



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.

Sowing and Reaping

The principle of "sowing and reaping" is common throughout the Bible, because it is something that humanity can relate to. The practice of working the ground to gain a harvest is nearly as old as humanity itself. Part of Adam's curse was that the ground would bring forth thorns and thistles in response to his work and that "by the sweat of your brow you will eat your food" (Gen 3:19). Adam understood the concept of "you reap what you sow" both literally and figuratively.

In the New Testament there are two main verses that help define this principle. One is 2 Cor 9:6, "Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously." The other is Gal 6:7, "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows." As a general principle, it is true that sowing leads to reaping. It's true in agriculture and it's true in life choices.

While there is the real spiritual principle at work that, if we sow bad things, we will reap bad things, there is also mercy. Graciously, we do not always reap what we sow. God reserves the right to show mercy on whomever He will, as He said to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion" (Rom 9:15). It is because of the mercy and compassion of God that we can have a home in heaven, despite our sin. We sowed iniquity and corruption, and Jesus reaped our punishment on the cross. May He be praised forever.

"You reap what you sow" holds true both positively and negatively. "Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life" (Gal 6:8). This verse summarizes the principle well. When we are selfish, proud, unjust, sinful, and trusting in our own ability or worth to save us, we are "sowing to the flesh," and destruction awaits. But when we are selfless, generous, kind, and depending on God's provision and salvation, we are and will reap eternal life.

Faith in Jesus and the pursuit of godliness is "sowing to the Spirit." "sowing to the Spirit" Sowing to the flesh, depending on ourselves and our ability to find our own way without God's help, will reap nothing but a dead end. But when we place our trust in Christ, we reap eternal life.

Missionary Update India

Greetings, my friend!

I trust you are well. I am happy to announce that VBS went very well. Children were not willing to part each other on the final day. It was joyful moment to watch over hundred plus children and some parents dedicating their lives to Jesus. Appreciate your prayers and support. May God bless you richly for your investment in this strategic ministry of reaching the next generation.

Construction Update:- Though we don't have 100% of fund readily available, by faith we paid advance and started the building work. The challenge is to raise another \$80 thousand in next thirteen months. That means on a monthly basis we need to raise six thousand and two hundred US dollars. If you are led by the Lord to be part of this great work, would you sow into this project for next thirteen months please? Any size of your contribution would go a long way in helping us to complete the work on time.

We trust God for His provision and earnestly seek your prayers for this important task. I am reminded of the words of great missionary, Hudson Talyor, "God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supply."

By completing the construction that would facilitate various ministry activities, let us, together, bring glory to His name in this heathen land! "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you."

With love and prayers:

Binu John

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

First Christian Assembly,	1900 S. 11 th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148	215-389-6721
First Christian So Jersey,	1960 Delsea Drive, Sewell, NJ 08080	
Philadelphia Access Center,	1832 S. 11 th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148	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

	Meets at FCA	Meets at PAC
Sunday	9:45 AM <i>Bible Study – Phila -location</i> 10:00 AM <i>South Jersey Worship Service</i> 11:00 AM <i>Phila Location 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		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>Free Indeed</i>

- *Coram Deo*: A men’s Bible study and Christian fellowship.
- *Free Indeed*: Is a Spirit led Men’s Fellowship that emphasizes godly counsel, leading to spiritual growth, healing and deliverance.
- *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.

A Look Ahead

- **Water Baptism – Date to be determined – See Pastor Joe for details**

You take care of the sowing, God will take care of the growing – Unknown