

ORDER OF WORSHIP
August 31, 2025

Song: **77** – *Anywhere with Jesus*

Song: **876** – *‘Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus*

First prayer: **Larry Simmons**

Song: **99** – *Night, With Ebon Pinion*

Communion servers: **Jeremy Thomas** & **Mark Brandt**

Prayer for giving: **Chrishawn Thompson**

Song: **173** – *Count Your Blessings*

Sermon: *“The Hope & Home of the Christian Minister”* (2 Cor. 5:1-10) – **David Ray**

Invitation song: **453** – *I Am Resolved*

Closing song: **743** – *Sowing the Seed of the Kingdom*

Closing prayer: **Mernie Ray**

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- Marjorie Trammel (Alyssa’s friend) – cancer
- Shane, Alyssa, & Addison – adoption process
- Kevin Lively (Mark’s friend)
- Pat Craig – health
- Holly Brewer – surgery recovery
- Kathy Ray (Mernie’s sister-in-law) – eyesight
- Kim’s cousin’s son (Isaac Wood)–hole in heart caused by stroke (upcoming surgery)
- Our members with health issues: Kim, David

Please continue to remember: Connie Townsend, Lucinda, Vipin & family, India work, Aruna Kavali, Marinda Breeding, Holley Brewer, Kevin Brewer, Dylan Walker

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- “Precept Upon Precept” is a YouTube channel with many sermons/articles from faithful brethren (www.youtube.com/@preceptuponprecept8495)

RECORD FOR WEEK OF AUGUST 24, 2025

ATTENDANCE:

Bible Class – 18 AM Worship – 19 Sun PM – 13 DBR – 9 Wed (8/27) – 18

Contribution – \$1551

Yukon Church of Christ

THE LABORER

702 South Ranchwood Blvd., Yukon, OK 73099 (405) 354-0238

Preacher: David Ray

Web Site: www.yukoncofc.com

Sunday Bible class: 9am **Worship** 10am & 12:30pm **Wednesday Bible class:** 7pm

Matthew 9:37-38 *“The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest.”*

Volume 21

Number 35

August 31, 2025

THE SIMPLICITY OF THE GOSPEL

No book written by man has so many simple words as the New Testament. There is an air of simplicity about the biographies of Jesus, which, like the breezes from the Galilean hills, blows upon our sophisticated minds. The Gospel has not been recorded in philosophical phraseology, scientific terms, complicated sentences, or the dialects of angels. Still, it has been expressed in the simplest terms so children can understand.

Man has muddled the stream of divine thought with theological and ecclesiastical terms and phrases until it is much more difficult to understand the doctrines of men than the simple teachings of the New Testament. The Gospel of Jesus contains the truths of God’s will, so plain and clear that the untrained minds of innocent children can catch and follow them.

Teachers often confuse students with their explanations. If they had just let the New Testament speak, simplicity of thought would have been gained. While on earth, Jesus replaced the traditions of men concerning the law with His simple teachings. The instructions given to Christians on how to live a Christian life can be understood. No one has a just complaint to make against the requirements of the New Testament toward a simple life.

The Gospel Was Understood When It Was First Heard

The proof of the simplicity of the Gospel is seen in the record of the conversions. When the multitude came together on the day of Pentecost and heard the

miraculous manifestations of the apostles speaking in tongues, they were astonished and accused the apostles of being drunken. Peter stood up with the eleven and gave a simple explanation of what had occurred.

He calmly pointed to the prophecy of Joel and recited that prophecy to the people. He then called attention to what they had observed. Simply, he pointed out the facts and showed that what they were observing was a fulfillment of the prophecy of Joel. With that out of the way, he then proceeded to unfold to them the claims of Jesus of Nazareth, and the quotation from David showed that he should have expected just what had transpired. Since the prophecies were fulfilled in Jesus, He must be what He claimed to be—the Son of God, the promised Messiah. Step by step, argument and conclusion closely following each other, Peter convinced many that Jesus was the Saviour of the world.

These astonished and confused Jews soon became believers in the Christ. About 3,000 heard Peter preach this profound yet simple sermon, and they were convinced. This was the first time that a Gospel sermon had been preached in its fullness. Peter spoke as the Spirit gave him utterance; hence, he spoke in such simple terms that the people could hear and understand the first Gospel sermon they had ever heard. Indeed, Peter must have spoken simply, for so many common people understood and accepted what he presented.

Those who did not accept the Gospel on Pentecost refused it, not because they did not understand it, but because they refused to believe it. Their unconverted state resulted not from a misunderstanding or their inability to understand but a failure to believe what they did understand. Prejudice and other things may have had a bearing on them. Still, the chief thing was that they refused to believe what they heard.

The Ethiopian eunuch had been to Jerusalem to worship (Acts 8). He was returning and riding in his chariot. He had presumably worshipped according to the law of Moses at Jerusalem. He had never heard of the Christ; if he had heard of him, it was an unfavorable report. Philip joined the chariot and, as he rode along, preached to him Jesus (8:35).

This was the first Gospel sermon the eunuch had ever heard and probably the first time he had heard of the Christ. But Philip preached the simple Gospel in terms so that the eunuch understood him. He believed the Gospel, was baptized, and went on his way, rejoicing in the newfound salvation. Many others, like the eunuch, heard and understood the terms of salvation and obeyed the Gospel at

the same hour of the night. The people in the long list of conversions recorded in the Acts of the Apostles obeyed the Gospel the first time they heard it. There was no delay, but prompt obedience to all the commands of the Gospel marked their belief in the simple Gospel.

Its Simplicity Brings Heavier Condemnation

Since the Gospel is simple enough for all to understand the terms of salvation and the requirements of Christian living, all who do not accept the terms of salvation and live as the simple Gospel of Christ requires them to live are condemned. The condemnation of the ignorant and illiterate would not be just if the Gospel were not presented in such a simple way that they could understand it.

Every Spirit-guided speaker and writer in New Testament times expected the hearer to understand and pass condemnation on him if he did not believe. In giving the commission, Jesus said, *“Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature,”* but he also added, *“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned”* (Mark 16:15-16). The disbeliever is condemned just because he can understand the simple requirements of the Gospel.

The Gospel was given to be understood. It was preached in simple language, and the Holy Spirit recorded it in simple terms. Hence, our condemnation is just if we do not believe it.

The Christian life is simple, and all its requirements are simple. *“Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light”* (Mat. 11:28-30).

H. Leo Boles

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

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| 1. | HEAR THE WORD | Romans 10:17 |
| 2. | BELIEVE IN JESUS | John 3:16; 8:24 |
| 3. | REPENT OF YOUR SINS | Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30; 2 Corinthians 7:10 |
| 4. | CONFESS THAT JESUS IS LORD | Romans 10:9-10 (cf. Acts 8:37) |
| 5. | BE BAPTIZED FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF YOUR SINS | Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21 |
| 6. | REMAIN FAITHFUL | 1 Corinthians 15:58; Colossians 1:23; Revelation 2:10 |

What Must I Do to Be Saved?

1. **HEAR THE WORD**
Romans 10:17 – *"So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God."*
2. **BELIEVE IN JESUS**
John 3:16 – *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."* **John 8:24** – *"...if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins."*
3. **REPENT OF YOUR SINS**
Luke 13:3–*"...except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."* **Acts 17:30**–*"And the times of this ignorance God overlooked, but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent."* **2 Corinthians 7:10**–*"For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death."*
4. **CONFESS THAT JESUS IS LORD**
Romans 10:9-10–*"if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."* (Also **Matthew 10:32-33**; see **Acts 8:37** for an example.)
5. **BE BAPTIZED FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF YOUR SINS**
Mark 16:16–*"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved";* **Acts 2:38**–*"Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins...";* **Acts 22:16**–*"Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord";* **1 Peter 3:21**–*"...baptism doth also now save us..."*
6. **REMAIN FAITHFUL**
1 Corinthians 15:58–*"Therefore...be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord";*
Colossians 1:23–*"...if ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard";* **Revelation 2:10**–*"Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."*