



FIRST CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY

WELCOME to First Christian Assembly, an independent church whose mission is articulated by Jesus in Mark 16:15 when he said "...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature". Following this great commission, First Christian Assembly preaches and teaches the gospel of Jesus Christ. In so doing, we trust that God, working through His Holy Spirit will draw souls to salvation in Christ Jesus our Lord.

How Can I Change ?

Change can be one of the most stressful things in life, even when the change is desired. Human nature naturally resists it. Of course, we know that change is inevitable. We face change as we mature, as we age, and as we interact with the world. We also know that change, in the Christian life, is desirable. In fact, it is God's plan for us. He wants us to become more like Christ; 2 Cor 4:16 says, "Inwardly we are being renewed day by day." When we submit to God, good change happens.

So how do we overcome our resistance? **Perspective is key.** God's work of renewal in us has been compared to that of a refiner's fire (Malachi 3:2) and to a gardener's pruning shears (John 15:2). The process of refining or pruning tends to be unpleasant, so we resist. But the outcome of a refiner's fire is purified precious metal. The result of pruning is a more plentiful crop. If we trust that God is at work through changes and that His desire is to sanctify us, then we may more willingly submit.

However there are times when God is in the process of changing us that we don't clearly see the end result of these changes. It is in these times that Rom 8:28 becomes a firm foundation. We know that God is working all things according to His purpose, and we know that His purpose is always good. So we can trust that He is using even undesirable changes for our benefit. It may be that an illness will draw us closer to God or draw our family closer together. It may be that God has a new calling for a new season of life.

Change is going to happen. But there are ways that we can overcome our resistance and welcome change. Talking to God about our struggle is basic to a healthy perspective. The Psalms are a beautiful example of how honest we can be with God. We can let Him know of our trouble and share with Him our distaste for change. Then we should listen for His response. Expressing thankfulness is another good strategy. Once again, the Psalms provide excellent examples of what it means to be grateful in the midst of strife and discontent. When we praise God, we readjust our focus and remember that He is in control. He does not change, but He is there in the midst of our changes. He is up to something good.

Ministry Highlights

Announcements:

⇒ *Please see Gloria for details/location if you would like to attend the church picnic on Sept. 20.*

Missionaries: Binu John - India

Beloved:

Few young men chased one of our pastors while distributing Gospel tracts. Sensing the danger, the Pastor ran away for life. But these young men followed up with his phone number found in the tract and threatened him to stop the distribution that talk about Jesus.

Please pray for his protection as he continues to serve the Lord in that sensitive region. When I talked with the pastor yesterday, he also said, he is running out of Gospel tracts. Therefore I am praying to print **hundred thousand tracts** in October. We also plan a mass evangelism and outreach in November with the Ignite Bible Institute students. Therefore we need to get this tract ready by then.

Each tract will cost about 1cent. This one penny can change some one's life, as this Gospel pamphlet can further than a missionary can go. If you wish to join this venture, you can sponsor **100, 1000 or ten thousand tracts.**

100 tracts for \$1/- 1000 tracts just with \$10/ and ten thousand tracts with \$100/-

Sacrificial gifts can be mailed to **Care India Mission, PO Box 52294, Philadelphia, PA, 19115.**

God bless you. Love to hear from you.

Binu

(FCA) First Christian Assembly, 1900 S. 11th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148
 (PAC) Philadelphia Access Center, 1832 S. 11th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148

215-389-6721
 215-389-1985

The Philadelphia Access Center is a ministry of First Christian Assembly. Our mission is *revealing Christ through compassionate service*. Services available at PAC include social services information and referrals, biblical counseling, support groups, volunteer training, and community outreach. All services are free of charge and available to anyone. To learn more, visit us in person (across the street from FCA) or online at www.philaccess.org or www.facebook.com/philaccess.

WEEKLY SERVICES /MEETINGS

	FCA	PAC
Sunday	9:45 AM <i>Bible Study</i> 11:00 AM <i>Worship Service & Children's Sunday School</i>	
Monday		7:00 PM <i>Stepping Stones</i>
Tuesday	6:30 PM <i>Prayer (Sanctuary)</i> 7:00 PM <i>Worship (Sanctuary)</i>	
Wednesday	6:30 PM <i>Men's Fraternity (on hiatus)</i>	1:00 PM <i>Women at the Well</i> 1:00 PM <i>Coram Deo</i>
Thursday		6:00 PM <i>Prayer Service</i> 7:00 PM <i>Bible Study</i>
Friday		7:00 PM <i>Right Path</i>

- *Coram Deo*: A men's Bible study and Christian fellowship.
- *Right Path*: A Christ centered support and recovery group for people whose lives have been affected by drug and alcohol addiction. In a warm and friendly atmosphere, we provide loving support and fellowship; in genuine confidential sharing, coupled with a Biblical twelve step model of recovery.
- *Stepping Stones*: A Christ centered support group for men and women impacted by a loved one's addiction. In a warm and friendly atmosphere, we provide loving support, fellowship, confidential sharing, and intercessory prayer.
- *Women at the Well*: This group is Biblically based and promotes hope, healing, and fellowship for women impacted and struggling with brokenness.

Looking Ahead



- ❖ *A church picnic is being planned for Saturday September 20, 2014, 12 Noon to 5:00 PM. Details will follow. See Gloria if you are interested in attending.*
- ❖ *Movie night being planned*

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Ministries (present and future) at First Christian Assembly and the Philadelphia Access Center
- Christians around the world being persecuted for their faith.
- Our supported missionaries
- For our Pastor and his family.

