



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.

ASHAMED?

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: 'The righteous will live by faith'" (Rom 1:16-17)

The word translated "ashamed" means "disgraced" or "personally humiliated." A person "ashamed" in this way is like someone singled out for misplacing his confidence—he trusted in something, and that something let him down. So, when Paul says that he is not ashamed of the gospel, he is saying his confidence in the gospel is not misplaced. There is no disgrace in declaring it. Paul had given his life to proclaiming the truths that Jesus Himself had revealed to him. He explained why he did not believe that he had wrongly identified with Jesus and why proclaiming Jesus' message was his life's work.

The application can extend to us as well. Just as Paul placed his confidence in the gospel of Christ, so can we. We can proclaim with boldness the truths that God has revealed in His Word, with no fear that our confidence is misplaced. **"Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame"** (Rom 10:11). We can rest in the knowledge that the Holy Spirit who inspired the writing of Scripture never changes (2 Peter 1:21; Malachi 3:6). What was true thousands of years ago is still true. The offer of salvation that was presented to people of the first century is still open to us.

To live unashamed of the gospel means we proclaim it, but it also means we apply it to our lives and show we believe it. Paul's life choices supported his message. He did not preach one thing and live another. We are **"ashamed of the gospel"** when we allow sin in our lives to go unchecked. When we indulge in worldliness and carnal desires or blatantly disobey scriptural standards, we indicate that we lack confidence in our own message (1 Cor 3:3; 1 Peter 2:11). When we **"walk in the counsel of the ungodly, stand in the path of sinners, and sit in the seat of scoffers"** (Psalm 1:1), we are being ashamed of the gospel. We are not allowing its truth to penetrate our lives so that others see its changing power. To live unashamed of the gospel means that we, like Paul, allow it to dominate our lives to the extent that everyone within our sphere of influence can see that we have **"been with Jesus"** (Acts 4:13).

Missionary Highlights

Binu John, India

Another highlight of our mission trip to Andhra Pradesh was blessing Pastor Srinu with a Motor Bike. He was using an old bicycle to travel with his wife and two daughters.

In my last trip, he asked me for a new bicycle, but the Lord provided him with a motor bike – beyond what he asked or imagined. Pastor Srinu and family are grateful for the bike that he can now speed up the Gospel. I thank Mr. Tracy for making it possible with his sacrificial gift of \$1000/-

Pastor Srinu is the director of Care India Mission for the state of Andhra Pradesh. He runs a tailoring school and a Bible Institute besides supervising pastors under him and pastoring a church by himself. Therefore he deserves a motor bike to commute to different villages often and to make things happen fast. Two more Pastors need a motor bike like this.

Update on New Opportunity:- I signed the lease on last Thursday for the new space in the ground floor. I needed to do it before someone else occupied it. Thanks to Marty and Lisa for helping \$700 for the sound proofing.

I need to reimburse the deposit I borrowed \$2300/- I will appreciate any size of your contribution to meet this urgent need. With your wholehearted support, we can together help to build His church in this pagan town.

If God willing, we will start the worship in the new space from the coming Sunday. Appreciate your prayers for safety too as we take this major step to lift a true living God in the midst of where many pagan god and goddess are glorified.

God bless you. As always I feel the covering of your love and prayers. Thank you so very much for your faithful support and continuous partnership. I love you and pray for you too. Blessings!

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 (PAC) Philadelphia Access Center, 1832 S. 11th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148

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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 (Fellowship area)</i>	
Wednesday	6:30 PM <i>Men's Fraternity (on a 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 (on a hiatus)</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
- Each other

Although believers by nature, are far from God, and children of wrath, even as others, yet it is amazing to think how nigh they are brought to him again by the blood of Jesus Christ.

--George Whitefield