, socialist, that is that society can solve its own problems.

Let me tell you, friend, the reason we're in the mess we're in is because society is trying to solve its own problems. Then we talk about the evangelical vote. I wish they would discuss the evangelical. I said last week tongue in cheek, "That would be a good news story right there because the *euangelion* is the good news. Therefore, you have to discuss the good news but nobody wants to talk about the good news." They just want church folk to vote. There is this mindset of an atheistic, socialistic worldview that man can solve all of his problems and he doesn't need God.

Now you have to get in one of those two worldview universes. Paul's dealing with it in Colossians because the Christians are dealing with a worldview that is all about man and they are putting together manmade religion with their Christianity. It's a syncretism. It's synergy. They brought three things together. Number one was Jewish legalism. He points it out down in verse 16. He talks about people judging you by the food you drink and respective festivals, new moons or Sabbaths. It goes on in verse 17 to say those things are merely shadows. It's the substance that is Christ.

People will judge you out of what you eat and what day you go to church. We've got Sabbath worshippers that'll tell you if you don't go on Saturday you're going to hell. They tell you if you eat pork you'll kill yourself and kill your testimony and you don't even know God. I want to just go on record. I ate a quarter pound of bacon last night for dinner. My wife said, "What are we going to have?" I said, "Why don't we have breakfast?" She said, "Okay, what do you want?" I said, "I want bacon." So we had eggs and bacon and toast and honey and fruit and after we got done I went in and ate the rest of the bacon that was on the deal. You see, in the book of Acts when Paul said he saw that sheet coming down and everything God had dealt with in redemption, now everything was – there was a pig in that blanket. Amen. Pig in a blanket. You got it, didn't you?

Now don't let people come with those persuasive words and tell you, "You know, everything old Ted Traylor's been telling ya'll down there that Sunday's the day He rose up, but you really ought to go on Saturday." Don't let that legalism creep back in your life. They brought in this Jewish legalism. They brought in Greek philosophy.

All my students be very careful. You're going to get off to philosophy class and some old boy with a goatee, he's going to have big words and an empty heart and a full head. He's going to look real smart but he wouldn't know God if he met Him in a 40-acre field. He's going to challenge you philosophically. You'll go eat it up. You're going to walk back into Olive and say, "My preacher's stupid. He doesn't know anything. He teaches that sophomoric stuff. He ought to get intellectual." Go down that road. When your baby's dying, call your Greek professor. When your momma's holding your hand, about to slip off into eternity, call your philosopher. What do you want to know? You want to know, is there a heaven and is it real and how can I know I'm going there?

They brought Jewish legalism, Greek philosophy, and oriental mysticism and they put it all together. You say, "What's that got to do with us?" Everything. We're dealing with it right now. We're dealing with manmade religion in Pensacola. It's called Mardi Gras. Now I'm not against going to the parade and having fun but now be very careful. The word Mardi Gras means Fat Tuesday, Shrove Tuesday. What's the mean? That comes right before Ash Wednesday and 40 days of Lent. People in Pensacola all the time ask me, "Preacher, what are you giving up for Lent?" I say, "Not a blame thing." Up for Lent? What is that? Where is that in this book?

Friend, God didn't ask you to give up something one day. He calls lordship 365 days a year. You don't get some opt out at Mardi Gras where you can get drunk and act like a swine and then go to church and get your sins forgiven. That's the Baptists that live like hell eleven months out of the year and come in August and have a revival and come and cry at the altar and ask God to forgive them and go back and live like hell eleven more months. That's like the Baptists that get drunk on Friday and Saturday night and then come crying to church on Sunday and go back and live like hell the rest of the week.

Let me tell you, at my house lint is something you find in a dryer and in your belly button. There ain't nothing in the Bible about Lent. You don't give up nothing for Lent. You get right with God and live for Christ 24/7/365 days a year. He calls you to give it up, give it up. Fat Tuesday. Lord God, help us. Why is everybody wearing a mask when they go to Mardi Gras? Because they don't want you to know who they are.

There'll be all kinds of persuasive arguments. Friend, what you've got to do is come to the worldview that God is at the center with Christ and your life revolves around Him. Your life does not revolve around you. It's the mind of Jesus. It's the right thinking. You see, what you need comes from outside of you, not in you. What you need is redemption. That comes from Christ in you. What you need is revelation from God's word that comes out, from outside of you into you. It's redemption. It's revelation and God brings it in you. It's not something that's conjured up within you. It's on the outside coming in. That's the mystery. The mind of Christ. Think like Jesus. Be disciplined and steadfast in Christ, he says in this text. You say, "Oh, I'm so glad to hear." He said, "I'm not there in the body. I'm absent but I'm with you in spirit." A lot of you like that verse. A lot of Baptists love that verse. They say, "You know, preacher, I don't come on Sunday night. I'm absent in body but I'm with you in spirit." Well that

only works if you're in jail. That's where Paul was is in jail. Absent physically but he said, "My spirit's with you and I'm bearing witness that you have deep discipline steadfastness in Christ." Hallelujah.

There's the mystery of Christ. It unites us. There's the mind of Christ. It unites us. Then lastly and very quickly, there's the ministry. The ministry of Christ unites us. It's found in verses 6 and 7. *Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing [overflowing, overflowing] with gratitude.*

Hallelujah. Walk in Him. The word there is rooted. There's a root system. You're rooted in Christ. It's like a tree. Now the fruit of the tree is the ministry that God puts in you. Then he says you're being built up. That's the foundation of a building and now you're stacking on top of that. You're rooted in Christ, you're built up in Christ and now the ministry overflows. Out of everything God's done for you there is an overflowing gratitude and because of what God has done for you, now we all minister together.

There are three things that everybody that's a member of this church ought to be doing. Now everybody can't preach, everybody can't teach, everybody can't be an usher, everybody can't sing in the choir, nor should they. Not everyone can play in the orchestra. Not everyone can teach a youth group. Not everybody can drive the bus. There are many things that we do here that you can get involved in but there are three things that everyone should and could be involved in at Olive Baptist Church.

Number one. This overflowing gratitude of the ministry of Christ is evangelism. Everyone in this room can be an evangelist. You can be a witness. You can be a teller of the gospel. We'll help you, we'll train you, but most of you don't need to be trained. You just tell your story. You know the scriptures and you tell others and you bring them to Christ. Secondly, not only are we involved in evangelism. Secondly, we are involved in making disciples. Making disciples is building people up. That doesn't mean you have to teach a class but everybody in here can meet with a couple of other folks at Starbucks or some place to get coffee or go wherever you want to go or meet on Wednesday night in a side room or at your house or sometime together and you're pouring in these other people what God's pouring in you. Friend, nobody has to elect you to do that. Nobody has to assign you a room to do that. You just pour it into other people. If you're a parent, you pour it in your children. If you're married, you pour it in your spouse.

I love what J.T. Young, he's our deacon chairman – we have our deacons. They're divided into three's. We have three of them on call. He's asked them just to meet together and make that a discipleship gathering. We had three guys on call this morning. You see their names right there in the worship guide. They're supposed to be getting together and just praying and encouraging one another. It's a great tip. I'm grateful our chairman came up with it. I wish it'd been my idea. I'd take credit. It's a

wonderful way. Just three deacons. I mean, who would think that deacons would get together and pray? Oh man.

Everybody can evangelize. Everyone can make disciples. Thirdly, everyone can pray and serve. Pray and serve. Anybody can pray, pray and serve. Who have you prayed for this week? I want to share with you that there is a new trench being dug in my life of prayer. I've tried to always pray but I've got a new place to pray and I'm spending a little more time. You cannot imagine the number of people who ask me to pray for them. I get several texts every day, messages on Facebook, I get notes and calls at the office. "Pastor, pray for me." In the first service people come by, "Please pray for me." I'm not telling you to quit.

I'm just telling you that sometimes gets overwhelming to me and if I don't jot those down – but I'm finding myself now just saying, "Okay, let's just slow down. Lord, just bring to my memory who I need to pray for today." Some of them I remember. Some I've jotted down and I keep in a book but God's digging a new depth in my life. Nobody's elected me to do that. I don't do it because I'm a pastor, it's because I'm a Christ follower. That's why I pray. God's bringing a new depth and I find that the people I pray for then I want to minister to in a greater way. It makes me want to touch. There are some things you can't fix but it makes me want to involve with them. I'm telling you, everyone in here that's saved can pray. Everybody. It's the overflowing of gratitude when we bring – that's the great ministry is evangelism and making disciples, praying, and serving. We bring those things. Can you imagine if everyone in this church were evangelizing and making disciples, praying and serving? It's that that melts us together. It's what knits us together.

So I'm walking down. I say, "Hey, Stan, I'm praying for this guy." He's been praying for that guy and we're connected with that. I look and I say, "Coach, you know, we've got this guy here." We've been talking and praying for him and it knits us together. It's what brings the church together. It's not fellowship supper that keeps us together. It's not having a fellowship hall that makes you have a fellowship. Thank God because we don't even have one. We have a gym sort of kind of but, you know, it's not wrong to have one. I'm just telling you, just because you get in the same room this like together doesn't mean you're one. It means you're in one room. It doesn't mean you're in one accord but it's the mystery and the mind and the ministry of the Lord Jesus that melts us and knits us together. He's called us to be just that.

So I've been praying. I'm driving down the road in Birmingham on a retreat Friday night and my phone rings at 9:00. It's a man I've been praying for and I see his name on my phone and I think, well, is this good news or bad news? So I just answered. I called his name and I said, "Hello, give me some good news." And there's weeping. Now there's good weeping and there's bad weeping. There's weeping when you bury your mother and there's weeping when your first baby's born. This was baby being born weeping. It was good news but it wasn't about new birth it was about an 80-year-old man being well that we'd been praying for. He said, "Pastor, I can't tell you, I just bless you, thank you for praying. Please tell Olive thank you and for all the people

that prayed. Thank you.” I said, “Good, we’ll talk later.” He started crying again. He said, “Did I tell you I just want to say thank you for your praying?” He said, “I don’t know what’s going to happen here but God’s been so good.”

This guy doesn’t even believe but because we prayed and then we went and we touched, it’s ministry and it melts us together and I don’t get any credit because I can’t do any of that. You’re just revolving around the one who brings in redemption and brings in revelation. Your worldview is you can’t but God can and your life revolves around Him. It’s called ministry. The Bible says that pastors and teachers are supposed to equip the saints. If you’re a saint say, “I am.” My job is to equip you for the work of the ministry. If we ever get over letting the preacher do it all and tell him to quit doing anything and let us do it all, we’re going to do something because I’m going to kick in and do my part but my job’s to equip you to do the praying and the disciple making and evangelism and the ministry. When Jesus is real in your heart and He’s raised you from the dead you’re telling others what God’s done for you. It’s not rocket science. It’s not even Greek philosophy. It’s Bible Christianity. You’re following after Jesus.

Okay, I’m not sure. I’ve been really torn in my heart how to give an invitation in this service. I wasn’t in the other one but I’m really torn right here. Here’s what I want to do. Jon, come a running. We’re going to sing “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name.” We’re going to go across the aisle. We’re going to join hands and we’re going to sing that song. After we sing it, I’m going to go back here in the foyer for the invitation and I need Coach to go with me. I need some encouragers. If today you’d like to trust Jesus, I’m going to meet you out in the foyer today. If you want to join this church, I want you to meet me out in the foyer today. Just come take my hand and say, “Pastor, today’s my day. I want to trust Him. I’m ready to be saved. I’m ready to ask the Lord to move into my heart and forgive my sin. I’m here. I’ve been saved but not baptized like these folks.”

Hey, Jon, it’s a Bible day. Hallelujah. Our goal is always to baptize seven people or more every week. We had eight today. Hallelujah. So that’s good. You know, the Bible says, “God added daily to the church,” and so we’re always praying, “God, give us 365 or more.” So we had a biblical baptism today and we got a service to go yet tonight. Maybe you ought to be baptized. You come and see me right out there. If you want to move your membership then come see me right out there today and take me by the hand. That’s what I want to do. If you’ve never called on the name of the Lord – and there’s some lost people in here that ought to get saved. You say, “Preacher, how do you know that?” Because I’ve talked to some of them and they’re lost and they’ve come today. Hallelujah. I love it when people come that we’ve been trying to win. Some of ya’ll are here. Maybe today’s your day. I don’t know but I do know this. Today’s the day of salvation. It’s the day the Lord’s made and He’ll save you if you call on Him.