



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.

The DEITY of CHRIST

In addition to Jesus' specific claims about Himself, His disciples also acknowledged the deity of Christ. They claimed that Jesus had the right to forgive sins—something only God can do—as it is God who is offended by sin (Acts 5:31; Colossians 3:13; Psalm 130:4; Jeremiah 31:34). In close connection with this last claim, Jesus is also said to be the one who will "judge the living and the dead" (2 Timothy 4:1). Thomas cried out to Jesus, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28). Paul calls Jesus "great God and Savior" (Titus 2:13) and points out that prior to His incarnation Jesus existed in the "form of God" (Philippians 2:5-8). God the Father says regarding Jesus: "Your throne, O God, will last forever and ever" (Hebrews 1:8). John states that "in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word [Jesus] was God" (John 1:1). Examples of Scriptures that teach the deity of Christ are many (see Revelation 1:17, 2:8, 22:13; 1 Corinthians 10:4; 1 Peter 2:6-8; Psalm 18:2, 95:1; 1 Peter 5:4; Hebrews 13:20), but even one of these is enough to show that Christ was considered to be God by His followers.

Actions that can be accomplished only by God are credited to Jesus. Jesus not only raised the dead (John 5:21, 11:38-44) and forgave sins (Acts 5:31, 13:38), He created and sustains the universe (John 1:2; Colossians 1:16-17). This becomes even clearer when one considers YHWH said He was alone during creation (Isaiah 44:24). Further, Christ possesses attributes that only deity can have: eternity (John 8:58), omnipresence (Matthew 18:20, 28:20), omniscience (Matthew 16:21), and omnipotence (John 11:38-44).

In conclusion, Christ claimed He was YHWH, that He was deity (not just "a god" but the one true God); His followers (Jews who would have been terrified of idolatry) believed Him and referred to Him as God. Christ proved His claims to deity through miracles, including the world-altering resurrection. No other hypothesis can explain these facts. Yes, the deity of Christ is biblical.

Join us on Thursday evenings at 7:00PM (PAC conference room) as we continue our study of Jesus.

Ministry Highlights

Announcements:

- ***Men and Women's Fellowships – Monday, May 18 at 6:30 PM. The men will meet at FCA and the women will meet at Gloria Melloni's house. Please let Gloria Felicione and Dominic Cesari know if you will be attending.***

Missionaries

John & Joy Cutts, Indonesia

Brad, a surgeon, grew up in Chile and found himself quite at home: "Since I have known the Cutts I have been interested in seeing their work in West Papua. I jumped at the chance to go and am glad I did. The thing that struck me the most was how the Gospel has radically changed the lives of the Moni people...from Stone Age people with animistic beliefs to people who love Jesus. From battles to settle scores to worshipping in church. From complete isolation to exposure to the modern world and a chance to make some money and educate your children. John and Joy have worked tirelessly to not only bring the gospel to the Moni but to improve their life in many ways. I came away thanking God for his Sovereign plan in placing the Cutts family there."

Our Moni sister Alice had this to say. . . ."I was so happy to meet this team who came to do many things, pray for us, share about God and help us medically, too. My family was so grateful that this group came to visit our home area. I was blessed by their testimonies and the verses they shared. Bagu Au, (Ben, 6 foot 6 inch, who had been named Bagu Au, or 'essence of tall' in Moni) made all of us happy when he said we were all in the same family together and he was glad our tribe had accepted the Gospel.

Mark shared about Jesus crying, and I keep thinking about how much God cares for us and even cries for us. I know that God sent them to our villages.

(to be continued)

(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.



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.

This and That

From: Voice of the Martyrs

Apr. 10, 2015 | Pakistan: Pray for a VOM Partner, Attacked in His Home

On Feb. 19, a VOM partner in Pakistan was attacked in his home by armed men. The men forced their way into his home, beat one of his brothers and stole the family's belongings. Police later arrested seven men in connection with the attack. Two of the VOM partner's brothers are now providing food for some of the imprisoned attackers and are sharing the gospel with them.