



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.

Born Again

The Lord Jesus Christ is talking to Nicodemus, a prominent Pharisee and member of the Sanhedrin. Nicodemus had come to Jesus at night with some questions.

As Jesus talked with Nicodemus, He said, *"I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." 'How can a man be born when he is old?' Nicodemus asked. 'Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!' Jesus answered, 'I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, "You must be born again'"* (John 3:3-7).

The phrase "born again" literally means "born from above." Nicodemus had a real need. He needed a change of his heart—a spiritual transformation. New birth, being born again, is an act of God whereby eternal life is imparted to the person who believes (2 Corinthians 5:17; Titus 3:5; 1 Peter 1:3).

The question logically comes, "Why does a person need to be born again?" The apostle Paul in Ephesians 2:1 says, *"And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins".* To the Romans he wrote, *"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"* (Romans 3:23). Sinners are spiritually "dead"; when they receive spiritual life through faith in Christ, the Bible likens it to a rebirth. Only those who are born again have their sins forgiven and have a relationship with God.

How does that come to be? Ephesians 2:8-9 states, *"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast."* When one is saved, he/she has been born again, spiritually renewed, and is now a child of God by right of new birth. Trusting in Jesus Christ, the One who paid the penalty of sin when He died on the cross, is the means to be "born again." *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation: the old has gone, the new has come!"* (2 Corinthians 5:17).

If you have never trusted in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, will you consider the prompting of the Holy Spirit as He speaks to your heart? You need to be born again. Will you pray the prayer of repentance and become a new creation in Christ today? *"Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God"* (John 1:12-13).

Missionary Update

PNG

During our hospital outreach last week, we were encountered by a man whose father needed a pair of short crutches. He took us over to see him, I passed the need on to a German missionary, Mandy, and she was able to get 3 crutches, which she sent to me. My question was, why 3 crutches, LORD? Well yesterday we delivered the one pair we had to the man just mentioned, WOW such hugs and thanks. I receive those on behalf of all who have made possible what we do. Mostly, The LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, We also had some Scripture portions for the family.

Then a young woman approached me and asked me if we had any crutches for her Mother, who had been in a car accident and who had had her leg amputated. I said I only had one left at home and she said, that was exactly what her Mother needed. So I went to meet her Mother and we praised GOD together. I will deliver that crutch today. So in answer to my question of the LORD why 3 crutches? Well, you see I do not know enough to question the marvelous wisdom of GOD. That is exactly what was needed.

There was a women with two broken legs and other injuries, suffered from her husband, I believe. It is so common to see women in the hospital with broken arms and legs suffered in domestic violence. Men seem to suffer their injuries in car accidents and fights and attacks. So tragic. Many opportunities to pray with people.

We ran across the man we had given a wheelchair to last week. He was riding around in it and at first I did not recognize him because he is looking so much better. He had told me he was born a Nazarene and will die a Nazarene, so that is how I will remember him. I challenged him to trust the LORD as Job had done. Dr. Nirmala, who is part of the outreach team, often explains the diagnoses to me but to tell you the truth, I do not always remember what the names are, I do know GOD knows and GOD is there to help those suffering.

There was a Chinese man who was unconscious and in a very bad way. We prayed silently for him. I have to believe GOD can reach him even in the state he is in.

I do not have the words to express my praises to the LORD GOD ALMIGHTY., Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Awesome. Lois

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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>Discipleship class (Fellowship hall)</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.

Youth Group meets tonight – See Jason or Jennifer Kohn for details

Important Dates;

- Operation Christmas Child collection continues
- Saturday October 6th – Bake Sale and Outreach
- Sunday October 14th – Pastor Cleopas Chitapa
- Monday October 15th – Women’s Fellowship
- Sunday October 28th – Child Dedication
- Monday November 12th – Operation Christmas Child Packing Party
- Water Baptism – Date to be determined – See Pastor Joe for information

When I was born again, I received the very life of the risen Lord from Jesus Himself. Oswald Chambers