



# Lifeline

CHURCH of CHRIST  
at Galena



## God's Attitude Toward Divorce

From "I HATE DIVORCE" in the Old Testament (Malachi 2:16), to "Let no man separate" in the New (Mark 10:9), God condemns divorce. For a man of faith, this is enough—he will not consider divorce a possibility. But, why is divorce wrong? It is wrong because...

### When I Divorce ...

I break my promise. Malachi showed why God hates divorce: "Because the Lord has been a witness between you and the wife of your youth, against whom you have dealt treacherously, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant" (Malachi 2:14). Because they had broken their marriage covenant, God called them treacherous. God expects faithfulness to promises. The man who abides with God is he who "Swears to his own hurt, and does not change." (Psalms 15:4). The covenant-breaker, on the other hand, is worthy of death (Romans 1:31–32). One who breaks a promise is a liar. God loathes lying. Divorce is wrong because it is contrary to trustworthiness and truth.

I place a stumblingblock before my wife. Jesus condemned divorce because of its effect on the spouse: "Every one who divorces his wife, except for the cause of unchastity, makes her commit adultery" (Matthew 5:32). Presumably, the divorced wife will remarry and thus commit adultery. How can one love his wife, and yet tempt her to commit adultery and be lost? Jesus spoke about one who causes another to sin: "It is better for him that a heavy millstone be hung around his neck, and that he be drowned in the depth of the sea" (Matthew 18:6). Divorce is wrong because it violates principles of love and responsibility toward others.

I repudiate God's design for the home. When God created Eve for Adam, He designed a lifetime union. Jesus said that, "from the beginning," God has joined husbands and wives together (Mark 10). It is a grave sin for any man to separate what God has joined. Divorce is wrong because it frustrates God's purpose for marriage.

God condemns divorce. Remarrying is wrong also. But divorce is wrong, whether one remarries or not. It is vitally important that we be truthful, loving and obedient to God's purpose.

### Approved Divorce

"Every one who divorces his wife, except for the cause of unchastity, makes her commit adultery" (Matthew 5:32). The word "except" sets aside cases not following a general rule. In school I learned: "I" before "E" except after "C". This meant that ordinarily "I" comes before "E." But, after "C," the general rule does not follow. In marriage, the general rule is: Marriage is to be permanent; divorce is sinful; remarriage is adultery. However, when fornication occurs, these general principles do not follow. Divorce for fornication is allowable and subsequent remarriage is not adultery.

Divorce is required if the marriage is unlawful (Ezra 10; Mark 6). One who divorces and remarries is an adulterer. Repentance demands separation from whatever causes sin—the drunkard's liquor, the homosexual's lover, the idolater's image or the adulterer's second wife (1 Corinthians 6:9–11). So, God's prohibition of divorce does not apply to divorce for fornication, or ending an adulterous marriage. 🚫

-Gary Fisher



## Where Do Most of Our Converts Come From Today?

**M**ost of our converts come through our church building doors as first-time visitors. To keep these prospects and teach them, there are many special lessons to learn. We can increase the number of these visitors and the percentage that are converts by learning the many wise ways of reacting to their visit.

Just as Gospel Meetings could be done well or poorly, resulting in more or less teaching, so it is today.

Of course, at times, in large urban areas there are some other sources of prospects (and we will look at these) but we get most of our baptisms of adults today from people who know some member or members and are invited to our service where they are met by wise and careful responses that eventually produce studies and baptisms.

95% of our adult converts began their journey to a new life when they were impressed by the good life of a godly person

they had observed. This fits the pattern suggested by 1 Peter 2:12, 3:16, Titus 3:10. We then must increase the small everyday spiritual connections between good members and the 500 to 1000 people who know something good about their life. Many suggestions will be made to encourage this potential contact.

Unfortunately, many members are still waiting for a prospect to walk in (as they did in a gospel meeting) or to be immediately ready for a serious Bible study (as they were in the 60's) instead of seeking to increase the small spiritual contacts of members with prospects. These are the small progressive steps that people today will accept and respond to. We must set our vision to see what works today; otherwise we will be constantly disappointed because no one walked in or it was too difficult to set up a quick study by the old approaches. 🚫

-Harold Comer



**THIS WEEK begin a conversation with 1 soul each day for 5 days.**

**Tell them about the Big Picture presentation.**

**Ask if they would like to see / hear it.**

**If 20 of us will do it that is 100 souls.**

**Ask them to "Come and See" by inviting them to visit!**



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## Attitudes Needed in Congregational Work - Part 4

Colossians 1:9-10

PART 4 OF 4

### THERE MUST BE THE ATTITUDE OF:

#### GRATITUDE

FOR THE PRIVILEGE OF WORK  
• 1 Timothy 1:2

#### ENTHUSIASM

EAGERNESS  
• 2 Corinthians 9:7

#### INDUSTRIOUSNESS

• Nehemiah 4:6

#### INITIATIVE

• Matthew 25:14-30

#### POSITIVENESS

• Philippians 2:14

#### PERSISTENCE

• John 4:34

#### READY TO RENDER SERVICE

• Luke 22:24-27

**WHAT IS YOUR ATTITUDE TOWARD YOUR WORK?**

<http://www.churchofChristinGalena.com>



## Bible Blueprints #3

(Phippians 1:9-11)

**Introduction:** Many say that they accept the apostles' doctrine as their blueprint in religion but, when faced with an issue in which a cherished position or view is being challenged they often appeal to a blueprint that is quite different. Perhaps the best way to avoid this is to be aware of other sources, or blueprints, in religion. Some sources are objective—where we look outside of ourselves for authority. Other sources are subjective—where we look within ourselves for a blueprint on what we believe.

### LORD'S SUPPER MEDITATION



## Why Did Jesus Come to Die?

... So That We Might  
Be Made Righteous

"Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous."  
(Romans 5:18-19)

### I. \_\_\_\_\_ Blueprints of Authority

#### A) Old Testament

1. Common for people to turn to O.T. to provide authority for a practice
2. O.T. was designed to be temporary, to fulfill a specific purpose and as a covenant has been replaced by the New Covenant (N.T.) (Gal. 3:19-25).
  - (a) When those under the Law came to Christ... (Romans 7:4-6)
  - (b) Jeremiah prophesied God has made a "new covenant" to replace the "first covenant" which is now obsolete (Hebrews 8:7-13)
3. Doesn't mean O.T. is not of value today (Rom. 15:4; 1 Cor. 10:6, 11)
4. We just can't use it to enjoin religious practices upon others which the apostles themselves did not teach!

#### B) \_\_\_\_\_ Rule (Matthew 7:13-14; cf. Josh 24:14-15)

#### C) Parents

#### D) \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Corinthians 11:13-15; Matt. 15:12-14; Acts 17:11)

#### E) \_\_\_\_\_ & Traditions of Men (Mark 7:6-9)

1. Accept the Bible only, and you become a Christian only
2. Accept the Bible along with a Creed, and you become something else!

### II. \_\_\_\_\_ Blueprints of Authority

#### A) \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 23:1; 26:9-11)

#### B) Human Wisdom (Isaiah 55:8-9; 1 Cor. 1:18-29; 2:9-12; Ephesians 3:1-5)

#### C) \_\_\_\_\_ (Proverbs 14:12; 28:26; Jeremiah 10:23)

**Conclusion:** Since the way we should live is "not in man" we need an objective blueprint (standard) for our authority in religion. We can't depend upon subjective standards like conscience, human wisdom, or feelings.

But which objective standard? We cannot depend on creeds of men, preachers, parents, majority rule, or even the Old Testament. We must only depend on and put our faith in the apostles' doctrine, i.e., the New Testament.

The apostles were personally selected to be Christ's ambassadors. The apostles were inspired by the Holy Spirit, to be guided into all the truth. And, they were inspired to write all that Christ would have us to know and do.

## Use Your Eyes, Ears, Mouth, Hands & Feet

**Introduction:** I have been singing “Oh be careful little...” since I was a child. I wonder? Have I learned to live the song yet?

### I. “Oh Be Careful Little Eyes...”

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### II. “Oh Be Careful Little Ears...”

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### III. “Oh Be Careful Little Mouth...”

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### IV. “Oh Be Careful Little Hands...”

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### V. “Oh Be Careful Little Feet...”

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**Conclusion:** We know all the words by heart and may sing them without a thought. May God give us the perception and strength to live them for His glory!



**“It Wouldn’t Do  
Any Good ...”**



**“Besides, I don’t  
know what to say.”**

The average distance across most rooms is twenty feet. Ten steps. What if ten steps—just one one-thousandth of your daily average—could actually impact eternity?

Yet, for many Christians it becomes a frightening and unknown place to walk.

Living with an interest in people and a willingness to listen to them and their needs is a great place to start.

There is a story that is told in God’s word. Learn to retell that story along with your own.

Take a step and tell someone about the wonderful gift in Jesus Christ. See the opportunities and don’t stop before you even take a step.



### SPECIAL BIBLE SERIES..

March 6-8 - Douglas Hills with Ralph Walker

don't forget to

# SILENCE

your phone



## PROPHETABLE LIFE

MAJOR LESSONS | from the MINOR PROPHETS

### READ HOSEA FOR MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup>

### THIS WEEK

Barker February 26 <sup>th</sup>	Dowling March 5 <sup>th</sup>	Loughmiller March 12 <sup>th</sup>	Mitchell February 5 <sup>th</sup>	Scott February 12 <sup>th</sup>	Stout February 19 <sup>th</sup>
Farmer Keehn Loughmiller, B. Woolbright, Randol	Barker, Ashlyn Keehn Michell Sieg, Don	Dooley Schoenbaechler Shaffer Woolbright, Ryan	Buchanan Hudson Sieg-Swank	Bailey Miller Sieg, Donny	Loughmiller, N. Maudlin McKinney Woolbright, D.

### MARCH SERVANTS

**Building Cleaning & Communion:**  
Farmer & Maudlin

**Benevolence Organizers:**  
Miller & Scott



### MARCH

2 - Jennah Sieg B'day	10 - Olivia Stout B'day
5 - Lailah Miller B'day	14 - Jim Hudson B'day
7 - Lou Sieg B'day	15 - Grace Singleton B'day
10 - Benny & Carla	29 - Dale Woolbright B'day
Loughmiller ANN.	

## BIRTHDAYS ANNIVERSARIES

**CHURCH of CHRIST**  
*at Galena*

## SERVING IN WORSHIP

### THIS WEEK

#### Sunday Morning (03/05)

**Announcements:** Dale Woolbright

**1<sup>st</sup> Prayer:** Keith Keehn

**Song Leader:** Jeff Farmer

**Lord's Table:** Daryn Barker (Lead)

R. Woolbright, Donny Sieg, D. Culver

**Sermon:** Shannon Shaffer

**Closing Prayer:** Bill Buchanan

#### Sunday PM (03/05)

**Announcements:** Dale Woolbright

**1<sup>st</sup> Prayer:** Nick Loughmiller

**Song Leader:** Jonathan Maudlin

**Lord's Table:** Daryn Barker (Lead)

Ryan Woolbright

**Sermon:** Shannon Shaffer

**Closing Prayer:** Evan Mitchell

#### Wednesday (03/08)

**Announcements:** Scott Mitchell

**1<sup>st</sup> Prayer:** Randy Scott

**Song Leader:** Seth Shaffer

**Invitation:** Shanon Miller

**Closing Prayer:** Michael Stout

### NEXT WEEK

#### Sunday Morning (03/12)

**Announcements:** Bill Buchanan

**1<sup>st</sup> Prayer:** Don Sieg

**Song Leader:** Dale Woolbright

**Lord's Table:** Mike Loughmiller (Lead)

S. Mitchell, M. Stout, J. Hudson

**Sermon:** Shannon Shaffer

**Closing Prayer:** TBA

#### Sunday PM (03/12)

**Announcements:** Bill Buchanan

**1<sup>st</sup> Prayer:** Randy Scott

**Song Leader:** Dylan Culver

**Lord's Table:** Mike Loughmiller (Lead)

S. Mitchell

**Sermon:** Shannon Shaffer

**Closing Prayer:** Benny Loughmiller

#### Wednesday (03/15)

**Announcements:** Tim Maudlin

**1<sup>st</sup> Prayer:** Kyle Dowling

**Song Leader:** Jonathan Maudlin

**Invitation:** Jeff Farmer

**Closing Prayer:** Keith Keehn

#### Shepherds:

**Bill Buchanan**

Cell: (812) 989-5961

billbuchanan@insightbb.com

**Dale Woolbright**

Cell: (812) 989-1483

rdwoolbright@gmail.com

#### Deacons:

**Daryn Barker**

Cell: (502) 396-3063

darynb81@sbcglobal.net

**Kyle Dowling**

Cell: (812) 989-2211

kmdowl01@gmail.com

**Mike Loughmiller**

Cell: (812) 267-9254

loughmiller6@aol.com

**Scott Mitchell**

Cell: (812) 620-4034

stblessedwith4@gmail.com

**Randy Scott**

Cell: (812) 620-3747

countingourmanyblessings@gmail.com

**Michael Stout**

Cell: (502) 939-9525

cnotes@otherside.com

#### Evangelist:

**Shannon Shaffer**

Cell: (615) 289-1721

shafferlifeline@gmail.com

# CHURCH of CHRIST at Galena

Lifeline

#### Meeting at

5466 Featheringill Road

Greenville, IN 47124

#### Sunday

Worship: 9:00 AM

Bible Classes: 10:00 AM

Worship: 3:00 PM

#### Wednesday

Bible Classes: 7:30 PM

#### Website

<http://churchofChrist>

[inGalena.com](http://inGalena.com)