

COLLINSVILLE-TROY CHURCH OF CHRIST

1400 Troy Road, Collinsville, Illinois 62234

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



Sunday Worship Assembly 9:30 AM
Sunday Bible Classes (All Ages) 11:00 AM
Wednesday Adult Bible Class 1:30 PM
Wednesday Bible Classes (All Ages) 7:00 PM



The Correspondent

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American Christianity

-Renn Ferguson

We live in a nation that was founded upon many Christian principles. We should be thankful to God that our Founding Fathers were mindful of the ethics put forth in scripture and used them as the groundwork for our country. This, of course, does not mean that all the Founding Fathers were morally upright men, or even truly believed that Jesus is the Son of God. Yet, because of what they did we have been blessed to live in a nation which has many godly ideas woven into its fabric. This, however, can lead to other issues. For example, some view Christianity as an “American” or “European” religion.

Recently, I watched a video wherein a man would go to college campuses and discuss the existence of God, the scriptures, and Jesus with any student who would speak to him. One very brave female student stood up and began to make comments to the effect that Christianity was a European religion that was designed to oppress women and those of African descent. From a historical standpoint, in one way, she is right. Christianity has been used to do those very things. However, she fails to see that is not the original intent or design of Christianity. In December of 2024 a man drove his truck down Bourbon Street in New Orleans killing around 14 people and injuring 37-57 others. No one would claim that vehicles were designed to harm people. That man corrupted their intent and used it for something wicked. Many have done the same with Christianity.

Fortunately for the college student, there was another student who, at least in some way, adhered to Christianity. This student was from Ethiopia. He quickly gave his peer a history lesson. He pointed out that Christianity found its way to Africa long before European colonization (Acts 8:26-39). Not only that, but Christianity has its origins in the Middle East. The Christian religion is not of American or European origin. In fact, it's true origin is not found on the map but in the mind and heart of God.

There is much more to say about how our American culture and ideals can impact our understanding and practice of Christianity. Some things are positive, others negative. Perhaps we can address those in a later article. For now, let us not forget that our primary allegiance should be to our God. To Him belongs heaven and earth and all that is in them (Deuteronomy 10:14).

Connections



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anchor.fm/renn-ferguson4



youtube.com/@CTCofC

collinsville-troycoc.org

March 30, 9:30 AM

Eldership

Presentation:

Edification

WHAT IS IT?
WHY?
WHEN?
FOR WHOM?
PURPOSE?
BENEFITS?

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

Edification

Jesus reminds us in Mark 13:34 that He left work to do for His servants. Evangelism, Benevolence, and Edification are the works of the church. Today, we will discuss Edification.

- Edification of the Church
 - ◊ Ephesians 4:11-16
 - ◊ The whole church in various roles works together to build one another up in love.
 - ◊ I Corinthians 12:12
 - ◊ Self-examination...If all the members of the church were like me, what kind of church would it be?
 - ◊ Edification Examples at Collinsville
- Edifying One Another
 - ◊ Romans 14:19
 - ◊ I Corinthians 10:23-25
 - ◊ Romans 15:1
 - ◊ I Thessalonians 5:11
 - ◊ How can edifying one another take place if we are not together?
 - ◊ Christians edify Christians.
 - ◊ Consider Acts 2:40-46
- How Does the Local Church Edify?
 - ◊ Assembling
 - ◆ Hebrews 10:25
 - ◆ Ephesians 5:19
 - ◆ Colossians 3:16
 - ◊ Teaching
 - ◆ Acts 20:32
 - ◆ Colossians 2:7
 - ◊ Our Speech
 - ◆ Ephesians 4:29

Notes:

Worship Service

Announcements

Song: 891 This Is the Day That the Lord Hath Made

Prayer

Song: 622 Tell Me the Story of Jesus (Vs. 3)

Lord's Supper and Contribution

Song: 404 Looking to thee (Vs. 1, 3)

Song: 825 I Love My Savior, Too (Vs. 1, 3)

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 4:11-16

Sermon

Song: I Am Resolved (Vs. 1, 2, 4)

Song: 890 The Family of God

Prayer

Ephesians 4:11-16 (NKJV)

- ¹¹ And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,
- ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,
- ¹³ till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;
- ¹⁴ that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,
- ¹⁵ but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head --- Christ ---
- ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

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