



# The Brighton Light

BRIGHTON ARP CHURCH

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**FEBRUARY 2014:** 'Walk In Love' "Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. And walk in love, as Christ also loved us, and gave Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling aroma." (Ephesians 5:1&2)

The Christian life, the Christian walk is far more than a moment in time. That moment when you received Jesus in your life is only the starting place of a life-long walk with God expressing His sovereign love to us as His children. However, the sad truth is far too many Christians have not gotten out of the infant stage, their faith has not grown nor matured. It is no wonder the Christian experience for many is boring and powerless.

The Apostle Paul tells us: "Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted and being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing in gratitude." (Colossians 2:6&7) This walk is God's wonderful working in the lives of His children as expressed in John 3:16. It was that great love which sent Jesus to the cross, to die a death which paved the way for God's plan to be carried out in our lives.

How did we receive Jesus, salvation? We received Him by faith. "For it is by grace through faith, not of yourselves, it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast." (Ephesians 2:8&9) As I have many times we come and become who we are as believers according to God's design, His measure, or we will find ourselves without hope and assurance for eternity in heaven. Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith. Proverbs 14:12 reminds us; "There is a way which seems right to man, but its end is the way of death." God's design brings life.

God's love, power and salvation are expressed clearly and completely in the Lord Jesus. This love conquers the crippling power of fear in a person's life who receives God's free gift. This love liberates the child of God. This love will never fail us. It will never let us down. This love is not primarily an emotional feeling, but first is God melting our cold hearts and giving us a new heart, a transformed heart.

Jesus tells us; "To love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. And the second is like the first, you shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend the whole law and prophets." (Matt. 22:37-40) Fulfilling these two commandments is what Paul means when he tells us to "to walk in love". All the directions for this walk of faith is completely found in the word of God, and experienced in one's life. Dig into God's word and discover for yourself this walk. God is very specific and only a child of His can take this walk. Satan does not want us to discover this, but desires to see us wandering around with no direction in our life. He wants us to harbor attitudes in our hearts which do not honor God and which will keep us from experiencing the fullness and transforming power of His love.

In the context of the passage, to "walk in love" means we are following a path which is undergirded by all that Jesus is and all He has accomplished. This is not a slippery path, but one in which we have a sure footing because of the truth of the gospel. As Jesus loved us and made the ultimate sacrifice, this same love pulses through our spirits, our very being. What we say we are as Christians must be more than words alone, but must go hand-in-hand with how we live. If this is not the case, our Christianity is empty and meaningless. But, rest assured, when the Holy Spirit gets hold of a life, He transforms it and a radical change takes place. The Holy Spirit will always be guiding us along this life long walk. Then we will indeed be "imitators of God as His dear children".

In His Love, Meredith.

## SERMON SCRIPTURE SELECTIONS FOR THE MONTH:

February 2	<b>2 Corinthians 5:14-21</b> "Being Reconciled to God"
February 9	<b>Ezekiel 11:13-25</b> "The Heart of God"
February 16	<b>Ephesians 3:1-20</b> "The Mystery of the Gospel"
February 23	<b>Romans 5:1-11</b> "Living the Triumphal Faith"



### SICK AND SHUT INS:

Bennett, Mary Frances	Locke, Mike
Boswell, Mike	London, Peggy
Bridges, Lucille	Lupinsky, Logan
Cavin, Meredith	McCain, Lisa
Culver, Anthony	McCain, Pat
Culver, Michael	Moncla, Luke
Curtis, Cooper	Moore, Martha Lou
Goulder, Bobbie	Moss, Charlie
Goulder, Gordon	Owen, Jerry
Goulder, Helen	Otis, Mike
Goulder, Keith	Patrick, Carolyn
Griffin, Melanie	Pugh, Kaleb
Hill, Dana	Rhodes, Geraldine
Hill, Joy	Kiphart, Laura
Hubbard, Kristi	Smith, Mary Frances
Huffman, Linda	Stitt, Sam
Legler, Don	Tyler, Jean
Lewis, Adam	Wells, Whit
Lineberger, Rachael	Winford, Sherry
Locke, Ann	Yarbro, Pam

**If you know of anyone who needs to be added or removed please let us know!**

### FLOWERS FOR THE MONTH

#### *Mary Steele Circle*

Feb. 2	Susan Cavin In Honor of Meredith Cavin
Feb. 16	Denise Moore In Honor of John, Stephanie, & Kaitlyn



### Wedding Anniversaries

February 14	Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bailey
February 14	Mr. and Mrs. Danny Hernandez
February 17	Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Glass
February 23	Mr. and Mrs. John Yarbro



### NURSERY ATTENDANTS

#### *February*

February 2	Vickie Hugues
February 9	Helen Woods
February 16	Robin Gravley
February 23	Stephanie Moore

### CHILDRENS SERMON – February

*February – Nick Goulder*

## February Menu



Feb 5 Sloppy Joes  
Feb 12 Mexican Night  
Feb 19 Chicken Pot Pie  
Feb 26 Family Night

Cost: \$3.00 person  
\$10.00 Family

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1	Christie Bridges	19	Billy Pugh
	Emil-Grace Tia White	20	Robert Bailey
9	Samantha Wells	23	Anna Hugues Sarah Cavin
10	Stacey Huffman	24	Shirley Kennedy Verlie Wells, IV
11	Cassie Cranford Wesli Whitmer	26	Blake Walker Christi Huffman Jean Chisolm
12	Charlotte Williams	28	Mallory Glass Robin Gravely
13	Sarah Huffman		
15	Gwen Goulder Joe Anne Alsbrook Swayne Huffman		
16	Chad Walker Norma Columbus		

## Upcoming Events

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you have any ideas or suggestions for the church website, please contact Chris Gravley, webmaster, at 901-674-3851 or e-mail at [chris\\_gravley@bellsouth.net](mailto:chris_gravley@bellsouth.net).

**THE DEACON OF THE MONTH** is Alton Woods. If you have any requests for the deacons, please contact Alton at 901-837-8950.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to **MR ROBERT CAVIN**. He was awarded the Most Improved award at BES. Congratulations Robert.

**BANQUET TIME:** The Mary Steele Circle Valentine Banquet will be held on Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 P.M. until 7:00 P.M. There will be a great meal, entertainment, door prizes, and a Sweetheart Shop. Donations will be accepted at the door. Please be sure to bring your friends and come out to enjoy this event.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Women's Ministry will be taking a trip to Bonclarken for the annual ARP Women's meeting on July 26-29, 2014. If you would like to attend, please let Margarette Alsbrook know by January 26.

**MVP COUNSELORS RETREAT:** The MVP Counselors Retreat has been set for Friday Evening Feb. 21 to Saturday Morning Feb. 22. This is a time for counselors to get together and plan for the camp during the summer. If you are interested in attending this please let Denise Moore know.

**PLEASE NOTE:** There will be a Worker's Council Meeting on Tuesday February 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall. This meeting is for all who are concerned about the Christian Education of our church.