



The Planter

"The seed is the word of God", Luke 8:11



P.O. Box 429 • 2070 Old Highway 27 • Trion, GA 30753 • 706.734.2722 • pleasantgrovecoc.org

To Truly Live

The bumper sticker read, "He Died for Me, So I Will Live for Him." I began to wonder how people understand this idea of being alive for and in Christ. It is a Biblical truth, after all. Ephesians 2:4-5 states rather directly, "God...made us alive together with Christ Jesus." What does it mean, though, to be alive in Christ?

For starters, "alive with Christ" is a spiritual reality. Having our soul revived to life is something you cannot perceive with your senses. You do not feel God's grace placed upon you. You will never see the stain, guilt, and condemnation from our sins wash away in the waters of baptism. Yet we know the event has happened because by faith we trust that God has done what He promised He would do when we obeyed. The ensuing result is that we will be raised with Him in the last day to exist in heaven for all eternity. Infinite life will be ours because we have been made alive with Jesus.

However, it is equally important that we realize being "alive with Christ" is not solely a spiritual event, but involves a physical dimension as well. Despite what many people want to believe, our actions (and inactions) play a large part in defining who we are. In Ephesians 2:3, Paul describes the actions which characterized and defined us as spiritually dead, saying, "...we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind,

and were by nature children of wrath." Being "alive" demands that the physical actions demonstrate just the opposite of being "dead." Romans 6:13 instructs, "Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness."

The apostle adds in Romans 12:1, "to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship."

When God gave life to our souls through the blood of Jesus, that spiritual event was the gateway to a new life in both intangible and tangible ways. By faith we trust that sin's effects are removed, resulting in a pardon from eternal condemnation. Through that same faith, though, we have been given a chance to submit ourselves to the pattern of living that God demands of those who have been brought back to life. We can submit, physically, to the actions that define us as being HIS child. Put the two together and we will begin to understand what it means to truly live.

April 20, 2025

Children At Heart

Sunday Morning

Opening Prayer Justin Glaze

Closing Prayer Joey Jones

Scripture Reading Jerry Reaves

Sunday Evening

Opening Prayer Eldon Alexander

Closing Prayer Jeff Duncan

Remember in prayer:

Marlene and Ray Williams will both be seeing doctors soon regarding their health issues. Please keep them in your prayers.

Joey Jones continues to have back problems and will be seeing a surgeon soon.

Remember in prayer the family **Diane Sentell**

(former member of P.G.) who passed away.

Visitation will be Tuesday evening at Lane Funeral Home in Rossville from 5:00 to 8:00 pm.

Larry Jones, Liz Jones, Heidi Street, Don Duncan, Randall Glaze, Joe Chambers, Bill and Billie Nolen, Carrie Price, Stefan Hoglund, Tammy Henderson.

Oak View Nursing Home: Betty Floyd, Jane York.

Brothers Keepers Group Two will meet following services tonight.

Ladies Day is this Saturday, April 26; Registration begins at 9:15 am.

Youth Day May 3rd at 4:00 pm with **Jayse Pruitt** speaking.

Record for the week of April 13, 2024

10 am	1 pm	5 pm	Wed	Contribution
72	60	58	80	\$3469.00

Weekly Assemblies

Sunday:

Morning Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study: 11:00 a.m.

Evening Worship: 5:00 p.m.

First Sunday 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

Pat Roberts is a former U.S. Senator and former Marine captain. Behind the dry, stoic demeanor, Pat Roberts seems to have a softer, childish side. Several years ago, he was in the middle of an (*cough cough*) extremely exciting and invigorating Senate Finance Committee hearing on U.S. tariff policy. As this riveting discussion was taking place, Pat Roberts' cell phone began to sound. His ringtone wasn't the national anthem, or some famous battle march song. The ringtone that filled the room was none other than the famous Frozen song, "Let It Go" (Yahoo).

There is no telling what drove Roberts to have such a ringtone, but it's funny, nonetheless. I don't know much about Roberts' beliefs, morals, or political stance, but he seems to be a child at heart, at least a little bit. Interestingly, this is something Scripture also asks us to do.

"At that time the disciples came to Jesus and said, 'Who then is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?' And He called a child to Himself and set him before them, and said, 'Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever then humbles himself as this child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven'" (Matthew 18:1-4).

While Christ isn't saying to be immature and ignorant, He is calling on us to take on the positive characteristics of a child. We are to be pure and innocent. We are also to be "converted," which carries the idea of being willing to submit to a higher authority. This willingness to become like children, even though we are adults, is something that takes "humility." These great childlike characteristics are essential for a person to gain access into "the kingdom of heaven."

Let's continue to grow and mature as Christians (Ephesians 4:14-16) but remember to keep those pure and enduring childlike qualities as well.

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Elders:

Steve Fletcher, Hugh Glaze, Dan Logan, Tim York

Deacons: Justin Glaze, Carter Logan, Adam Morgan, Jerry Reaves

Minister: Hugh Glaze

Song Leader: Adam Morgan