

**Upcoming Events...**  
**Galatians Class:** Every Thursday at 1:00 p.m.  
**Barnabas Group Meeting:** August 28  
**Labor Day:** September 4  
**Business Meeting:** September 9 at 4:30 p.m.  
**Ladies Bible Class:** September 16  
**Barnabas Group Meeting:** September 25

**WELCOME**

New member: **Sandra Jones**, 42276 Revere Street, Indio, CA 92201; Phone: (951) 378-5255

**WHEN WE NEED COURAGE**

*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.”* Proverbs 3:5-6

**September Birthdays**

2 Linda McGraw      3 Wendy Cortes      11 Marie Burruss  
 15 Marcos Perales    16 Jim Burruss      24 Mason Perales  
 30 Dortha Gentry      30 Kurt Hoffman

**September Anniversaries**

13 Wendy & Luis Cortes

# Indio Informer

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**Is God your Co-pilot?**

By Kevin Cauley

**Let God Drive**

A few years ago there was a popular bumper sticker that many placed upon their vehicles. It said, “God is my co-pilot.” While I appreciate the sentiment of people desiring for God to be in their lives, the concept is flawed. The idea of a co-pilot is someone who is there in case the pilot needs help. He steps in when the pilot is not in control. The Bible, however, is telling us that God needs to be our pilot—not our co-pilot—because God needs to be in control of our lives at all times!

Think about what Jesus said in the garden of Gethsemane. He prayed for the cup of suffering to pass from Him, but in the end He stated, “*not as I will, but as You will*” (Matthew 26:39) and “*not My will, but Yours, be done*” (Luke 22:42). If this was Jesus’ attitude in the face of the cross, it should be our attitude at every moment of our life. God calls us to be “*living sacrifices*” (Romans 12:1). This means that we put God in the pilot’s seat, and let Him drive.

Here’s the great thing about this. Life is so much better when God is driving! We can never be fulfilled seeking our own agenda because we really don’t know what is good for us (Jeremiah 17:9), but God knows what is best for us at every moment! That is awesome because by following him, every second of the day is an opportunity for Him to bless me and for me to be fulfilled living for Him. God is so great, and He is the greatest giver (James 1:17). He won’t send us showers, but thunderstorms of blessings. It will take your breath away, it will be so beautiful! Praise Him for his wonderful love and blessings in His Son Jesus!

**Regular Meeting Times**

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.  
 Sunday.....10:45 a.m.  
 Sunday.....6:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

**Preacher:**  
 Mike McKnight

**Church of Christ**  
 81-377 Ave 46  
 Indio, CA 92201  
 (760) 342-1859

(Address Service Requested)

## Who has Control of my Life?

By Robert Notgrass

Imagine for a moment that our life is represented by a circle. Inside that circle, in the very center, is a throne. On that throne sits, by our choosing, the ruling influence in our life. Who is sitting on the throne of our heart?

Some put their enemies on the throne of their hearts. These people allow their enemies to consume their lives because hate for their enemies control their thoughts, their actions, and their attitudes. Some put their friends on the throne of their hearts. Many allow their friends to dictate what they wear, what they say, what they do, even what they believe about God. Friends can be a blessing or they can be a curse. In the Bible, we read about Amnon who had the wrong kind of friends (2 Samuel 13). Even in the New Testament, we are warned: *“Be not deceived: Evil companionships corrupt good morals”* (1 Corinthians 15:33). But, most people put self on the throne of their hearts. They say, “What’s in it for me?” and that becomes the determining factor in the lives of those who are dominated by self. If we will stop and think, however, the most miserable person and the most selfish person are one and the same!

Thus, we should put Christ on the throne of our hearts. If we want to experience an abundant life now (John 10:10) and an eternal life in heaven (Romans 6:23), we must allow Christ to rule our lives! Christ is Lord (Acts 2:36). The word “Lord” means master, owner; one who has power or authority over another. So, is He our Lord? We know He wants the best for us. But remember this, Jesus has said, *“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven”* (Matthew 7:21). He has also said, *“But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do the things which I say?”* (Luke 6:46). In our individual lives, if Jesus is not Lord of all, He is not Lord at all.

We know, each of us will serve someone. Each of us will put someone on the throne of our hearts. It may be our enemies, our

friends or loved ones, ourselves, Christ, or some other. We’re going to serve someone! But, whom do we serve? Who is our lord? Who controls our life?

## FOR KEEPS

By Ron Adams

Growing up, I used to play marbles with some of the neighborhood boys. We would draw a circle in the dirt and put some of our marbles inside it. Then we would take turns attempting to “shoot” the marbles out of the circle. The ones shot out of the circle would be kept by the shooter. However, I wasn’t allowed to play marbles “for keeps” – that is, keep the marbles I won. My parents insisted that when the game was over, all the marbles would be given back to the original owners. This prevented anyone from losing their marbles. It was all just for fun. (Please, no jokes about me losing some of my marbles.)

Life is like a game of marbles. And it’s played “for keeps.” We use our energy aspiring to whatever we choose. We spend our time pursuing goals that catch our interest. However, once used, time is gone “for keeps.” We don’t get it back. When this life is over, we will give account of what we did with our time, ability and opportunities. If we were good stewards of what the Lord gave us, He will richly reward us. If we were unfaithful, we will have to live with the dreadful consequences. There is no getting it back to do over again. No second chance. No excuses.

The game of life is “for keeps.” Live so that we will not regret how we lived. *“So then each one of us shall give account of himself to God.”* Romans 14:12. *“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”* 2 Corinthians 5:10. *“Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil. So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.”* Ephesians 5:15-17.