



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.

Friends

The Human beings were created to be social creatures and friendship is an important element in a fulfilled, contented life. At the same time, those who call themselves our friends may cause us grief and hardship, constantly disappointing us. So what does the Bible have to say about friends?

On the positive side, friends can console and help us when we are in trouble. A friend may also rebuke in love, proving more faithful than a hypocritical flatterer ([Pro 27:6](#)). One of the greatest biblical examples of friendship is David and Jonathan, son of King Saul. Jonathan's loyalty to his friend, David, exceeded that to his own father and his own ambitions (1 Sam 18 - 20). Theirs was a friendship closer than brotherhood.

Friendship can have its negative aspects as well. Supposed friends can lead us into sin, ([2 Sam 13:1-6](#)). A friend can lead us astray in regard to our faith, ([Deut 13:6-11](#)). Friends can provide false comfort and bad advice, as Job's friends did, making his suffering worse and displeasing the Lord. Friends can also prove false, pretending affection for their own motives and deserting us when our friendship no longer benefits them ([Psa 55:12-14](#); [Pro 19:4, 6-7](#)). Friendship can be broken down through gossip ([Pro 16:28](#)) or grudges ([Pro 17:9](#)). Friends should be chosen carefully because, as Paul told the Corinthians, "*Bad company corrupts good character*" ([1 Cor 15:33](#)). [Pro 1:10-19](#) and [4:14-19](#) contain warnings about friends and how we should choose them. We are not to associate with those who entice us to do wrong, no matter how appealing their "friendship" seems to be.

Having friends requires us to be good friends ourselves ([Pro 18:24](#)). Good friends bring their friends to Jesus ([Luke 5](#)). We are commanded to share the gospel, and there is no excuse for not doing so ([Matt 28:19-20](#)). So, how can we evangelize our friends and acquaintances? The most important thing we can do is [pray](#) that their hearts would be open to the truth of the gospel ([2 Cor 4:4](#)). Also pray for wisdom as to how to best minister to them ([James 1:5](#)). We also must be willing and bold in our sharing of the [Gospel](#). In addition to praying and sharing our faith, we must also live godly Christian lives in front of our friends and family members so they can see the change God has made in us ([1 Peter 3:1-2](#)). Ultimately, we must leave the salvation of our loved ones up to God. It is God's power and grace that saves people, not our efforts. The best we can do for our friends is pray, witness and live the Christian life in front of them. It is God who gives the increase ([1 Cor 3:6](#)).

Body and Soul

It's that time of year to make lists of things to do for the upcoming holidays. Who to buy gifts for and send cards to. What food you will serve or bring to a gathering. Make these times joyous, do not get over taken by the anxieties that may come, do not fret over the things you may not have. Give thanks for what you do have like Friends, Family, Health and Life. If there is still something missing and you have these then look to the heavens and know that Jesus is the missing piece. Only He can give you the fruits of the Spirit, love, joy, peace, kindness, self-control, longsuffering, goodness, gentleness and faithfulness.

As we now move on to the portion of the script that we discuss the topic about the body. I have decided to enlighten you about a very important organ, the Kidney. Your Kidney's filter your blood, remove waste, control fluid and electrolyte regulation and help with acid base balance. Kidneys affect many of mechanisms in your body; however, they are not addressed as much as our heart and lungs. Understandably if your heart stops beating you die, if you stop breathing you die, but if your blood doesn't get cleansed you can also die.

I find it funny how it all always relates to Jesus. If you think about it spiritually, only Jesus can give us a new heart and give us the breath of life and of course to be saved we are washed by His precious blood. Sorry to digress, you know I had to take that opportunity to share the truth. So as the kidneys function appropriately, all is well. You may not even notice anything is wrong until they fail. How can you tell if there is an issue?

1 - Blood tests results checking Blood Urea Nitrogen and Creatinine levels. 2 - Urinalysis looking for blood and or protein in the urine. 3 - Also physical symptoms that can mimic heart ailments like CHF (congestive heart failure) or respiratory ailments like COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, edema (swelling), difficulty breathing, fatigue, confusion, itching, nausea and vomiting. If you experience any symptoms seek medical attention and remember to inquire about the results of your blood-work and urinalysis, because you should know your baseline functions. So, if they should start to rise you could be proactive before it turns into kidney failure. Sometimes Kidneys can fail due to reasons beyond our control however two leading causes of Kidney failure are High blood pressure and Diabetes, these can be controlled with better diet and exercise. By taking care of ourselves and our Kidneys we will do our part to not end up on dialysis or experience premature death. So be kind to your Kidneys and apply and share the information that you have received. Until next time this is your November Script! "*Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you*" ([1Thes 5:16-18](#)). Miguelina Dispensa RN

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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

	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;

- Monday November 12th – Operation Christmas Child Packing Party
- Monday December 3rd – Women’s Fellowship
- Water Baptism – Date to be determined – See Pastor Joe for information

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. – Jesus (John 15:13)