

# COLLINSVILLE-TROY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Focus on God's Word Find the Truth Follow the Lord



Sunday Worship Assembly 9:30 AM  
Sunday Bible Classes (All Ages) 10:30 AM  
Wednesday Adult Bible Class 1:30 PM  
Wednesday Bible Classes (All Ages) 7:00 PM



## The Correspondent

Vol. 52 No. 30

For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth  
1 Thessalonians 1:8

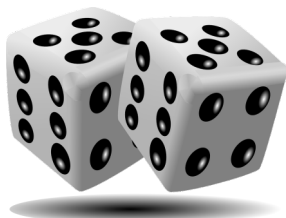
July 28, 2024

### Chance or Opportunity

- Joe Slater

**D**oes God give you chances, or does He provide opportunities? We sometimes treat those words as synonyms, but their meanings are quite different! Chance indicates something random, uncertain, even accidental – a roll of the dice, as it were. You have no way to influence the outcome.

Opportunity, by contrast, implies that you play a role in choosing a course of action. You may choose wisely or foolishly, but it remains your choice. It is neither random nor accidental.



Some things do, indeed, happen by chance. Solomon wrote by inspiration, “Time and chance happen to them all” (Ecclesiastes 9:11). Sometimes our plans don’t work out no matter what we do. We didn’t plan to become ill or be laid off from work, but it happened. Such is life.

But not everything is subject to chance. God can and does provide opportunities. Paul urged the Galatians to “do good to all” as they had opportunity (Galatians 6:10). He understood when material support from the church at Philippi was delayed: “You surely did care, but you lacked opportunity” (Philippians 4:10).

Our salvation depends not on chance, but on how we use the opportunity God has provided in Christ. Acts 14:27 refers to it as God opening “the door of faith.” As one chooses whether to walk through an open door, so we choose whether to trust Jesus and obey His gospel. This is neither random nor accidental.

Your eternal destiny depends not on chance, but on what you choose to do with the opportunities God has given to you.

- Joe Slater serves as minister of the Church of Christ in Justin, TX.

-Article obtained from [www.bulletingold.com](http://www.bulletingold.com)

**2024 Theme:**

*The Gospel Is for All*

#### Connections



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[collinsville-troycoc.org](http://collinsville-troycoc.org)



*Congratulations on Your*  
**GRADUATION**

**Meet & Greet Potluck**

**August 4, 2024**

The Correspondent is a weekly publication of the  
COLLINSVILLE-TROY CHURCH OF CHRIST. The church  
meets at 1400 Troy Road, Collinsville, Illinois 62234

## It's Quantity not Quality

### Matthew 22:1-14

- I. God Sends- v. 2-3
  - A. God sent the prophets, His Son, and the apostles- John 5:36-37, Luke 11:49, Matthew 10:16
  - B. Today, God sends us- Matthew 28:18-20, Ephesians 3:10, 1 Timothy 3:15
- II. God Does Not Give Up Easily- v. 4-7
  - A. He gave the people multiple opportunities- Matthew 10:5-6, 23:37, Romans 1:16
  - B. We must be persistent in our efforts- Acts 5:42, Matthew 7:6, 10:13-14
- III. God Invites All- v. 8-10
  - A. He then sent for all others- Acts 10:34-35, Ephesians 3:6
  - B. We must be impartial- James 2:4, 9, 1 Timothy 1:13, 15, Jonah 3:6-9
- IV. God Has Standards- v. 11-14
  - A. Not everyone will be accepted- Galatians 3:27, Matthew 7:13-14, 21-23, James 4:4
  - B. We must go to the many to find the few- John 3:16, 2 Peter 3:9, 1 Timothy 2:4

## Worship Service

### Announcements

Song: 501 O Worship the King

### Prayer

Song: 495 O the Depth and the Riches

### Lord's Supper and Contribution

Song: 732 We Praise Thee, O God (vs. 1, 2, 5)

Song: 200 Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah

Song: 523 Our God, He Is Alive (vs. 1, 2, 4)

**Scripture Reading:** Matthew 22:11-14

### Sermon

Song: 29 All to Jesus I Surrender

Song: 40 Be with Me, Lord (vs. 1)

### Prayer

## Matthew 22:11-14

N	C	A	L	L	E	D	K	G	K	I	N	G	R
D	K	W	C	C	H	C	N	N	S	S	W	N	F
W	W	W	H	A	C	S	O	I	Y	W	I	G	R
N	N	T	O	O	N	N	M	H	T	E	W	A	I
R	C	T	S	A	C	I	D	S	D	E	E	R	E
W	A	S	E	M	H	W	A	A	A	P	S	M	N
A	H	E	N	S	A	E	R	N	E	I	T	E	D
F	E	M	C	T	V	F	K	G	E	N	S	N	A
E	R	A	L	I	E	T	N	H	S	G	E	T	W
I	E	C	H	C	S	N	E	C	A	R	U	T	A
H	M	A	N	Y	E	R	S	E	E	N	G	E	Y
R	E	E	V	N	E	E	S	T	E	S	D	E	S
E	T	R	S	C	A	E	U	E	W	S	N	T	M
I	W	W	S	G	R	O	E	T	O	O	F	H	I

GNASHING  
GARMENT  
OUTER  
SEE  
WHO  
MANY  
FEW  
GUESTS  
HAND  
HERE  
AWAY  
SAW  
CAST  
DARKNESS  
HAVE  
WEEPING  
KING  
CAME  
FOOT  
TEETH  
CALLED  
CHOSEN  
FRIEND  
HIM

- 11 "But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment.
- 12 So he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless.
- 13 Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast *him* into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'
- 14 "For many are called, but few *are* chosen."

### Why Worship?

*But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. John 4:23*