

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



Vol. 53 No. 21

The Correspondent

May 25, 2025

The 31st Day

-Jason Wright

Do you recall Daniel 6? Daniel has his faith challenged by a law King Darius put in place with the help of government officials who were envious of Daniel. The New Law...*whoever prays to any god or man for 30 days, except the king, will be thrown into a den of lions.*

What was Daniel's custom or practice when it came to prayer? According to verse 10, *Daniel prayed on his knees three times a day and gave thanks before his God.* The safest bet would have been to go into his closet to pray. Instead, he prayed *with his windows opened towards Jerusalem.*

Daniel's obedience to God soon got him thrown into the lion's den by a reluctant and sorrowful king. Man's jealousy for another man is as ugly as any sin and because of it, Daniel finds himself staring certain death in the face. We all know the rest of the story. Daniel is unharmed and *no injury was found on him.*

When we read God's commands in scripture, do we pick and choose the ones we will obey? Do we hand pick the ones that we are comfortable with and walk away from the others? Daniel is getting up in age at this point. The number of sunrises he had left were certainly numbered. Daniel could have waited until the **31st day** to resume his prayer life. That would have been the easy thing to do. In fact, to many, that would make the most sense. But what about you and me? What would we do?

Christianity is not about picking and choosing what we will obey and what we will ignore based on our comfort level. The church becomes weak when she decides what parts of God's will she will obey and which parts to ignore.

Jesus doesn't expect us to share His life-story; He demands it (Mt. 28:18-20/Mk. 16:15-16). Jesus told His disciples *to seek first the Kingdom* (His Church) *of God.* He also said, *If you love Me, keep My commandments* (Jn. 14:15). One such command that should get more attention today is the Go Ye and Teach, Baptize and Teach charge by Christ in Matthew 28 and Mark 16. As B.J. Clarke said, *we have become Keepers of the Aquarium rather than Fishers of Men.* (Continues on page 2)

Connections



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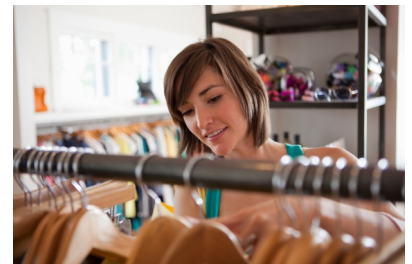


anchor.fm/renn-ferguson4



youtube.com/@CTCofC

collinsville-troycoc.org



Clothing Closet

Opens May 27

1:00 PM

To

3:00 PM

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

We Need Leaders

- In Our Homes
 - ◊ We all have a role- Ephesians 5:22-6:4, 1 Timothy 5:14
 - ◊ The result of poor leadership- Genesis 3:1-7, 27:1-46
- In Our Communities
 - ◊ We must not be influenced- Romans 12:1-2, 2 Corinthians 6:14
 - ◊ We must influence- Matthew 5:13-16, Galatians 5:22-23, Philippians 2:15, Ephesians 5:11, John 4:28-30, 39-42
- In Our Church
 - ◊ Lead by example- Philippians 3:17, 1 Timothy 4:12
 - ◊ Lead by teaching- Hebrews 5:11-14, 1 Corinthians 2:6-10
 - ◊ Lead as elders and deacons- Proverbs 11:14, Acts 20:28-30, Philippians 1:1

Notes:

Worship Service

Announcements

Song: 564 Savior, Like a Shepherd
Lead Us

Prayer

Song: 384 Lead Me to Calvary (Vs. 1-3)

Lord's Supper and Contribution

Song: 22 All the Way My Savior
Leads Me

Song: 761 Where He Leads, I'll Follow

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 4:11-14

Sermon

Song: 520 Only a Step

Song: 153 Footprints of Jesus (Vs. 1)

Prayer

Ephesians 4:11-14 (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,

The 31st Day... from page 1

The mission of the church has always been the same, simple plan taught by Christ...*Seek and Save That Which Was Lost!* Luke 19:10 The seed does no good without a sower. Imagine the farmer who has a barn full of seed; does not sow it, yet expects a harvest. That farmer would be placed in the looney bin. :-)

Daniel prayed just as he always did. He obeyed God's will and ignored the King's decree even though it could have cost him his life. On more than one occasion, God's messengers referred to Daniel as *greatly beloved*. Why? He was faithful to the commands of God. Therefore, he did not wait to pray until the **31st day**. Pray that we see a harvest of souls in 2025!

Thank you to my brother in Christ who gave me the idea for this article.

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