



Cape Coral Church of Christ

1010 S.W. 20th Avenue

Cape Coral, Florida 33991

(239) 283-4880



<http://www.thelordsway.com/capecoralfl>

Schedule of Services

Sunday: Bible Study: 9:30 A.M.

Worship: 10:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M.

Wednesday: Bible Study: 6:00 P.M.

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***“I Am”* Able to Help You**

Each of the “I am” statements of Jesus in the book of John displays an important aspect of how He can meet our true needs.

* When Jesus said, **“I am the bread of life”** (John 6:35), He stated that He can sustain our souls forevermore. He is that which nourishes and satisfies.

* When Jesus said, **“I am the light of the world”** (John 8:12), He was saying that He provides enlightenment and guidance in a place of uncertainty and peril. He will always be a beacon of truth.

* When Jesus said, **“I am the door”** (John 10:7), He was disclosing that He is the passageway to heaven. He is also the portal to a better life on earth.

* When Jesus said, **“I am the good shepherd”** (John 10:11), He was articulating that He will take care of His own. He can provide support, spiritual health, and safety.

* When Jesus said, **“I am the resurrection and the life”** (John 11:25), He was declaring that He can raise us from the dead. He can give us a new life upon the earth and a resurrected life in heaven for eternity.

* When Jesus said, **“I am the way, the truth, and the life”** (John 14:6), He was revealing that the only way to be reconciled to the Father in

heaven is through Him. He is **THE** way.

* When Jesus said, “**I am the true vine**” (John 15:1), He was divulging that connection to Him is the formula for spiritual success. He guarantees growth if we remain with Him.

Our greatest needs are a relationship with God and a home in heaven forevermore. Jesus can meet those needs – and more! He is able to help us. In fact, He is the only one who can help us in this regard. Jesus says, “I am” able to help you. Have you received His help?

What Can I Do?

“I do not feel as close to the Lord as I once did. I know that I do not study and pray as I once did. I want to be close to God again. What can I do?” We have all felt this way! We have awakened to find ourselves adrift from God. We become concerned and begin searching. “What can I do to be close to the Lord again? What has caused me to drift? If I can find out why I have drifted away, maybe I can reverse the process and more easily find my way back to God. What can I do?”

The key to being nearer to God is communication! If I want to be nearer to God, I must let Him talk to me and I must talk to Him. He talks to me through His Word. I talk to Him through prayer. The shortfall of personal study and prayer is not only an indication of drifting away from God, but a cause! We need to reverse the process, we can draw closer to God by being more consistent and intense in our personal devotional lives.

Our faith is strengthened by the study of God’s Word (Romans 10:17). God’s Word is able to build us up (Acts 20:32). The Word of God, stored in our hearts, can keep us from sin (Psalm 119:11). Bottom line: We need to study God’s Word every day! Every day! We need to be like the noble Bereans “who received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily” (Acts 17:11).

How important is prayer to our daily walk with God? The Master taught that “men always ought to pray and not lose heart” (Luke 18:1). He further admonished, “Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is Weak” (Matthew 26:41). Our teachers have often reminded us that “our Savior was a praying Savior.” Praying Master – praying disciple! Like Him, every aspect of our lives should be (must be) bathed in prayer. Prayer is inviting God into our lives! “Pray Without ceasing” (1 Thessalonians 5:11). Don’t go it alone! Go to God! “The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much” (James 5:16).

“What can I do? How can I get closer to God?” Do not overlook the obvious! The key to relationship is relating! I must study and pray, pray and study! Upon this foundation I can add a double portion to my devotional life! How? By worshipping God regularly, being involved in His work, and serving Him with gladness! This we can do!

To Have a Friend Is to Be a Friend!

In today's world, friendships are precious treasures. Proverbs 18:24 reminds us, "A man who has friends must himself be friendly." This simple truth speaks to the heart of what it means to build and sustain meaningful relationships: we must first extend our hand in friendship if we wish to receive it in return.

I can remember when I was in elementary school; I struggled to make friends. I would invite many people to my birthday parties because that is how you make friends. I would always have candy to give out because everyone likes the guy who gives out candy for free. It never seemed to work. As I grew older, I realized being a friend doesn't always mean grand gestures; sometimes, it's the small acts of kindness, a listening ear, or a genuine smile that speak louder than words. Friendliness is about creating a welcoming spirit, showing empathy, and taking an interest in others. When we approach people with warmth and sincerity, we open the door to deeper connections.

Jesus modeled the perfect example of true friendship. He reached out to those who were overlooked, isolated, and burdened, offering unconditional love and compassion. As His followers, we are called to mirror that same attitude in our relationships, showing care and kindness to those around us. As Jesus said, "This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends" (John 15:12-13).

Do we take the time to show kindness to those we meet? Are we approachable and willing to invest in others? Building friendships requires effort, but the rewards are immeasurable. When we extend our hand in friendship, we not only bless others, but we also enrich our own lives in return.

So, this week, let's challenge ourselves to be more intentional about our friendliness. Reach out to someone who may need a friend. A simple conversation or an act of kindness might be the beginning of a lasting and meaningful relationship. "Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing" (1 Thessalonians 5:11).

May you be blessed as you continue to walk in friendship with others and Christ!

Be Safe, Not Sorry

In some things we may take risks. We may take risks in the stock market, but the only thing we stand to lose is money. However, if we take risks with salvation, we stand to lose our souls, and Jesus said, "What is a man profited if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" (Matthew 16:26). We cannot afford to take foolish chances about eternal salvation. We are urged, "Give diligence to make your calling and election sure" (2 Peter 1:10).

To be safe, not sorry, build your life on the solid rock of Jesus Christ. Jesus said, "Whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock, and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat upon that house: and it fell not, for it was founded upon a rock" (Matthew 7:24-25). To do otherwise is soul-destruction.

Look only to God's word for assurance that you are on the right path in life. Don't depend on how you feel, for "the heart is deceitful above all things" (Jeremiah 17:9). Safe guidance does not come from within us, but from the Bible. It is His word that will judge us (John 12:48).

Exceeding Great and Precious Promises

Some of God's promises are unconditional, such as his promise that Christ will come a second time. This promise will be fulfilled regardless of what we do or fail to do. Most of the Bible promises, however, are conditional. This means we receive the promised blessing provided we meet the condition of obedience to His will. Consider the following:

The Promise

The Condition

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| 1. Saved by grace | ----- | Through faith (Eph. 2:8) |
| 2. Salvation | ----- | Belief + Baptism (Mark 16:16) |
| 3. Gift of Spirit | ----- | Repentance and baptism (Acts 2:38) |
| 4. Kept by God's power | ----- | Through faith (1 Peter 1:5) |
| 5. Shall never fall | ----- | "If ye do these thing" (2 Peter 1:5-11) |
| 6. All things work together for good | --- | Who love the Lord (Rom. 8:28) |
| 7. Kept in perfect peace | ----- | Mind is stayed on God (Isa. 26:3) |
| 8. Have right to tree of life | ----- | Wash robes (Rev. 22:14) |
| 9. Will not be hurt by the second death | --- | Must overcome (Rev. 2:11) |
| 10. Receive crown of life | ----- | Be faithful unto death (Rev. 2:10) |